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In addition, we gratefully acknowledge the College of Communication Arts & Sciences, College of Social Science, Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives, MSU Women’s Resource Center, and Residential College in the Arts and Humanities for hosting speaker events.

The intent of the MSU Visiting Faculty Lecture Series is to provide opportunities for interaction with multicultural scholars from education, business, industry and government who spend time on a visiting-appointment basis at Michigan State University. The MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine is extremely pleased to host these notable scholars who, in addition to making these presentations described in this publication, will also be dedicating time to teaching MSU students on campus.

Special Thanks

to William G. Anderson, D.O.,
whose invaluable participation enhances the excellence of these programs.

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE FREE OF CHARGE.

For more information call 517-432-4979 or e-mail kilbourn@msu.edu or barbara.breedlove@hc.msu.edu
Dr. Vincent Harding
Historian, Scholar, Writer and Professor

Vincent Harding is perhaps best known as the man who crafted the original draft for Dr. Martin Luther King’s 1967 speech opposing America’s role in the Vietnam War, a central event in a life dedicated to nonviolent action.

While studying history at the University of Chicago, Harding served as part of an interracial pastoral team at the Woodlawn Mennonite Church. While traveling with this group in the South, he met Dr. King, who urged him to join the Civil Rights Movement. He and his late wife, Rosemarie Freeney, moved to Atlanta in 1961, working with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and local groups. They also established Mennonite House in Atlanta, a center committed to nonviolence.

He earned his doctorate in history in 1965, joining the faculty of Spelman College. In 1968, he helped to organize and served as director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Center, and with others developed The Institute of the Black World, a path-breaking model for the Black Studies Movement. He taught at several institutions before going to the Iliff School of Theology, Denver, in 1981, where he retired after 23 years as professor emeritus of religion and social transformation.

A major historian of the African American struggle for freedom, Harding is the author of several books, and served as senior academic advisor for the PBS documentary “Eyes on the Prize.” In 1997, he and his wife Rosemarie co-founded the Veterans of Hope Project to gather the autobiographies of those who have devoted themselves to social change.

Rev. James Lawson
Leading Theoretician and Tactician of Nonviolence Within The American Civil Rights Movement.

James Lawson was born in Pennsylvania in 1928. His father and grandfather were Methodist ministers, and Lawson received his local preacher’s license in 1947, the year he graduated from high school. At his Methodist college in Ohio, he joined the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), America’s oldest pacifist organization. Through FOR, he was first exposed to the nonviolent teachings of Gandhi and fellow black minister Howard Thurman.

In 1951, Lawson was sentenced to three years in prison for refusing the Korean War draft. He was paroled after thirteen months, obtained his B.A. in 1952, and spent the next three years as a campus minister and teacher at Hislop College in Nagpur, India. While in India, Lawson eagerly read of the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the emerging nonviolent resistance movement in the United States.

When he returned to the U.S. in 1956, he enrolled in Oberlin School of Theology in Ohio. By 1957, Lawson decided he could no longer sit on the sidelines. He enrolled at Vanderbilt Divinity School and opened the FOR field office in Nashville, where he began holding seminars to train volunteers in Gandhian tactics of nonviolent direct action. Drawing on the example of Christ’s suffering, he taught growing numbers of black and white students how to organize sit-ins and any other form of action that would force America to confront the immorality of segregation.

February 14, 2013 5:00 p.m.
Wharton Center for Performing Arts Pasant Theatre
Reception following

February 28, 2013 5:00 p.m.
Big Ten A, Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
Reception following