UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD
WEPNER SYMPOSIUM ON THE LINCOLN LEGACY AND CONTEMPORARY AFFAIRS, June 25-27, 2015, PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

**FREE ADMISSION!!**

THEME: Emancipation, Counter-Emancipation, and the 21st Century: Is Racial Inequality Disappearing?

First day (June 25)

5:00 Reception (PAC Restaurant)

Lynn Pardie, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost, University of Illinois at Springfield

6:00 Brookens Auditorium

Presiding: David Racine, Director of State Policy and Leadership, UIS

“Emancipation and Counter-Emancipation: Republican Failure and Democratic Victory—From the Lincoln Presidency to the Doorsteps of our Own Time,” Matthew Holden, Jr. (University of Illinois at Springfield)

“Gilded Age Doughfaces: Northern Democrats, the Counter-Emancipation, and the Abandonment of Black Americans,” David Bateman (Cornell University)

Second Day: (June 26) Public Affairs Center (Room D)

Morning Session (8:30-12)

Presiding: Shamira Gelbman, Wabash College

Neal Allen, Wichita State University, The Limits of Emancipation: Black Americans and White Southern Dominance of American Politics from the Founding to the Twenty-First Century

“Black Stereotypes From Slavery to Jim Crow to the 21st Century,” Lorena Sue Johnson (Center for State Policy and Leadership, University of Illinois at Springfield)


“Barack Obama and the Big Chill: Hollow-Prize Executives and Their Counter-Emancipatory Successors,” James W. Ingram III (San Diego State University) and Shoon Lio (University of Illinois at Springfield)
Commentator: Kevin R. Anderson, Eastern Illinois University

Lunch: 12-1:15

**After-Lunch Session (1:30-4:30) Public Affairs Center**

*Presiding:* Alvin Tillery, Northwestern University

Megan Ming Francis, University of Washington, (Via remote video) “The Revival of the Civil Rights Challenge by Litigation”

Khalilah Brown-Dean, Quinnipiac University: “Selma as a measure of the revived civil rights challenge/report on African American Political Participation in the 21st Century (adapted from work via the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies)”

Kay McChesney, University of Illinois at Springfield, “How Implicit Bias and Color-Blind Racism Maintain Racial Inequality in the 21st Century”

Commentator: Richard Sobel, Northwestern University (Invited)

**Final Day: (June 27) Old State Capital**

Revisiting “The House Divided”

Lynn Pardie, University of Illinois at Springfield

9:00- 10:30 Degrees of Inequality, Degrees of Freedom: What are the Measures of Inequality Now?

Roundtable discussion of ordinary experience and data-driven evaluation

Commentators/Discussants:

1. Valeria Sinclair-Chapman, Purdue University
2. Ronald McNeil, Dean, College of Business and Management - University of Illinois Springfield

11:00 “Is the house divided racially in the thinking and feeling of educated people?: ‘Lincoln and the African Americans/The African Americans and Lincoln’” Matthew Holden, Jr.

Based upon Merrill D. Peterson, John Hope Franklin, Benjamin Quarles, and Lerone Bennett

12:00 Adjourn