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Northwestern | BLACK PROFESSIONALS NETWORK



Our Mission and Values

The Northwestern University Black Professionals Network strives to build community through our shared experiences to foster open dialogue, leadership, and mentorship that will improve the Northwestern Black professional experience.

Message from the BPN Chairs

Greetings village!!! I pray this message finds you well. As we move into spring and start to wrap up the academic year, I hope you can find time to relax, recharge, and enjoy the warmer weather. Your BPN leadership team continues to advocate for Black staff and center wellness, well-being, and our commitment to providing a safe space for dialogue. I encourage you to utilize the resources provided on our website and join us for our ongoing lunchtime chat series. I especially want to invite you to our Juneteenth celebration on Wednesday, June 14. More program details will be sent out over the listserv. I hope to see you all there.

Kind regards,

Tracey A. Gibson-Jackson

Journey Narratives



Lorraine Goffe

Lorraine Goffe serves as the Vice President for Human Resources and Chief Human Resources Officer, overseeing employee compensations, well-being, talent acquisition, and more. Lorraine assumed her role in March 2022 after holding similar roles at Penn State University, MIT, and Washington University in St. Louis.

[Read more about Lorraine's background.](#)



Mongezi Mbebe

As the program coordinator for the [University of Stellenbosch](#) Business School, Mongezi Mbebe has over 17 years of experience in higher education. Mongezi has worked at the University of Cape Town Institute of Development and Labor Law Unit, the UCT Commercial Law Faculty, and the Stellenbosch University Health Sciences Faculty. [Read Mongezi's bio.](#)

Yeki Mosomothane

Yeki Mosomothane is the Multicultural Educator and



Coordinator at the Centre for Student Communities at [Stellenbosch University](#), providing strategic leadership regarding multicultural education and diversity capacity development programs within the Student Communities and Structures. [Read Yeki's bio.](#)

Celebrating Black History Month

The national theme for the 2023 Black History Month 2023: "Black Resistance"



NU Rec. – Resources for BPN
with Adrienne Gossett

[Presentation Recap](#)

Northwestern
HUMAN RESOURCES

Nurture Your Mind, Body & Soul
with Evelyn Cordero

[Presentation Recap](#)



Spirituality as a Form of Resistance

with [Walter Crawford](#)

Utilizing self-care as a tool of resistance and preservation given the frequent exposure to systemic oppression and discrimination.

The Struggle Is Real - Our Strategy:

Resistance and Preservation

with [Ellen Burton](#)

[Presentation](#) / [Additional Resources](#)

Stay Tuned



BPN Juneteenth Celebration

Wednesday, June 14

Black House, 1914 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL

Join us to celebrate Black independence and to fellowship with the BPN community.

More information coming soon!

Dialogue Session



A Holistic View of Wellness

with [Walter Crawford](#)

Presentation Recap

[#BuildWealth Checklist](#) | [Mr. #BuildWealth Credo](#)

BPN Spotlight



Kathleen Bethel

After 41 years of service, beloved librarian and BPN member Kathleen Bethel plans to retire at the end of this academic year. Kathleen has dedicated her career to uplifting the voices and stories of Black people worldwide, all while consulting and supporting generations of scholars. [Learn more about Kathleen's incredible career.](#)

Serena Simpson

IT Communications Specialist and BPN steering committee member Serena Simpson was awarded the 2022 Northwestern IT Employee Excellence Award this past February for her

contributions to several high-profile projects and collaboration across the department. [Read more about the award.](#)



NORTHWESTERN/ETHS PARTNERSHIP OFFICE PRESENTS... **Black Men LEAD**

BLACK MEN LEAD CONFERENCE 2023

WHEN: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023, 10AM-2:30PM
WHERE: NORRIS SECOND FLOOR (ARCH RM)
(1999 Campus Dr, Evanston, IL)

Come kick it with us and connect with Black students and staff!

Scan the QR code to RSVP and secure your spot!
tinyurl.com/bmlconference23

JOIN US FOR:

- Community Networking
- Breakout Dialogues
- Keynote Speaker
- Lunch & Snacks Provided!

 

 @BLACKMENLEAD.EVANSTON

Black Men Lead (BLM) Conference 2023

Black Men LEAD, a collaboration between Evanston Township High School, Northwestern University, and the surrounding community, hosted their 2023 conference earlier this year. This event allowed space for attendees to have open dialogue discussions and build connections.

[Read a recap of the event.](#)

Community Reads



- ['The Black Guy Dies First': Black Horror Cinema, From Fodder to Oscar](#) (Simon & Schuster, 2023) | [Assoc Provost for DEI, Robin Means Coleman, is a leading expert on representation in horror movies.](#)
- From rags to richness: Piecing the patchwork of American culture | [Prof Tracey-L](#)

[Vaughn-Manley reflects on the quilt as a historical document.](#)

- Level UP National Panel calls for spotlight on declining Black student enrollment | [Read more about the network and their call for action.](#)
- Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, Khalil Gibran Muhammad & E. Patrick Johnson on the Fight over Black History | [Read more on their response to the College Board's decision to revise African-American Studies curriculum.](#)
- The Double Standard Against Angel Reese | [Read more about the backlash she faced.](#)

Share Your Good News!

Your BPN steering committee wanted to celebrate all the exciting accomplishments happening across our community. Have a service anniversary coming? Have you achieved a major milestone? Share your good news with us!

[Submit Good News](#)

Keep in Touch!

[Send Us A Message](#)

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