A TIME OF TRANSFORMATION

Happy 2020! We are excited to announce Dr. Latreace Cox will serve as the OBSA Interim Assistant Dean. Please welcome her and join us for an exciting winter and spring with OBSA and in our surrounding communities! We’re shining a spotlight on transformative ideas, concepts and experiences to match our ongoing 50th anniversary celebration including a special feature on the 2020 Black Graduation keynote. On Sunday, January 26, 2020 see the groundbreaking Beyoncé Mass. Get excited for the 4th Annual Black Intersections Conference on Saturday, February 29. Submit an idea for a conference presentation by Friday, January 31. General registration is also open now! We invite 5C students to apply to be a fall 2020-spring 2021 mentor by March 6. Finally, Black History Month is approaching, so we encourage students, faculty and staff to submit events to OBSA’s official calendar. Learn more in the pages that follow!

FEATURES:

- LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BEYONCÉ MASS! SUN JAN 26
- 4TH ANNUAL BLACK INTERSECTIONS CONFERENCE: SUBMIT BY JAN 31
- ART GALLERY #BIC: SHOW YOUR ART AT BLACK INTERSECTIONS!
- ANNOUNCING THE OBSA INTERIM ASSISTANT DEAN, DR. LATREACE COX!
- MEET THE 2020 BLACK GRADUATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY KEYNOTE SPEAKER, DR. WILSON-OYELARAN & TRAVEL TO 1969
- BRIAN GOES TO ADOBE MAX
- BE A 2020-2021 OBSA PEER MENTOR: APPLY BY MARCH 6
- SUBMIT AN EVENT FOR THE BLACK HISTORY MONTH CALENDAR NOW!
- LET’S TALK RETURNS | INTERNSHIPS | ALLYSON HOBBES ON #METOO
Dr. Latreace Cox, former OBSA Administrative and Events Coordinator reflects on her academic and professional journey while sharing about her new role as OBSA Interim Assistant Dean

For more than 24 years, I have worked in higher education in student facing departments because I take pleasure in helping students find positive takeaways in their college journeys. Born and raised in Pomona, California, where I attended elementary school and junior high school, I have been able to experience multiple aspects of formal education; attending low income public schools, then moving on to high performing private college. My personal struggles and successes within my prolonged college journey, allow me to offer insight to students who may need encouragement academically, spiritually, and socially and even give financial advice on avoiding debt. I am competitive, but am also a team player having competed in tennis, basketball, track and field in school. I started my college career at Chaffey College, and transferred to USC where I ran Cross Country and Track & Field. Although it wasn't easy being a walk-on athlete, I knew that it would be an invaluable experience competing at a Division-1 school. In hindsight, I am glad I didn't research USC's stellar athletic history prior to transferring or I might have never tried out for the team. Sometimes taking chances has its benefits if you focus on the right things while taking a leap of faith.

I graduated with a bachelor's degree in Social Science History with a minor in sociology. I was encouraged by the Vice Provost of Admissions (my boss at the time) to think about applying for the master's program in education. As focused as I was, I had not planned to earn anything beyond a bachelor's degree even though I was hard working and driven. I was confused about which route to take and my boss became a mentor to me in many ways. After receiving a master's degree in educational policy planning and administration with the highest gpa in my graduating class, I then focused on a doctoral degree in educational administration which I earned in May 2018.

Although it was not easy with a fulltime job, five children, and a rigorous program (that included five stats classes), I hope that I can inspire someone else to achieve their own level of success. As the current Interim Assistant Dean of OBSA I will focus on providing students with ongoing community service opportunities, reinstate the high school outreach/mentorship program, generate an extensive database of resources for extern/internships, provide workshops for career preparedness for both graduate and undergraduate students and contribute to OBSA's anchor programs that our community knows and loves. I enjoyed my time as OBSA's Administrative and Events Coordinator and look forward to the challenges and possibilities the Assistant Dean role will bring. One quote that I have always lived by is: the only time you see obstacles is when you take your eyes off of your goal. Keep your eyes on the prize and enjoy what you can while enduring the journey.
Presented in celebration of OBSA’s 50th anniversary and the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, The Beyoncé Mass is a womanist worship service that uses the music and personal life of Beyoncé as a tool to foster an empowering conversation about Black women—their lives, their bodies, and their voices. Based on the scholarship of Rev. Yolanda Norton, the H. Eugene Farlough Chair of Black Church Studies at San Francisco Theological Seminary, this groundbreaking spiritual experience gathered over 1000 people at its inaugural event in San Francisco, and has also happened around the world.

This service does not worship or deify Beyoncé.

Rather, it is a way to connect people to inclusive spiritual traditions and broaden conceptions of faith and justice. The mass is a chapel service that engenders positive, empowering conversations about Black women, and has become a highly recognized celebration of inclusion, the centering of marginalized experiences, social justice, self-care, self-reflection and spiritual connectedness. Its organization involves a live band, a choir comprised of campus and local community members, and a sermon by Reverend Norton.

Visit the website for more information, video and press!
I am a Pomona Sophomore, Media Studies and Mathematics major from New Mexico. Lately, I have been diving deep in the realm of design. Design, although a broad topic, in my eye, has one purpose: to improve. I see my purpose to find ways of improving that whether it be visually on a 2D realm with graphic design, animation, videography, or photography or in a 3D realm or on a more abstract level.

When looking back on my first semester of sophomore year I am grateful for many of the opportunities afforded to me. What especially stands out is going to a conference called Adobe MAX. Through the Office of Black Students Affairs, I obtained funding for transportation to be in a space where the leading designers in the world met and showcased their work.

If you are unfamiliar, Adobe is the company responsible for creating the programs Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Acrobat, Premiere, Indesign, among other programs that are used for content creation for business professionals, top-tier creatives, and amateurs. At MAX, I met and connected with industry leaders like Forest Young who was on the team for the Uber redesign and head of design at Wolf Olin*, and Benjamin Wilkins head designer at Handshake and former Lead Designer at Airbnb. I also gained insight into other ways that I could take design past two-dimensional photographs and graphics. One of the biggest product releases for Adobe was something called “Adobe Aero” where they created an augmented reality application for content creators to make worlds that could be interacted with digitally in real-time. Other interesting features that were showcased at the conference was something called #AdobeSneaks**. You must check out the link. Presented by John Mullaney (funniest white man alive) and Paul Trani (an Adobe Creative Evangelist) brought people out on stage to show off their code that they created which worked in conjunction with Adobe programs to do crazy new things. Like, animate a drawing on a sticky note using only voice and a photo. The Future Is Now.

Besides being absolutely WOW’d and meeting super inspiring people I also gained inspiration for personal projects. I am currently helping with the design and branding of Rosie The Hijabi, a website that encourages women’s empowerment by selling merchandise that raises awareness and funds for the cause. Rosie the Hijabi*** was started by Pomona College student Malak Afaneh. I also am helping to design a new edition of the Didomi water bottles, a website that sells water bottles to raise awareness and funds for the water crisis in certain African countries. Didomi**** was started by another Pomona College student Anna Jibicho. These two examples are among many other projects that I hope to undertake in my future!

Since going to the conference, I feel like I’ve found my true purpose in life in design which has led me to being much happier in navigating my time in college. Furthermore, by going to this conference I was able to find a community of people in the real world that have similar ambitions to mine. This is something that is highly encouraging because I often get worried that my being at a liberal arts school won’t benefit me because of the lack of technical training. However, since the conference, my mental health has improved because I’m able to operate with intention.

I found this conference through a podcast, and it lowkey changed my life trajectory so I encourage you as a reader to go to conferences that you hear of or research your own and go!

To learn more about the Creative Cloud and Adobe MAX go to their websites. To see the design work that I do visit my website: https://bjakatou.design. I was able to create this website from a free domain name I received at the conference and a free creative cloud account that I was given at the conference as well! The best design goes unnoticed.

*wolfolins.com/work
**https://theblog.adobe.com/adobe-max-sneaks-2019/
***https://www.rosiethehijabi.com/
****https://didomigives.com/
Dr. Eileen B. Wilson-Oyelaran, President Emerita of Kalamazoo College, retired in July 2016 after serving eleven years as President. During her tenure she led the most successful fundraising campaign in the college’s history to support scholarships, endowed professorships, capital projects, and the creation of the Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership. President Wilson-Oyelaran greatly enhanced the representational diversity at Kalamazoo College, increasing the number of first generation, international, low-income, and domestic students of color. Working collectively with faculty and staff she led efforts to make Kalamazoo a more equitable and inclusive campus.

A native of Los Angeles, Dr. Wilson-Oyelaran earned her B.A. in sociology from Pomona College. After graduation she was awarded the Thomas J. Watson Traveling Fellowship and conducted independent research in Ghana, Nigeria and Tanzania. She completed her doctoral work in education at the Claremont Graduate University and began her academic career at Obafemi Awolowo University in Nigeria (OAU), teaching in both the departments of education and psychology. OAU would be her academic home for 14 years.

Dr. Wilson-Oyelaran has extensive higher education leadership experience having previously served as Vice President and Dean of the College at Salem College (North Carolina). Additionally, she has held teaching and high level administrative positions at Winston-Salem State University and North Carolina Wesleyan College. She currently serves as a Senior Consultant for the Association of Governing Boards (AGB). Her primary areas of scholarly interest are early child development and education in cultural context. Recognized for her expertise in the area of cultural diversity, Dr. Wilson-Oyelaran has worked with faculty in higher education and K-12 to improve educational outcomes for women and students from underrepresented groups.

Dr. Wilson-Oyelaran currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Pomona College where she chairs the Educational Quality Committee. Other service includes the Board of Trustees of United States International University Africa, the W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research and National Advisory Board of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art. She is past chair of the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) Council of Presidents and the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU).

Prof Wilson-Oyelaran is the recipient of numerous honors and awards for her work in higher education including honorary doctorates from Pomona College and Kalamazoo College, the Gender Equity Architect Award from the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, the Star Award from the Posse Foundation, and an American Council of Education Fellowship. In 1989 she was awarded the Visionary Leadership Award by the Intercollegiate Office of Black Studies for her leadership in the establishment of the Department of Black Studies at the Claremont Colleges.

OBSA is delighted to welcome Dr. Wilson-Oyelaran as the 2020 Black Graduation Speaker due to her many distinctions and contributions to the field of higher education locally and globally, and we are excited for her to speak about some of her experiences at Pomona College during the founding of OBSA and IDAS.
Dr. Wilson-Oyelaran, President Emerita of Kalamazoo College (pictured right, in 1968) will be this year’s Black Graduation Keynote. We requested photos and news clippings documenting her campus experiences during the landmark protests and founding of cultural centers and ethnic studies at The Claremont Colleges, and she shared the amazing images shown below, captioned by her recollection of people and events. Come to Black Graduation to hear Dr. Wilson-Oyelaran recount some of her global experiences as a student, activist, advocate and educator, celebrating our graduates and OBSA's 50th anniversary. View the activism timeline leading to OBSA's founding in OBSA's fall 2019 news at https://services.claremont.edu/obsa/
CALLING ALL IDEAS!
Present Your Ideas And Research
At the Black Intersections Conference
Submit by Friday, January 31, 2020

Faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members are invited to submit a proposal for presentation as a workshop or panel. All conference presenters are eligible to upload to the Scholarship at Claremont database housed by GOOGLE SCHOLAR for global discovery.

QUESTIONS?
BlackIntersections@gmail.com

CONFERENCE & PRESENTER DETAILS:

The Black Intersections Conference is a supportive forum to discuss pertinent issues and events impacting communities of African descent locally and globally. We invite students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members to share their scholarship and current thinking in panels and workshops that speak broadly to this year's conference theme; including but not limited to explorations of resistance, freedom and self-care. Presenters from any field and general attendees are welcome!
Join Us for the Black Intersections Conference
Saturday, February 29, 2020
Noon-8 p.m.

General Registration Now Open!

*Free for Claremont Colleges Students*

$20 for Claremont Colleges faculty, staff and alumni

$50 For Guests

GROUP RATES AVAILABLE

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BE ENGAGED & BE CONNECTED & BE AN OBSA MENTOR.

FOR THE 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR. MENTORS ARE CLAREMONT COLLEGES UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ONLY AND MUST BE ENROLLED AT ANY 5C INSTITUTION IN FALL 2020.

Deadline to apply: March 6, 2020. Selected students will be asked to interview. Mentors are trained in spring and fall, and matched with a group of first year students during the summer.


Questions? Contact obsa@claremont.edu
The Office of Black Student Affairs
The Claremont Colleges Services
ART GALLERY #BIC

FEB 29
SCC NOON

<-- SUBMIT HERE

let's talk!

GROUP DROP IN HOUR FOR 7C STUDENTS

STOP BY FOR INFORMAL, CONFIDENTIAL MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS SUPPORT WITH DR. SHAWNDEEIA DRINKARD, MCAPS THERAPIST

THURSDAYS STARTING JAN 30, 2020
1PM-2PM | OBSA BUNGALOW
MORE THAN A MONTH

PLANNING AN EVENT FOR BLACK HISTORY?

50 YEARS OF TRANSFORMATION

SUBMIT IT TO OBSA'S ANNUAL CALENDAR!

DUE JAN 30, 2020

SUBMIT TO HTTP://BIT.LY/OBSA365

CALENDAR RELEASE: FEB 1
THE OFFICE OF BLACK STUDENT AFFAIRS AND CHICANO LATINO STUDENT AFFAIRS PRESENT

SUNDAY MAY 3, 2020 - 11 AM-1 PM

JOINT OBSA/CLSA ALUMNI WEEKEND OPEN HOUSE BRUNCH

Mingle with Alumni, Students, Faculty, Staff, and Families. Learn more about OBSA and CLSA at our first ever joint alumni brunch to celebrate our 50th anniversaries. Enjoy an early afternoon of great food and community!

Honnold Library front lawn
800 N Dartmouth Street, Claremont, CA 91711

CONTACT: OBSA_CLEOPATRET@CUC.CLAREMONT.EDU
OBSA 7C
STUDENT-
ALUMNI
VIRTUAL
MENTORING
PROGRAM

APPLY ONLINE
TO
PARTICIPATE
AS AN ALUM
OR CURRENT
STUDENT!

OBSA STAFF
MATCHES
BASED ON
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STAY

CONNECTED

FIND OBSA'S
BLACK ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
ON LINKEDIN!
HTTP://BIT.LY/
OBSABLKalums
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Congresswoman Norma Torres offers this opportunity specifically for college students living in California's 35th district - this is your chance to experience the legislative process firsthand and gain valuable work experience! Internships run year-round, and offer both paid and unpaid options. DC interns attend hearings, briefings, and support my team in developing legislation. Interns in Ontario serve residents of the Inland Empire by assisting with casework, district-based projects, and community priorities.

Causeway Capital Management LLC (via SEO) is looking for sophomores for an Operations Internship in Los Angeles (Summer 2020). The 100% employee-owned firm, based in Los Angeles, manages approximately $51 billion in international, global and emerging market equities, both long only and longshort. The Operations Intern will work within the firm’s Operations department. The goal of the internship is to introduce an undergraduate student to various opportunities within the investment management industry. Tenure of role is 10 weeks.

APPLY TODAY for the Causeway internship:
1) APPLY – https://career.seo-usa.org/program/how-to-apply/
2) EMAIL - sslade@seo-usa.org and attach your resume

Her book won the Organization of American Historians’ Frederick Jackson Turner Prize for best first book in American history and the Lawrence Levine Prize for best book in American cultural history. She is now at work on two books—one a history of Black women's testimonials of sexual violence in the wake of #MeToo, expanding upon her article for The New Yorker, "One Year of #MeToo: The Legacy of Black Women's Testimonies"; and "Far From Sanctuary: African American Travel and the Road to Civil Rights," which explores the violence, humiliation, and indignities that Black motorists experienced on the road during the pre-Civil Rights era, at a time when the open road in an automobile symbolized the American dream. Hobbs graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University and earned her Ph.D. with distinction from the University of Chicago.

She has received fellowships from the Ford Foundation, the Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research, and the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity at Stanford. Professor Hobbs’s Athenaeum talk is co-sponsored by the Gould Center for Humanistic Studies at CMC.