

AFRICAN STUDIES SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE PROGRAM

Issue #4

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THE NEWS

Our week began with a trip to the Moorland Spingarn Research Center. We took a tour with Ms. Christina, who works there currently. She told us about the history of the research center and its origins. After the tour, we visited the undergraduate library. Ms. Christina showed us archives and one of Dr. W.E.B DuBois' books from his library. It felt like his spirit was still on the pages. He had even signed the book! What a blessing.

Dr. Zeleza also came and spoke on the amazing career avenues that are possible through African Studies. He spoke on his research with China's relationship to Africa and how they view African people. He also dropped jewels of wisdom to the students. He mentored them on the importance of letters of recommendation and how they play an important factor in people's careers!

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

This week, students presented on the blessings and curses of natural resources in four different African countries: Nigeria, Angola, Botswana, and Sierra Leone. They highlighted the different minerals specific to each country while speaking on issues such as illegal mining, smuggling, environmental degradation, land disputes, community conflict, and the importance of transparency and accountability prevention with their respective governments.

Furthermore, the Millennium Challenge Corporation came and spoke on their work in governmental public service to the students. They spoke on the different grants they receive to help develop Africa in its entirety. Each country has to answer specific questions that determine their eligibility for receiving aid. We learned that public service is a way to give back to underserved communities.

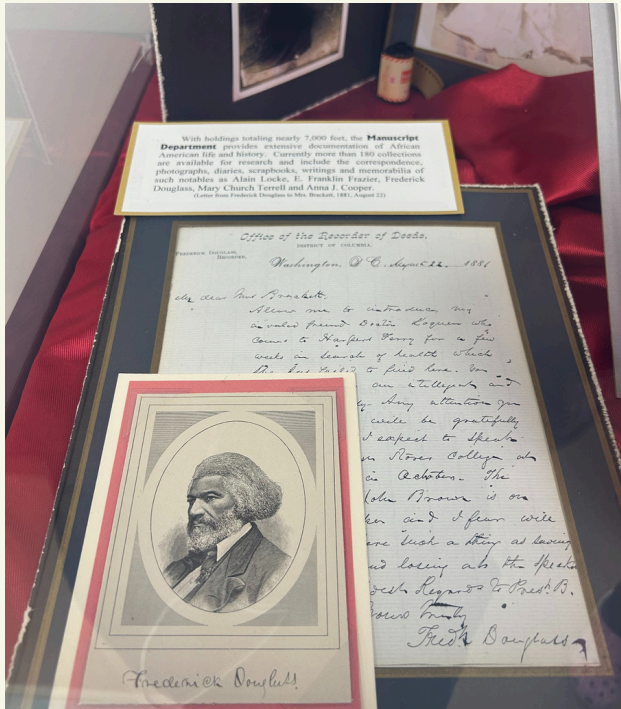


MY LECTURE ON BLACK PANTHER WOMEN

I was given the opportunity to lecture students for the first time. I spoke on the Black Panther Party women and the pivotal roles they played in the movement. The students in the cohort were so intrigued with Assata Shakur's story. It is crucial to understand how women were mobilizing their communities and empowering the youth!

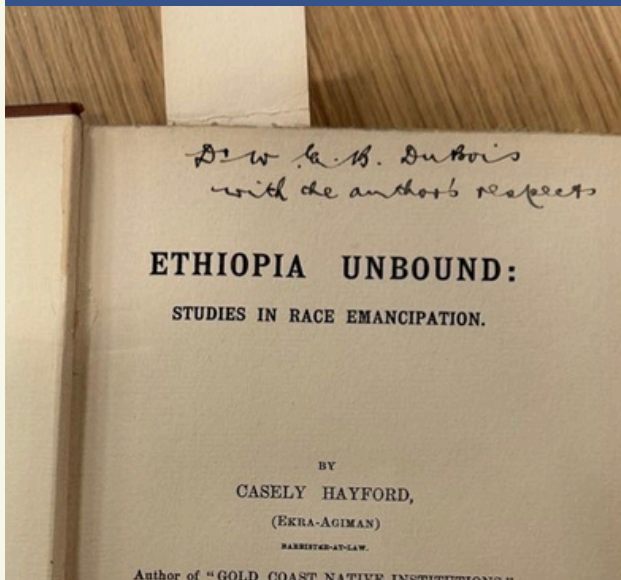
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MY LECTURE (CONT.)

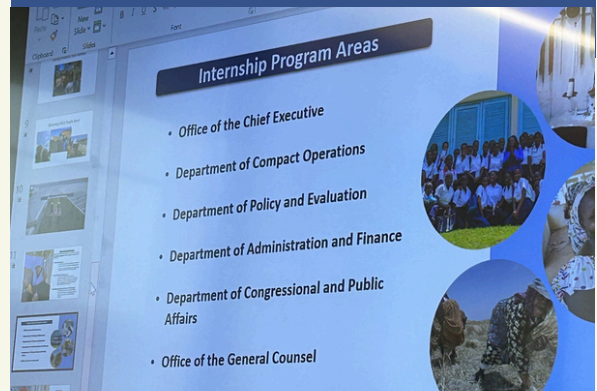
I was able to speak on influential women such as Kathleen Cleaver, Elaine Brown, Mama C, Assata Shakur, and so many more who were essential to the movement. Although the media forgot these women, it is crucial that we learn and teach their history so it isn't forgotten.



Integrating the knowledge I gained at Howard to teach and mentor students was momentous for me. My purpose in life is to help mentor the youth in my community. This felt like the first step towards that goal and I am forever grateful for the opportunities presented in this program!

PAN-AFRICANISM: ITS MEANINGS AND ORIGINS

Mr. Daquan also spoke on the different Pan-African leaders that shaped the migration back to Africa, as well as the collective efforts to restore the continent. He lectured on Martin Delany, an abolitionist who is credited for the slogan "Africa for Africans."



He also spoke on Pixley Seme, a South-African lawyer who studied in New York and Oxford, eventually using the knowledge he gained to return to South Africa. Of course, Marcus Garvey was also highlighted as the father of Pan-Africanism and the founder of the UNIA. Overall, this week was crucial in discussing the intersectionality between African history and African-American history. Overall, this was an amazing fourth week!