



Dear Colleague,

We are excited that you will be with us on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> for our *Black Research Institute for Flourishing and Thriving* sponsored by the [University of Idaho Black History Research Lab](#). We wanted to provide you with some additional information in preparation for this important event.

- **Recording:** This conversation will be video/audio recorded and archived within the Black History Research Lab and will not be made public.
- **Preparation:** We plan a truly consultative format. We hope you will be prepared to tell us what your definition of Black Flourishing & Thriving is; the ways in which Predominantly White Institutions (PWIs) can create healthy campus environments where their Black populations (students, staff, faculty, and administrators) can live, attend school, and work; how PWIs can provide a holistic support system for them; and the key factors that determine Black thriving and flourishing in such settings. *There is no expectation for any formal preparation beyond being willing to address the aforementioned ideas.*
- **Time:** We have received an overwhelming positive response from those who have chosen to join us for this seminal conversation. It will be our goal to keep the conversation to two hours. However, we understand given the number of participants we may go overtime. We understand if some need to leave at the two-hour mark.

### Resources

#### Books

- [Why Black Lives Matter: African American Thriving for the Twenty-First Century by Anthony B. Bradley](#)
- [Thriving While Black: The Act of Surviving and Thriving in the same space by Cori Jamal Williams](#)
- [Black Campus Life: The Worlds Black Students Make at a Historically White Institution by Antar A. Tichavakunda](#)

#### Articles

- [Black Joy on White Campuses: Exploring Students' Recreation and Celebration at a Historically White Institution. Review of Higher Education by Antar Tichavakunda.](#)
- [Studying Black Student Life: Toward a Theory of Black Placemaking in Higher Education. Urban Education by Antar Tichavakunda.](#)
- [Taking Black Joy Seriously in Higher Education by Antar Tichavakunda](#)
- [The Future of Black Scholars by Sydney Freeman, Jr.](#)

#### Videos

- [UCI Black Thriving Initiative](#)

#### Websites

- [Introducing the UCI Black Thriving Initiative](#)



*“Thinking about where you can sort of flourish is the kind of question most Black people never get to ask ourselves.”*

– Tressie McMillan Cottom, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

## **Black Research Institute for Flourishing & Thriving, University of Idaho**

April 24, 2023

### **AGENDA**

**Welcome**

**Mr. Mario Pile**

**Greetings and Labor Acknowledgements**

**Ms. Rim Tekle**

**Reflections on Black Flourishing/Thriving &  
Introduction of the Project**

**Dr. Sydney Freeman, Jr.**

*Discussion with All Participants, Facilitated by Dr. Sydney Freeman, Jr.*

- **Mutual Sharing of Experiences, Hopes and Dreams**

Each participant will be asked to briefly share their interest and experiences with the topic of Black Flourishing and Thriving with special attention to their institutions, research, and networks.

- **Review of the Topography of Black Flourishing/Thriving**

- **Discussion of Approaches to Black Flourishing/Thriving holistically**

- Students**
- Staff**
- Faculty**
- Administrators**

- **Potential Future Initiatives and Institute Follow-up  
(i.e., Research Agenda, Center, etc.)**

**Adjournment**

**Mr. Mario Pile**



## Flourishing and Thriving Consultation Invitees

### Host:

**Dr. Sydney Freeman, Jr.**, *Director and Chief Research Scientist of Black History Research Lab, University of Idaho*

### Participants

1. **Dr. Derrick R. Brooms**, *Professor and Associate Head for Africana Studies & Sociology Department, University of Tennessee, Knoxville*
2. **Dr. Crystal Chambers**, *Professor of Educational Leadership, East Carolina University*
3. **Dr. Ty-Ron M. O. Douglas**, *Associate Athletic Director for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, & Justice, University of California, Berkeley*
4. **Dr. Douglas Haynes**, *Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Programs, University of California*
5. **Dr. Nat Irvin II**, *Assistant Dean for Thought Leadership and Civic Engagement, Management & Entrepreneurship, University of Louisville*
6. **Dr. Angel Jones**, *Visiting Assistant Professor of Teaching and Learning, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville*
7. **Dr. Dave A. Louis**, *Associate Professor and Ph.D. Program Director of Educational Leadership & Policy Studies, University of Houston*
8. **Dr. Teshia Young Roby**, *Assistant Vice President for Learning & Research Technologies, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona*
9. **Dr. Antar Tichavakunda**, *Assistant Professor of Race and Higher Education, University of California, Santa Barbara*
10. **Dr. Franklin A. Tuitt**, *Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, University of Connecticut, Storrs*
11. **Dr. Brittany M. Williams**, *Assistant Professor of Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration, University of Vermont*

### University of Idaho Guests

**Mr. Mario Pile**, *Director of the Black/African American Cultural Center*

**Ms. Rim Tekle**, *Incoming President of the Black Student Union & Student Researcher for the Black History Research Lab*

**Ms. Bex Riehm**, *Administrative Assistant for the Black/African American Cultural Center*

**Ms. Rochelle Smith**, *Associate Professor and Humanities Librarian*

**Ms. Patricia Edwards-Dixon**, *Financial Specialist*

**Dr. Lynda Freeman**, *Clinical Associate Professor of Medical Education*

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**Black History  
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