

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Previous Lecturers

1996	Gerald Early, Ph.D.
1997	Claude H. Organ, Jr. M.D.
1998	Alvin Poussaint, M.D.
1999	Harry Wu
2000	Christopher Edley, Jr.
2001	Mary Frances Berry, Ph.D.
2002	Elena Rios, M.D., M.S.P.H.
2003	Juan Williams
2004	Manning Marable, Ph.D.
2005	Freeman Hrabowski III, Ph.D.
2006	Ellis Cose
2007	Patricia Williams, J.D.
2008	Angela Oh, J.D.
2009	William Julius Wilson, Ph.D.
2010	Johnnetta B. Cole, Ph.D.
2011	Charles Ogletree, J.D.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Lecture

Monday, January 16, 2012
4:00 p.m.

Washington University School of Medicine
Eric P. Newman Education Center
320 South Euclid Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110

“Race, Politics and Community”

Guest Speaker:

Melissa Harris-Perry, Ph.D.

Professor of Political Science, Tulane University
Author – *Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes,
and Black Women in America*
Columnist, *The Nation Magazine*

Presented by Washington University School of Medicine
Office of Diversity Programs

Program

Welcome/Introduction Will Ross, M.D., M.P.H.
Associate Dean for Diversity
Office of Diversity Programs

Remarks Mark S. Wrighton, Ph.D.
Chancellor, Washington University in St. Louis

Larry Shapiro, M.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor and Dean for Medical Affairs
Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine

Introduction of Melissa Harris-Perry Shanti Parikh, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Sociocultural Anthropology
and African-American Studies
Washington University in St. Louis

“Race, Politics and Community” Melissa Harris-Perry, Ph.D.
Professor of Political Science, Tulane University
Author: *Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes,
and Black Women in America*
Columnist, *The Nation Magazine*

Question & Answer Session..... Audience



Melissa V. Harris-Perry is professor of political science at Tulane University, where she is founding director of the Anna Julia Cooper Project on Gender, Race, and Politics in the South. She previously served on the faculties of the University of Chicago and Princeton University.

Harris-Perry is author of the well received new book, *Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America* (Yale 2011) which argues that persistent harmful stereotypes-invisible to many but painfully familiar to black women-profoundly shape black women's politics, contribute to policies that treat them unfairly, and make it difficult for black women to assert their rights in the political arena. Her first book, *Barbershops, Bibles, and BET: Everyday Talk and Black Political Thought*, won

the 2005 W. E. B. Du Bois Book Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists and 2005 Best Book Award from the Race and Ethnic Politics Section of the American Political Science Association.

Professor Harris-Perry is a columnist for *The Nation* magazine, where she writes a monthly column also titled *Sister Citizen*. She is a contributor to MSNBC. She regularly provides expert commentary on U.S. elections, racial issues, religious questions and gender concerns for *Politics Nation* with Reverend Al Sharpton, *The Rachel Maddow Show* and *The Last Word* with Lawrence O'Donnell. Harris-Perry appears as a bi-weekly guest in her own segment titled *Sound Off* during the 11a.m. MSNBC dayside show with Thomas Roberts. She is a regular commentator on *Keeping it Real* Radio with Reverend Al Sharpton and for many print and radio sources in the U.S. and abroad.

Her academic research is inspired by a desire to investigate the challenges facing contemporary black Americans and to better understand the multiple, creative ways that African Americans respond to these challenges. Her work is published in scholarly journals and edited volumes and her interests include the study of African American political thought, black religious ideas and practice, and social and clinical psychology.

Professor Harris-Perry's creative and dynamic teaching is also motivated by the practical political and racial issues of our time. Professor Harris-Perry has taught students from grade school to graduate school and has been recognized for her commitment to the classroom as a site of democratic deliberation on race.

She travels extensively speaking to colleges, organizations and businesses in the United States and abroad. In 2009 Professor Harris-Perry became the youngest scholar to deliver the W.E.B. Du Bois Lectures at Harvard University. Also in 2009 she delivered the prestigious Ware Lecture, becoming the youngest woman to ever do so.

Professor Harris-Perry received her B.A. in English from Wake Forest University, her Ph.D. in political science from Duke University and an honorary doctorate from Meadville Lombard Theological School. And she studied theology at Union Theological Seminary in New York. She lives in New Orleans with her husband, James Perry, and is the mother of a terrific daughter, Parker.