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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

The CSA 2025 Conference is finally here!

See updates inside:

From the President



From the Vice-President



From the Program Chair and Team



From the Local Organizing Committee



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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR cont'd

Message from our Spanish sub-editor



Message from our French sub-editor



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Rhoda Arrindell

Family, as we come to the end of another CSA year and partake in the conference activities, permit me to take this opportunity again to thank you for the honor and privilege to serve this awesome organization from this position and to lead us into the St. Martin conference. I am looking forward to meeting you in person,

taking care of business, having loads of fun, and eventually stepping down after passing the baton to Vice President Donna Hope.

Looking back at the last year, I am proud of our accomplishments based on our goals and the work in progress. Because of the dedication of Raymond Laureano, Tavis Jules, Meagan Sylvester, Jewel Nicome, and Phillip Clarke, we were able to move forward with the 50th anniversary journal after a bumpy start. Thanks to the tenacity of the illustrious Opal Palmer Adisa, the 50th anniversary CSA Journal is now available.

Building on the work and proposals of past presidents and Executive Committee members, we also now have a draft Procedural Manual that will make for smoother operations at the Executive Council level, and Oneil Halls' initiative to turn talk into action with the launch of the "Caribbean Voices" series kindled enthusiasm for the conference, and engagement with our members has increased.

But, as we say in St. Martin, "we still gah a lotta wuk to do."

June 1 marks the official start of the hurricane season, reminding us to remain vigilant and prepare adequately for potential storms. Our history has given lessons of strength and resilience we can always draw from as we continue using our talents to build a more resilient Caribbean. And as we pray for world peace, let us also pray for and commit to doing our part to ensure that our region remains a peaceful space.

This year's theme of "Reparations: Resistance, Resilience, Reproduction, and Rehabilitation" was selected so that we could have robust discussions surrounding this important global movement. In reimagining our Caribbean and laboring for another 50 years of CSA, we must insist on Reparations to right the wrongs of the past and to create a more sustainable and just future for all.

In closing this chapter, I'd like to thank the Local Organizing Committee, a team of dedicated St. Martiners—Joy Arnell, Patricia Arrindell, Yadira Boston, Aishira Cicilia, Shanice Theodule, Delroy Pierre, Erwin Romney, and Frederick Richardson—for your commitment to making the 2025 conference a memorable experience, highlighting the best of St. Martin to our visiting colleagues, our community, and ourselves.

To my Executive Committee—Okama Epke Brook, Donna Hope, Geneve Phillip, Maya Freeman, Margaret Shrimpton, Rita Keresztesi, Meagan Sylvester, Mala Jokhan, Kiah Akosua Asabea, Dwaine Plaza, and Samuel Fure Davis—"thank you" seems inadequate to express my gratitude for your guidance, critique, and support over the past year. Know that I remain available to continue to serve and support you, not just in the capacity of immediate past president, but in any way that I can. Just call on me.

To my advisory team of elders—Godfrey St. Bernard, Carole Boyce Davis, QM Chenzira Kahina Davis, and Carolle Charles—thanks for your words of wisdom, guidance, and upliftment throughout the process. I could not have done this without you.

Incoming President Donna Hope, I look forward to supporting you, alongside the incoming Executive Committee, as you execute your mandate.

May we have a successful and memorable CSA2025!

Rhoda Arrindell
President CSA 2024-2025

Español

Familia, al finalizar otro año de la CSA y participar en las actividades de la conferencia, permítanme aprovechar esta oportunidad nuevamente para agradecerles el honor y el privilegio de servir a esta magnífica organización desde este puesto y de guiarnos en la conferencia de St. Martin. Espero conocerlos en persona, ocuparme de los asuntos, divertirme mucho y, finalmente, dejar el cargo tras cederle el testigo a la vicepresidenta Donna Hope.

Al recordar el año pasado, me siento orgullosa de nuestros logros, basados en nuestras metas y el trabajo en curso. Gracias a la dedicación de Raymond Laureano, Tavis Jules, Meagan Sylvester, Jewel Nicome y Phillip Clarke, pudimos sacar adelante la revista del 50.º aniversario tras un comienzo complicado. Gracias a la tenacidad de la ilustre Opal Palmer Adisa, la Revista del 50.º aniversario de la CSA

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT cont'd

ya está disponible. Basándonos en el trabajo y las propuestas de presidentes anteriores y miembros del Comité Ejecutivo, ahora contamos con un borrador del Manual de Procedimientos que facilitará las operaciones a nivel del Consejo Ejecutivo. La iniciativa de Oneil Halls de pasar de las palabras a la acción con el lanzamiento de la serie "Voces del Caribe" despertó el entusiasmo por la conferencia y la interacción con nuestros miembros ha aumentado. Pero, como decimos en San Martín, "todavía tenemos mucho trabajo por hacer".

El 1 de junio marca el inicio oficial de la temporada de huracanes, lo que nos recuerda que debemos mantenernos alerta y prepararnos adecuadamente para posibles tormentas. Nuestra historia nos ha dado lecciones de fortaleza y resiliencia que siempre podemos aprovechar mientras seguimos utilizando nuestros talentos para construir un Caribe más resiliente. Y mientras oramos por la paz mundial, oremos también y comprometámonos a hacer nuestra parte para garantizar que nuestra región siga siendo un espacio de paz.

El tema de este año, "Reparaciones: Resistencia, Resiliencia, Reproducción y Rehabilitación", se seleccionó para que pudiéramos mantener debates sólidos en torno a este importante movimiento global. Al reimaginar nuestro Caribe y trabajar por otros 50 años de ASC, debemos insistir en las Reparaciones para corregir los errores del pasado y crear un futuro más sostenible y justo para todos.

Para cerrar este capítulo, quisiera agradecer al Comité Organizador Local, un equipo de dedicados habitantes de San Martín —Joy Arnell, Patricia Arrindell, Yadira Boston, Aishira Cicilia, Shanice Theodule, Delroy Pierre, Erwin Romney y Frederick Richardson— por su compromiso para hacer de la conferencia de 2025 una experiencia memorable, destacando lo mejor de San Martín ante nuestros colegas visitantes, nuestra comunidad y ante nosotros mismos.

A mi Comité Ejecutivo —Okama Epke Brook, Donna Hope, Geneve Phillip, Maya Freeman, Margaret Shrimpton, Rita Keresztesi, Meagan Sylvester, Mala Jokhan, Kiah Graham, Dwaine Plaza y Samuel Fure Davis—, la expresión "gracias" no es suficiente para expresar mi gratitud por su guía, crítica y apoyo durante el último año. Sepan que sigo disponible para seguir sirviéndoles y apoyándolos, no solo como expresidente inmediato, sino en todo lo que pueda. Solo llámenme.

A mi equipo asesor de ancianos —Godfrey St. Bernard, Carole Boyce Davis, QM Chenzira Kahina Davis y Carolle Charles—, gracias por sus palabras de sabiduría, guía y aliento durante todo el pro-

ceso. No podría haberlo logrado sin ustedes. Presidenta entrante, Donna Hope, espero apoyarla, junto con el Comité Ejecutivo entrante, en el desempeño de su mandato. ¡Que tengamos una CSA2025 exitosa y memorable!

Rhoda Arrindell
Presidenta de la CSA 2024-2025

Français

Famille, alors que nous approchons de la fin d'une nouvelle année de l'ASC et que nous participons aux activités de la conférence, permettez-moi de profiter de cette occasion pour vous remercier à nouveau de l'honneur et du privilège que vous m'avez accordés de servir cette formidable organisation depuis ce poste et de nous conduire à la conférence de Saint-Martin. J'ai hâte de vous rencontrer en personne, de m'occuper des affaires courantes, de m'amuser et, finalement, de passer le relais à la vice-présidente Donna Hope.

En repensant à l'année écoulée, je suis fier de nos réalisations, fondées sur nos objectifs, et du travail en cours. Grâce au dévouement de Raymond Laureano, Tavis Jules, Meagan Sylvester, Jewel Nicome et Phillip Clarke, nous avons pu poursuivre la publication du journal du 50e anniversaire après des débuts difficiles. Grâce à la ténacité de l'illustre Opal Palmer Adisa, le journal du 50e anniversaire de l'ASC est désormais disponible.

S'appuyant sur le travail et les propositions des anciens présidents et membres du Comité exécutif, nous disposons désormais d'un projet de Manuel de procédure qui facilitera le fonctionnement du Conseil exécutif. L'initiative d'Oneil Halls de passer de la parole aux actes avec le lancement de la série « Voix des Caraïbes » a suscité l'enthousiasme pour la conférence et l'engagement auprès de nos membres s'est accru.

Mais, comme on dit à Saint-Martin, « il nous reste encore beaucoup à faire ».

Le 1er juin marque le début officiel de la saison des ouragans, ce qui nous rappelle de rester vigilants et de nous préparer adéquatement aux tempêtes potentielles. Notre histoire nous a enseigné des leçons de force et de résilience dont nous pouvons toujours nous inspirer pour continuer à utiliser nos talents afin de bâtir une Caraïbe plus résiliente. Et tandis que nous prions pour la paix dans le monde, prions également pour que notre région reste un espace de paix et engageons-nous à y contribuer.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Le thème de cette année, « Réparations : Résistance, Résilience, Reproduction et Réhabilitation », a été choisi afin de permettre des discussions approfondies autour de cet important mouvement mondial. En réinventant nos Caraïbes et en œuvrant pour 50 années supplémentaires de CSA, nous devons insister sur les réparations afin de réparer les torts du passé et de créer un avenir plus durable et plus juste pour tous.

Pour clore ce chapitre, je tiens à remercier le comité d'organisation local, une équipe de Saint-Martinois dévoués – Joy Arnell, Patricia Arrindell, Yadira Boston, Aishira Cicilia, Shanice Theodule, Delroy Pierre, Erwin Romney et Frederick Richardson – pour leur engagement à faire de la conférence de 2025 une expérience mémorable, mettant en lumière le meilleur de Saint-Martin pour nos collègues visiteurs, notre communauté et nous-mêmes.

À mon comité exécutif – Okama Epke Brook, Donna Hope, Geneve Phillip, Maya Freeman, Margaret Shrimpton, Rita Keresztesi, Meagan Sylvester, Mala Jokhan, Kiah Graham, Dwaine Plaza et Samuel Fure Davis – « merci » ne suffit pas à exprimer ma gratitude pour vos conseils, vos critiques et votre soutien au cours de l'année écoulée. Sachez que je reste disponible pour continuer à vous servir et à vous soutenir, non seulement en tant que président sortant, mais aussi par tous les moyens possibles. N'hésitez pas à me contacter.

À mon équipe consultative d'anciens – Godfrey St. Bernard, Carole Boyce Davis, la vice-présidente Chenzira Kahina Davis et Carolle Charles – merci pour vos paroles de sagesse, vos conseils et votre encouragement tout au long du processus. Je n'aurais pas pu y parvenir sans vous.

Nouvelle présidente, Donna Hope, je me réjouis de vous soutenir, aux côtés du nouveau comité exécutif, dans l'exécution de votre mandat.

Je vous souhaite une CSA2025 réussie et mémorable !

Rhoda Arrindell
Président de l'ASC 2024-2025

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Donna Hope

Invitation to Vote

Dear CSA Members:

Greetings to all CSA Members! The Executive Team extends best wishes and hopes all is well with you and your families.

The 49th CSA Conference is approaching and you are invited to participate in the CSA voting process to determine the 2025/26 slate of CSA Council and Officers.

During the 49th Annual Conference week (June 1 - 7, 2025), as is customary, the Caribbean Studies Association announces the results of its Annual Executive Council Elections. As a member in good financial standing, you are invited to participate in the election process.

This year we are using the Election Buddy system for a more secure and efficient voting experience. You will receive a separate e-mail that will include the hyperlink to access the online ballot on **May 26, 2025**.

You may vote by completing the ballot no later than **12 noon (EST) on Wednesday, June 4, 2025**. For more information about the candidates, please visit the [CSA Election Information](#) web page. The voting results will be announced on **Thursday, June 5, 2025, at the CSA Membership Meeting**.

We strongly encourage our members to cast a ballot and have a say in the future leadership team of the Caribbean Studies Association. Without exercising your right to vote as a CSA Member, you do a disservice to the democratic nature of the organization.

Kindly contact the Secretariat (secretariat@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org) with any queries you may have.

Donna Hope
Vice President CSA 2024-2025

Español

Invitación a votar

Estimados miembros de la CSA:

¡Saludos a todos los miembros de la CSA! El Equipo Ejecutivo les envía sus mejores deseos y espera que se encuentren bien con ustedes y sus familias.

Se acerca la 49.ª Conferencia de la CSA y están invitados a participar en el proceso de votación para determinar la lista de miembros del Consejo y la Junta Directiva de la CSA para el período 2025/26.

Durante la semana de la 49.ª Conferencia Anual (del 1 al 7 de junio de 2025), como es habitual, la Asociación de Estudios del Caribe anuncia los resultados de las Elecciones Anuales del Consejo Ejecutivo. Como miembro con buena situación financiera, están invitados a participar en el proceso electoral.

Este año utilizamos el sistema Election Buddy para una experiencia de votación más segura y eficiente. Recibirá un correo electrónico aparte con el enlace para acceder a la votación en línea el **26 de mayo de 2025**.

Puede votar completando la votación a más tardar a las **12:00 del mediodía (EST) del miércoles 4 de junio de 2025**. Para obtener más información sobre los candidatos, visite la página web de [Información Electoral de la CSA](#). Los resultados de la votación se anunciarán el **jueves 5 de junio de 2025 en la Reunión de Miembros de la CSA**.

Animamos encarecidamente a nuestros miembros a emitir su voto y a participar en la futura dirección de la Asociación de Estudios del Caribe. Si no ejerce su derecho al voto como miembro de la CSA, perjudicará el carácter democrático de la organización.

Para cualquier consulta, póngase en contacto con la Secretaría (secretariat@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org).

Donna Hope
Vicepresidenta CSA 2024-2025

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT cont'd

Français

Invitation au vote

Chers membres de l'ASC :

Salutations à tous les membres de l'ASC ! L'équipe de direction vous adresse ses meilleurs vœux et espère que vous et vos familles allez bien.

La 49e Conférence de l'ASC approche et vous êtes invités à participer au vote afin de déterminer la liste des membres du Conseil et des dirigeants de l'ASC pour 2025-2026.

Durant la semaine de la 49e Conférence annuelle (du 1er au 7 juin 2025), comme à l'accoutumée, l'Association des études caribéennes annoncera les résultats de ses élections annuelles du Conseil exécutif. En tant que membre en règle, vous êtes invité à participer au processus électoral.

Cette année, nous utilisons le système Election Buddy pour une expérience de vote plus sécurisée et plus efficace. Vous recevrez un courriel séparé contenant le lien hypertexte pour accéder au vote en ligne le **26 mai 2025**.

Vous pouvez voter en remplissant le bulletin de vote au plus tard le **mercredi 4 juin 2025 à midi (HNE)**. Pour plus d'informations sur les candidats, veuillez consulter la page [web d'information sur les élections de la CSA](#). Les résultats du vote seront annoncés le **jeudi 5 juin 2025, lors de l'assemblée générale de la CSA**.

Nous encourageons vivement nos membres à voter et à donner leur avis sur la future équipe de direction de l'Association des études caribéennes. En omettant d'exercer votre droit de vote en tant que membre de la CSA, vous portez atteinte au caractère démocratique de l'organisation.

Pour toute question, veuillez contacter le Secrétariat (secretariat@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org).

Donna Hope

Vice-président de l'ASC 2024-2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR



Meagan Sylvester

CSA 2025 is here!

It is my esteemed pleasure to welcome this year's delegates to St. Martin. In store for you this year will be academic dialogue, camaraderie and insightful and engaging scholarship.

Our conference theme this year: Theme: Reparations: Resistance, Resilience, Reproduction, and Rehabilitation is set against the back-

drop of critically challenging movements in the social and economic fabric the world over. Fittingly, this year we have a resounding number of abstracts which total circa 325.

The dates for this year are June 1 – June 7 as we took the decision to extend the usual five (5) day affair to include the St. Martin Book Fair. In addition to that, attendees can expect panels, workshops, film screenings, myriad opportunities to network with colleagues, literary events, celebration of authors and book exhibits.

Our usual CSA weekly activities continue with our signature cultural night event, young scholar panels, the annual general membership meeting, culminating with the CSA Night Awards and Gala. Our signature event for graduate students the *CSA Aunties and Uncles Mentorship Program* continues with the intention to provide an opportunity for academic and work-based mentoring for our young scholars by connecting seasoned scholars and higher education professionals with graduate students.

Finally, special mention goes out to my Program Team which consisted of over forty abstract panel reviewers, CSA Website Manager, Kiah Akosua Asabea and Program Chair Assistant, Jewel Nicome.

It has been my pleasure to serve you all and thanks again for making it CSA!

Meagan A. Sylvester
CSA Program Chair 2025

Español

¡CSA 2025 ya está aquí!

Es un gran placer dar la bienvenida a los delegados de este año a St. Martin. Les espera diálogo académico, camaradería y una investigación profunda y enriquecedora.

El tema de nuestra conferencia este año, Reparaciones: Resistencia, Resiliencia, Reproducción y Rehabilitación, se enmarca en el contexto de movimientos que cuestionan críticamente el tejido social y económico mundial. Como corresponde, este año contamos con una impresionante cantidad de resúmenes, que suman aproximadamente 325.

Las fechas de este año son del 1 al 7 de junio, ya que decidimos extender los cinco (5) días habituales para incluir la Feria del Libro de St. Martin. Además, los asistentes podrán disfrutar de paneles, talleres, proyecciones de películas, numerosas oportunidades para conectar con colegas, eventos literarios, homenajes a autores y exposiciones de libros. Nuestras actividades semanales habituales de CSA continúan con nuestra emblemática noche cultural, los paneles de jóvenes académicos y la reunión general anual de miembros, que culmina con la Gala y los Premios de la Noche de CSA. Nuestro evento insignia para estudiantes de posgrado, el Programa de Mentoría Tías y Tíos de CSA, continúa con la intención de brindar una oportunidad de mentoría académica y laboral a nuestros jóvenes académicos, conectando a académicos experimentados y profesionales de la educación superior con estudiantes de posgrado.

Finalmente, quiero mencionar especialmente a mi Equipo de Programa, compuesto por más de cuarenta revisores de paneles de resúmenes, la Gerente del Sitio Web de CSA, Kiah Akosua Asabea, y la Asistente de la Jefa de Programa, Jewel Nicome.

Ha sido un placer servirles a todos y ¡gracias nuevamente por hacer posible que CSA sea tan importante!

Meagan A. Sylvester
Jefa de Programa de CSA 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR

Français

La CSA 2025 est arrivée !

J'ai le grand plaisir d'accueillir les délégués de cette année à Saint-Martin. Au programme : échanges universitaires, camaraderie et recherche approfondie et stimulante.

Le thème de notre conférence cette année : Réparations : Résistance, Résilience, Reproduction et Réhabilitation, s'inscrit dans le contexte de mouvements sociaux et économiques profondément enracinés dans le monde entier. À juste titre, nous avons reçu cette année un nombre impressionnant de résumés, soit environ 325.

Cette année, la conférence se tiendra du 1er au 7 juin, car nous avons décidé de prolonger les cinq (5) jours habituels de l'événement pour y inclure la Foire du livre de Saint-Martin. De plus, les participants pourront s'attendre à des tables rondes, des ateliers, des projections de films, de nombreuses occasions de réseautage, des événements littéraires, des célébrations d'auteurs et des expositions de livres.

Nos activités hebdomadaires habituelles de la CSA se poursuivent avec notre soirée culturelle phare, des tables rondes de jeunes chercheurs, l'assemblée générale annuelle des membres, et se termine par la remise des prix et le gala de la soirée CSA. Notre événement phare pour les étudiants diplômés, le programme de mentorat des tantes et des oncles de l'ASC, se poursuit. Il vise à offrir à nos jeunes chercheurs une opportunité de mentorat académique et professionnel en mettant en relation des chercheurs chevronnés et des professionnels de l'enseignement supérieur avec des étudiants diplômés. Enfin, une mention spéciale à mon équipe de programme, composée de plus de quarante examinateurs de résumés, de Kiah Akosua Asabea, responsable du site web de l'ASC, et de Jewel Nicome, assistante à la présidence du programme.

Ce fut un plaisir pour moi de vous servir tous et merci encore d'avoir contribué à ce succès de l'ASC !

Meagan A. Sylvester

Présidente du programme de l'ASC 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Dear CSA2025 Participants,

The Local Organizing Committee wishes you welcome, *byenvini*, *bienvenidos*, *bienvenue*, *welkom*, *bon bini* to the beautiful shores of our paradise homeland; we look forward to sharing it with you.

For those of you wishing assistance with transportation to the hotel from the airport, please send an email as soon as possible, and at least two days before your arrival, to Shanice Theodule at csatravelandtours2025@gmail.com. The email should contain your flight details (date, time, airline, flight number) and where you will be staying. You can also use this email address for queries about tours.



If you have not yet secured accommodations, you can check the Atrium Resort, which is a five minutes' walk from the conference hotel, Simpson Bay Resort. You can still get a studio unit for USD 120.00 plus taxes, totaling 154.00 per night and a one-bedroom unit at 139 plus taxes, totaling 177.75 per night.

CSA authors, you're invited to showcase your books at the St. Martin Book Fair throughout the weekend. The events of this St. Martin premier literary festival are open to all CSA members and the public.

Feel free to approach any of the volunteers in the yellow or red T-shirts if you have questions about any aspect of the conference or the island.

LOC Members:

1. **Joy Arnell** is dedicated to the development of the St. Martin people and has worked in civil service for over 40 years. She currently serves as the Secretary-Generals for the Ministry of Public Health, Social Development, and Labor and is looking forward to hosting CSA members.
2. **Dr. Yadira Boston** is a researcher and consultant for the CLIMB Foundation in St. Martin. For CSA 2025, Dr. Boston will present her research on "Educators' Perceptions of St. Maarten's Readiness for Independence."
3. **Dr. Delroy Pierre** is an organizational / educational change scholar and researcher for CLIMB Foundation in St. Martin. He is currently working on a Caribbean educational change model which will be presented at the CSA 2025 conference.
4. **Aishira Cicilia** is a wife, mom of two boys, social justice advocate, and bacchanalist. Her current function is legal advisor to the Ombudsman. She is looking forward to welcoming all the CSA conference attendees.
5. **Patricia Arrindell** is an adjunct instructor at the University of St. Martin. She is a seasoned educator complemented by a strong background in health care management. She believes in creating learning environments that embrace cultural heritage, empower students, respect diverse learning styles, and foster lifelong learning.
6. **Shanice Theodule** is a University of St. Martin student who works a fulltime job in addition to her studies. She will present her perspective Reparations at the Youth Summit on June 4 and looks forward to meeting CSA members during the conference.
7. **Erwin Romney** is a creative spirit who loves to cook and one of the hosts of the One SXM radio program.
8. **Frederick Richardson** is a proud St. Martinier who takes every opportunity to show off the island to visitors. And that's just what he is looking forward to doing for CSA members.

MEMBERSHIP



Donna Hope



Maya I. Freeman

**THE CARIBBEAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION - ESTABLISHED IN 1974
IS ACTIVELY SEEKING MEMBERS!
MEMBERSHIP OPEN NOW!**



Join the CARIBBEAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION for connections in the academy and beyond! CSA members have access to wide-ranging expertise and abundant international educational opportunities within its international community of Caribbeanists.

[Join CSA today](#) for access to regular events, call for abstracts, submissions to the newsletter, and access to the CSA Conference 2025 in Saint Martin.

Membership Rates before January 31, 2025

UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE STUDENTS – \$75/YEAR

CARIBBEAN RESIDENTS – \$110/YEAR

NON-CARIBBEAN RESIDENTS – \$195/YEAR

ELDERS (RETIRED ONLY) – \$75/YEAR

*****SAVE THE DATES & GET YOUR PASSPORTS READY*****

ANNUAL CSA CONFERENCE, JUNE 1-7, 2025 IN SAINT MARTIN

For information email: freemansociology@gmail.com re [Membership](#)
MAYA I. FREEMAN and DONNA P. HOPE

CSA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE/EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS
<https://www.caribbeanstudiesassociation.org/executive-council-2024-2026>

CSA VOICES

CSA Voices – Session #4: Exploring Caribbean Voices, Bridging Knowledge Across Borders!

The CSA Voices Virtual Sessions will be a series of 4 virtual events designed to showcase the diverse research within the association. Each session will focus on a different linguistic region of the Caribbean, providing a platform for scholars to present their research.

Date: Thursday, May 29, 2025

Time:

- 6:00 PM – 7:30PM Eastern Time (ET)
- 5:00 PM – 6:30PM Jamaica and Cayman Time

Moderator: Dr. Candia Mitchell Hall

The Institute of Caribbean Studies, The University of the West Indies

Presenters:

- **Mia McMorris**, *Junior Research Fellow, Centre for Reparation Research, The University of the West Indies*
- **Nattecia N. Bohardsingh**, *Reparatory Justice Consultant | Human Rights Advocate | Attorney-at-Law*

Join on Zoom: [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Zoom Meeting ID:** 812 8342 0264
- **Passcode:** 247907

For more information visit or to view past sessions visit: <https://www.caribbeanstudiesassociation.org/csa-voices>

CSA Voices:
Exploring Caribbean Voices,
Bridging Knowledge Across Borders!

Session #4 - Thursday, May 29, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30PM Eastern Time
5:00 PM - 6:30PM Jamaica and Cayman Time

Theme: Reparation Talks

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Zoom Meeting ID: 812 8342 0264
Passcode: 247907

The CSA Voices Virtual Sessions will be a series of 4 one-hour virtual events designed to showcase the diverse research within the association. Each session will focus on a different linguistic region of the Caribbean, providing a platform for scholars to present their research.

For more information visit: [CaribbeanStudiesAssociation.org](https://www.caribbeanstudiesassociation.org)

MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS



Gabriela Quijano

Español

Durante las últimas semanas, el debate público en Puerto Rico ha girado en torno a las vistas para la confirmación de la nominada por la gobernadora Jennifer González al cargo de secretaria de Estado. La Lcda. Verónica Ferraiuoli fue nombrada secretaria de Estado interina al comenzar el nuevo cuatrienio en enero de 2025. Sin embargo, dicho

cargo requiere confirmación legislativa por ambas cámaras.

Las vistas públicas en el Senado comenzaron en abril, luego de que su nombramiento fuera aprobado por la Cámara de Representantes. Durante estas vistas, salieron a relucir varias irregularidades que generaron controversia y reactivaron el desencanto de la ciudadanía con sus instituciones.

Dos objeciones principales marcaron el proceso. Primero, se cuestionó un posible conflicto de interés, ya que el esposo de Ferraiuoli ocupa el cargo de secretario de la Gobernación. Dado que ambas posiciones coordinan aspectos estratégicos del Ejecutivo, se advirtió sobre la concentración de poder en una sola familia, lo cual se consideró éticamente problemático.

En segundo lugar, se reveló que Ferraiuoli no radicó sus planillas contributivas estatales durante tres años consecutivos. Durante la vista senatorial, se supo que estas planillas fueron sometidas en noviembre de 2024, luego de que la recién electa gobernadora manifestara su interés en que la licenciada pudiera ocupar el cargo. Asimismo, en la vista salió a relucir que el pasado 17 de abril, Ferraiuoli enmendó esas planillas tardías y, como resultado, recibió reintegros por los tres años, sumando un total de \$26,602. Este hecho evidencia la profunda desigualdad y privilegio entre sectores económicos y políticos en Puerto Rico, ya que, en una situación similar, otras personas probablemente enfrentarían una mayor rigurosidad y sanción por parte del Estado, y un fuerte estigma social.

El proceso también estuvo marcado por una intensa pugna interna. El presidente del Senado, Thomas Rivera Schatz, miembro del mismo partido que la gobernadora, lideró la oposición al nombramiento. Aunque sostuvo que su intención era evitarle un error político a

Jennifer González, sus intervenciones fueron interpretadas por muchos como un desafío directo a su liderazgo. Estas posturas provocaron cuestionamientos no solo sobre la nominada, sino también sobre los intereses ocultos de Rivera Schatz y la coherencia de la gobernadora, especialmente cuando se recordó que, en el pasado, ella misma se había opuesto a nominaciones por faltas menores en planillas contributivas.

Ante la falta de apoyo legislativo, Ferraiuoli solicitó a la gobernadora el retiro de su nombramiento. En respuesta, la gobernadora Jennifer González creó una nueva oficina dentro del Ejecutivo para mantener a Ferraiuoli en funciones, con un salario estimado en \$200,000 anuales. El 2 de mayo de 2025, Ferraiuoli fue nombrada "coordinadora de eficiencia," un cargo que González describió como la versión local del Departamento de Eficiencia Gubernamental (DOGE) de Estados Unidos, que ha estado a cargo de los recortes masivos al presupuesto y personal público. Este desenlace ha provocado indignación y desconfianza entre muchos sectores, que ven en este caso un reflejo de los privilegios que protegen a las élites políticas en detrimento del interés público.

English

Over the past few weeks, public debate in Puerto Rico has centered around the confirmation hearings for the nominee selected by Governor Jennifer González for the position of Secretary of State. Attorney Verónica Ferraiuoli was appointed as interim Secretary of State at the start of the new term in January 2025. However, the position requires confirmation by both legislative chambers.

Public hearings in the Senate began in April, after her nomination was approved by the House of Representatives. During these hearings, several irregularities came to light that sparked controversy and reignited public disenchantment with government institutions.

Two main objections shaped the process. First, concerns were raised about a potential conflict of interest, since Ferraiuoli's husband serves as Chief of Staff. Since both positions coordinate key strategic functions of the Executive Branch, concerns were raised about the concentration of power within a single family, which was considered ethically problematic.

Second, it was revealed that Ferraiuoli had failed to file her state tax returns for three consecutive years. During the Senate hearing, it was disclosed that the returns were submitted in November 2024, after the newly elected governor expressed her desire for the attorney to be eligible for the role. Additionally, it came to light

MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd

during the hearing that on April 17, Ferraiuoli amended those late filings and, as a result, received refunds for all three years, totaling \$26,602. This outcome highlights the deep inequality and privilege between economic and political sectors in Puerto Rico, as others in a similar situation would likely face stricter enforcement by the State and significant social stigma.

The process was also marked by intense internal political conflict. Senate President Thomas Rivera Schatz, a member of the governor's own party, led the opposition to the nomination. Although he stated that his intention was to prevent Governor González from making a political mistake, many interpreted his actions as a direct challenge to her leadership. His stance led to scrutiny not only of the nominee but also of Rivera Schatz's hidden motives for the opposition and the governor's own consistency—particularly given that, in the past, she had opposed other nominations over minor tax filing issues.

Faced with a lack of legislative support, Ferraiuoli requested that the governor withdraw her nomination. In response, Governor Jennifer González created a new office within the Executive Branch to keep Ferraiuoli in government, with an estimated salary of \$200,000 annually. On May 2, 2025, Ferraiuoli was appointed as "Efficiency Coordinator," a role González described as Puerto Rico's version of the U.S. Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), which has overseen massive budget and public workforce cuts. The outcome has sparked indignation and mistrust among many sectors, who see the case as a reflection of the privileges shielding political elites at the expense of the public interest.

MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd



Julien Merion

Français

26 ET 27 MAI 1967 EN
GUADELOUPE

Un massacre colonial
inoublable

Tout commence par une grève des ouvriers du bâtiment, commencée 4 jours auparavant, qui réclament 2,5% d'augmentation.

Le vendredi 26 mai 1967, les ouvriers s'impatiente et manifestent leur colère pendant les négociations.

La colère atteint son comble lorsqu'un délégué syndical leur apprend qu'un membre du patronat aurait déclaré : « les nègres reprendront le travail quand ils auront faim ». Il s'en est suivi des jets de pierre en direction des forces de l'ordre.

En riposte, Jacques Nestor, militant anticolonialiste connu, venu soutenir les grévistes est fauché par une balle. La nouvelle se répand et provoque la colère populaire. Ainsi commença une véritable chasse à l'homme qui va durer 2 jours.

Officiellement 8 morts et des dizaines de blessés.

En 1987, un ministre français a parlé de 85 morts.

Il s'en est suivi des arrestations et 2 procès, l'un à Paris devant la Cour de Sureté de l'Etat pour « atteinte à l'intégrité du territoire » concernant 18 leaders politiques indépendantistes appartenant pour la plupart au GONG (Groupe d'Organisation Nationale de Guadeloupe), l'autre à Pointe-à-Pitre pour 58 détenus poursuivis pour « participation à attroupement armé et incitation à la violence ».

Une Commission créée par le Gouvernement français en 2016 pour faire la lumière sur ce drame a conclu qu'il s'agissait d'un massacre visant étouffer les velléités du GONG de mobiliser la population pour l'Indépendance.

Comment expliquer une telle violence d'Etat contre les anticolonialistes et la population ?

A cette époque, la classe politique française est encore fortement traumatisée par la défaite en Algérie en 1962.



Elle veut empêcher toute initiative politique remettant en cause son autorité.

En pleine guerre froide, les services secrets français, intoxiqués par la CIA, ont le regard tourné vers Cuba où le GONG a participé en avril 1966 à la Conférence Tricontinentale. La France craint une aide cubaine aux nationalistes guadeloupéens.

Un homme conduira ce massacre depuis Paris. Il s'agit de Jacques Foccard. Homme de confiance du Général de Gaulle, il s'est vu confier les Affaires Africaines et Outre-Mer avec une cellule spéciale.

Il connaît bien la Guadeloupe et a de nombreux contacts car sa mère est Guadeloupéenne et son père, propriétaire de bananeraies, a été Maire de la Ville de Gourbeyre (près de Basse-Terre).

C'est lui qui donne l'ordre de tirer et envoi des renforts militaires pour patrouiller dans la ville et éliminer tous les « fauteurs de trouble ».

En faisant tuer Jacques Nestor, il a voulu donner un signal fort sur ses intentions.

Le journal pro-gouvernemental « France-Antilles » titrait quelques jours après les arrestations massives en Guadeloupe et parmi les étudiants en France « Le GONG est décapité »

Ces massacres ont provoqué une véritable terreur dans la population. Mais, ils ont accéléré la prise de conscience du fait colonial, en



MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd

particulier dans la jeunesse. Les mobilisations populaires en France et en Guadeloupe lors des procès en attestent. Depuis plus d'une trentaine d'ouvrages et de nombreux films sont sortis pour expliquer ce drame colonial.



English

MAY 26 AND 27, 1967 IN GUADELOUPE An Unforgettable Colonial Massacre

It all began with a construction workers' strike, which had begun four days earlier, demanding a 2.5% pay raise. On Friday, May 26, 1967, the workers grew impatient and expressed their anger during negotiations.

Their anger reached its peak when a union representative informed them that a member of management had allegedly declared: "Negroes will return to work when they are hungry." This led to rocks being thrown at the police.

In response, Jacques Nestor, a well-known anti-colonialist activist who had come to support the strikers, was shot and killed. The news spread and sparked public anger.

Thus began a veritable manhunt that would last two days. Officially, 8 people were killed and dozens injured. In 1987, a French minister spoke of 85 deaths.

Arrests and two trials followed: one in Paris before the State Security Court for "attacks on territorial integrity" involving 18 pro-independence political leaders, most of whom belonged to the GONG (National Organization Group of Guadeloupe), and the other

in Pointe-à-Pitre for 58 detainees prosecuted for "participation in armed gatherings and incitement to violence."

A commission established by the French government in 2016 to shed light on this tragedy concluded that it was a massacre aimed at stifling the GONG's attempts to mobilize the population for independence.

How can such state violence against anti-colonialists and the population be explained? At that time, the French political class was still deeply traumatized by the defeat in Algeria in 1962. It wanted to prevent any political initiative that would challenge its authority.

In the midst of the Cold War, the French secret services, intoxicated by the CIA, had their sights set on Cuba, where the GONG had participated in the Tricontinental Conference in April 1966. France feared Cuban aid to the Guadeloupean nationalists.

One man would lead this massacre from Paris. This man was Jacques Foccard. A trusted man of General de Gaulle, he was entrusted with African and Overseas Affairs with a special unit. He knew Guadeloupe well and had many contacts, as his mother was from Guadeloupe and his father, a banana plantation owner, had been Mayor of the town of Gourbeyre (near Basse-Terre).

It was he who gave the order to fire and sent military reinforcements to patrol the city and eliminate all "troublemakers." By having Jacques Nestor killed, he wanted to send a strong signal of his intentions.

A few days after the mass arrests in Guadeloupe and among students in France, the pro-government newspaper "France-Antilles" ran the headline "The GONG is Beheaded."

These massacres provoked genuine terror among the population. However, they accelerated awareness of the colonial phenomenon, particularly among young people. Popular mobilizations in France and Guadeloupe during the trials attest to this. Since then, more than thirty books and numerous films have been released to explain this colonial tragedy.

MESSAGE FROM THE GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE



Maya I. Freeman

2025 CSA Conference Graduate Student Breakfast

**HAPPY GRADUATION TO
ALL SPRING 2025 CSA
UNDERGRADUATE/
GRADUATE STUDENTS AND
SCHOLARS!**

**MANY ARE GRADUATING
WITH THEIR BACHELOR'S/
MASTER'S IN SPRING
2025, THEN GOING INTO**

GRADUATE PROGRAMS – LET US CELEBRATE YOU!

**CSA CONFERENCE 2025 GRADUATE STUDENT BREAKFAST,
SIGN UP NOW - WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

CSA is growing and improving as we prepare for the 51st Goldenish Anniversary of CSA in 2025 on the beautiful island of St. Martin.

CSA is committed to fostering relationships with supportive discourse and active advice on how best to conduct research specifically on the Caribbean or how to navigate graduate school as a Caribbeanist.

CSA Undergraduate/Graduate Student Members are encouraged to actively engage in as many celebratory and commemorative programs as possible during this historic year and beyond.

We want CSA newcomers/graduate students to build a relationship where they can have someone in academia, they can go to ask questions or clarify during and after the conference.

KEY DATES:

CSA ACADEMIC CONFERENCE JUNE 1-7, 2025 – ST. MARTIN

Check out <https://www.st-martin.org/us/> for information on the natural island of St. Martin!

CSA Graduate Student Mentoring Program (GSMP)

CSA Conference Day 4 on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 in the Cabana Room, from 8:00 - 12:00pm.

This breakfast event is facilitated by [Dr. Dwaine Plaza](#) [CSA Treasurer and Professor at the University of Oregon] and other CSA Academics. CSA GSMP established face-to-face opportunities among CSA faculty and scholars (seasoned CSA members) with graduate student members of CSA (individuals working on Masters or Doctoral Degrees) at institutions from around the world. A central intention of the CSA GSMP was to encourage continued post-conference communication among mentors and mentees.

GRADUATE STUDENT Sign Up Form: [CLICK HERE](#)

MENTOR Sign Up Form: [CLICK HERE](#)

If you are interested in learning more about the CSA, send an email with your name, the current institution you are attending for bachelor's, master's, or doctoral studies, your email, and contact number to me at:

MAYA I. FREEMAN, GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE EMAIL: freemansociology@gmail.com or gradstudentrep@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org

CSA Graduate Student Members, what exciting news do you have to share about your graduate student experiences?

As your CSA Graduate Student Representative, I welcome your reflections, suggestions, and innovative ideas for keeping CSA relevant for our graduate student members now and in the future. Our multitude of intergenerational perspectives are all part of the African diaspora and its people.

I want to make CSA's 2025 Academic Conference's Graduate Student Mentorship Breakfast more dynamic.

Don't hesitate to contact me with any suggestions or comments, I would love to hear from you!

Best wishes,

Maya I. Freeman,

Graduate Student Representative 2023-2025

MESSAGE FROM THE GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE cont'd



Photos: Graduate Student Breakfast, St. Lucia 2024

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEMINARS, EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

- [CSA Voices – Session #4: Exploring Caribbean Voices, Bridging Knowledge Across Borders!](#)
- [Lewisham, Borough of Literature Free Windrush Events](#)
- [10th Annual Carol Bristol Distinguished Lecture Series](#)

CSA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions, [membership payments](#) that are sent via regular mail are not being delivered or received in a timely manner. The safest, fastest and most efficient payment mode at this time is online, using the CSA payment portal.

WIRE TRANSFER

If you prefer doing a wire transfer, [click here](#) for the transfer details.

ONLINE PAYMENTS

[Click here](#) to make an online payment with a debit or credit card using PayPal.

IN-PERSON

For persons residing in T&T, the TTD equivalent can be made at the UWI Bursary, St. Augustine, to account number 18087-1851-5405-1. Please also email a copy of the payment receipt to secretariat@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org.

» [CLICK HERE](#) for more details about CSA Membership

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS cont'd

Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Online Store - Now Open

Get your paraphernalia today and show your support for CSA!

The proceeds from the sales go to support the CSA Conference Travel Grants and other initiatives to support the annual conference.

[[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE ONLINE STORE](#)]

