



The Africana Studies 50th Anniversary Celebration and the 44th Annual W.E.B. Du Bois Distinguished Lecture

**In person event– free and open to the public
Two Key Note Speakers
Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 5-8 pm**



Dr. Christel N. Temple
Title: “Cultural Memory and Mythology: Africana Agency in the Face of Exile”

Africana Cultural Memory Studies is one of the most recent intellectual developments in the discipline of Africana Studies, yet its priorities are familiar. In conversation with diasporic experiences of exile, both cultural memory as recollection and cultural mythology as sacred storytelling of this recollection are catalysts for exploring new ways to itemize survival and inheritance throughout the African Diaspora.

Christel N. Temple is Professor of Africana Studies and an affiliate of The Graduate Program for Cultural Studies (CLST), the Critical European Culture Studies doctoral program (CED), and the African Studies Program (ASP), at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Professor Temple received her B.A. from the College of William and Mary, where she majored in History, her M.A. in Comparative Black Literature from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and her Ph.D. in African American Studies from Temple University. Her major fields of interest are Africana Cultural Memory Studies, Comparative Africana Literature, Black Nationalism, Pan-Africanism, and Afro-European Studies. Dr. Temple’s publications include *Black Cultural Mythology* (SUNY, 2020) which won the College Language Association’s Book Prize in 2021; *Transcendence and the Africana Literary Enterprise* (2017); *Literary Spaces: Introduction to Comparative Black Literature* (2007); *Literary Pan-Africanism: History, Contexts, and Criticism* (2005); a co-edited volume on *Muhammad Ali in Africana Cultural Memory* (2022) with James L. Conyers, Jr.; and a number of essays, articles, and reviews, which have appeared in *The Journal of Black Studies*; *CLA Journal, Nations and Nationalism*; *SAGE: A Scholarly Journal on Black Women*; *Journal of Multicultural Discourses*; *International Journal of Black Studies*; *Journal of African American Studies*; *Western Journal of Black Studies*; *Journal of Pan African Studies*; *Africological Perspectives*; and *African Studies Quarterly*. Currently, she is Series Editor of Lexington Books’ Critical Africana Studies book series. She served a term as Department Chair at the University of Pittsburgh from 2016 to 2019; and is a former Executive Director of the Diopian Institute for Scholarly Advancement (DISA), which convenes the annual Cheikh Anta Diop International Conference in Philadelphia.



Mr. Donald G. Murray, Jr.
Title: “Africana Studies: Creating a Program Space and Place at UMBC and the Greater Baltimore and Washington, D. C. Communities”

Recognizing the importance of relating the discipline of Africana Studies (AFST) to fashioning improvements in African and African American communities in the 1970s, the then African American Studies Department (AAS) at UMBC sought to develop a program of study for its students that provided them with the knowledge and skills that would allow them to gain an understanding of their communities while also preparing them to make significant contributions to improving those communities in terms of health, economic, family, housing, and criminal justice policies and affairs. These goals were achieved by allowing students to pursue double majors (AAS + other major) while also giving them real-world experiences through summer tutorial opportunities, work at nonprofit organizations, museums, legal firms, and health fairs. For the present, our task involves assessing these efforts of the AAS/AFST Community Involvement program for its success and shortcomings, and make suggestions for its future course for the next 50 years.

Mr. Donald G. Murray, Jr. is former faculty of the UMBC African American Studies/Africana Studies department and the pioneer director of its Community Involvement program. He is also the former director of the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs; campaign director of the D.C. mayoral candidates (1990s-2000s); former social worker; and chair of the Humanities Council for Washington, D.C (2000s).

November 10, 2022 at 4-7 pm: Roundtable Discussions by AFST Alumni, current students, and former faculty members-In person discussion, 7th floor room 767 Albin O. Kuhn Library

