4th WORLD CONFERENCE ON REMEDIES TO RACIAL AND ETHNIC ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Major Policy Frontiers in Remediying Inequality
**What?**

The Roy Wilkins Center will organize the World Conference on Remedies to Racial and Ethnic Economic Inequality, October 11-13, 2012.

**Why?**

The economic disparities among various racial and ethnic groups in nearly every country in the world persist. Approaches to remedying those disparities vary from place to place and through time. The crowning achievement of the Roy Wilkins Center over the past 20 years has been its ability to convene the top policy makers, researchers, and analysts to debate and reconcile competing methods for solving problems of racial and ethnic economic inequality. Previous *World Conferences* (Minneapolis, 1996; South Australia, 1998; South Africa, 2001) produced measureable gains by connecting disparate views and resolving conflicting approaches to remedying inequality. While the conferences provided profound intellectual content, they were accessible to lay audiences, as well. Ten years have passed since the last conference and much has transpired in the past decade.

The time is now to reconvene the previous participants and to bring new stakeholders together to reflect upon and reconsider alternative approaches to remedying racial and ethnic economic inequality, a unique unifying opportunity of this conference.
How will the World Conference help solve issues of racial and economic inequality?

- Practical local solutions to problems of economic inequality often rest up on global evidentiary platforms.

- Problems of racial and ethnic disparities in educational achievement, nutrition, housing, employment, child welfare, mortality, as well as every other aspect of social and economic well-being, are solved at the local level. Solutions and approaches are based on lessons learned from around the globe.

The World Conference will narrow the gap in our knowledge and the understanding of what works and what does not to assist local decision makers to choose the correct policies to produce effective results.

The mission of the Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice is to study and formulate solutions to problems of racial and ethnic inequality. The Wilkins Center conducts quantitative and qualitative research and develops graduate curricula. It promotes dialogue and provides community outreach on issues of greatest concern to communities of color and which have an impact on deteriorating race relations and widening inequality in the United States. The Wilkins Center is guided by the following goals: **Promote discussions on race, build bridges, conduct quality research, and educate students in public policy.**
The 4th World Conference Approach

Plenary sessions with critical commentary and discussion of each approach. At the end there will be a summary and synthesis panel where the discussants from the plenary panels come together and conclude with an assessment of “What works? What seems to work? What has great potential for working? What are the main obstacles to existing proposals for succeeding?”

Then there will be concurrent sessions on Thursday and Saturday of scholars and researchers from the University of Minnesota and elsewhere presenting more technical analyses building on and expanding upon the key themes.
Thursday, October 11

12:00pm – 1:00pm
Registration/Check-in/Poster Check-in
Location: HHH Atrium

1:00pm – 2:30pm
Panel Discussion
Location: Cowles Auditorium

“Intersections of Oppression”
Moderator: Debra Fitzpatrick
Director, Center on Women and Public Policy
Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of MN

Panel: under development

Intersectional analysis examines how various biological, social and cultural categories such as gender, race class, ability, and other axes of identity interact on multiple and often simultaneous levels, contributing to systematic social inequality. This panel discussion will focus on how remedies can be and are more successful when they incorporate in an intersectional understanding.

Respondent: under development

3:45pm – 5:15pm
Concurrent Sessions
Location: Various locations

Health Disparities

Small Businesses and Entrepreneurship

Employment Disparities

3:45pm – 5:15pm
Concurrent Sessions
Location: Various locations
(Prepared papers from academic solicitation)

5:30pm – 7:30pm
Poster Session & Reception
Location: Humphrey Forum

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Friday, October 12

7:00am – 8:00am
Registration/Continental Breakfast
Location: HHH Atrium

8:00am – 8:30am
Welcome Remarks
Location: Cowles Auditorium

Senator Amy Klobuchar *invited*
Senator Al Franken *invited*
Congressman Keith Ellison *invited*
Governor Mark Dayton *invited*
Eric W. Kaler – President, University of Minnesota *invited*  
Robert Jones – Senior VP for System Academic Administration, University of Minnesota *invited*  
Eric Schwartz – Dean, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota *invited*

8:30am – 10:00am
Location: Cowles Auditorium

“Summary and Synthesis of Remedies Around the World”
Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Professor and Chair  
Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice  
Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

“Baby Bonds and Guaranteed Jobs”
William A. “Sandy” Darity, Jr.  
Arts & Sciences Professor of Public Policy  
Professor of African & African American Studies and Economics  
Duke University

“Anti-Discrimination Initiatives in India, South Africa and Brazil”
Ashwini Despande, Professor  
Department of Economics  
University of Delhi
Friday, October 12 (cont’d)

“Indigenous Knowledge and Transformation”
Graham Hingangaroa Smith, Professor, Vice Chancellor/CEO
Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi
Indigenous-university in Whakatane, New Zealand

“The Carrot and the Stick: Enforcing Executive Order 11246”
Bernard E. Anderson, Senior Fellow, Center for Employment Policy, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Respondent: under development

10:00am – 10:15am        Break
Location: HHH Atrium

10:15am – 11:45am
Location: Cowles Auditorium

“Human Rights as Civil Rights”
Moderator: Eric Schwartz
Dean, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

Panel: Barbara A. Frey, Director, Human Rights Program, University of Minnesota
       Judge LaJune Thomas Lange (retired), Honorary Consul for South Africa for the State of Minnesota, Senior Fellow, Roy Wilkins Center, University of Minnesota, President, International Leadership Institute
       Juan E. Mendez, Visiting Professor of Law, American University - Washington College of Law

Respondent: under development

12:00pm – 1:30pm        Luncheon and Keynote Address
Location: HHH Atrium

Keynote Speaker: Ambassador Larry Palmer  *invited*
Barbados & the Eastern Caribbean

Introduction: Hyon T. Kim
Former Regent, University of Minnesota
CEO, MN Best Enterprises, Inc.

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1:45pm – 3:15pm  
Location: Cowles Auditorium  

“Place vs. Race”  
Moderator: Myron Orfield, Professor of Law  
Executive Director, Institute on Race & Poverty  
University of Minnesota Law School  
Panel: under development  

Place vs. Race—This perspective has been advanced by analysts who demonstrate that concentrations of poverty via heavy segregation of neighborhoods explain much of observed racial and ethnic economic disparities.  
Respondent: under development  

3:15pm – 3:30pm  
Break  
Location: HHH Atrium  

3:30pm – 5:00pm  
Location: Cowles Auditorium  

“Human Capital and Early Childhood Education”  
Moderator: Karen Kelley-Ariwoola  
Former Vice President of Community Philanthropy, The Minneapolis Foundation  
Panel: Art Rolnick, Senior Fellow  
Humphrey School of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota  

Judy Temple, Associate Professor  
Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota  

Charles Nelson, Ph.D.  
Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard University  

Early Childhood Education Investments—Champions of these programs include Nobel Laureate James Heckman and MacArthur Award Winner Roland Fryer who contend that most racial and ethnic disparities are traceable to differences in access to early childhood education. Examples are found in World Bank experiments throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America.  
Respondent: under development

Major Policy Frontiers in Remediying Inequality
**Friday, October 12**

**6:30pm – 9:00pm**  
*20th Anniversary Celebration Reception/Dinner*  
*Location: HHH Atrium*

**Keynote Speaker:** Benjamin T. Jealous  
President and CEO  
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

**Saturday, October 13**

**7:30am – 8:30am**  
*Registration/Continental Breakfast*  
*Location: HHH Atrium*

**8:30 am – 10:00am**  
*Location: Cowles Auditorium*

“Community Transformation”

Moderator: Gary Cunningham  
Vice President of Programs and Chief Program Officer, Northwest Area Foundation  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Panel:  
john powell  
Professor of Law, Director, Haas Diversity Research Center  
University of California, Berkeley

African American Leadership Forum  
Des Moines, Iowa  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Omaha, Nebraska  
Portland, Oregon  
Seattle, Washington  
Tacoma, Washington

The African American Leadership Forums (AALF) in Des Moines, Seattle, Portland and Minneapolis are pioneering examples of addressing the problems of racial and ethnic inequality, enhancing and strengthening the leadership of the communities facing greatest economic distress. Similar examples can be found in Brazil and South Africa and often seek solutions from within communities of color.

**Major Policy Frontiers in Remedying Inequality**
Saturday, October 13 (cont’d)

Bridging the Middle – Baltimore Empowerment Initiative
Casey Foundation, Baltimore, Maryland

Panel: under development
Respondent: under development

10:00am – 10:15am  Break
Location: HHH Atrium

10:15am – 11:45am
Location: Cowles Auditorium

“Addressing Intersectional Inequality in the Community: Minnesota Lessons”

Moderator: Debra Fitzpatrick
Director, Center on Women and Public Policy
Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

Panel: Jodi Sandfort, Associate Professor, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

We will explore remedies developed in the community addressing gender and race ethnicity, including a “Gender Democracy” toolkit developed by the Refugee and Immigrant Women for Change Coalition and a case study focused on Casa de Esperanza’s domestic violence work in the Latino community.

Respondent: under development

10:15am – 11:45am  Concurrent Sessions
Location: Various  (prepared papers from academic solicitation)

12:00pm – 1:00pm  Lunch
Location: HHH Atrium

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1:15pm – 2:45pm
Location: Cowles Auditorium

Panel: under development
Respondent: under development

3:00pm – 4:30pm Summary and Synthesis

“Where do we go from here?”

Margaret Simms, Institute Fellow
Director, Low Income Working Families Project
Urban Institute, Washington, DC

Respondents: under development