

# SCCAAS

South Carolina Council For African American Studies



## THE BEACON:

*Guiding Excellence In Everyone's Education*

SPRING/SUMMER 2010

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### QUICK HITS

- SC Council for the Social Studies: 2010 Conference, Myrtle Beach, Oct. 21-23. More info visit, [sccss.org](http://sccss.org)
- SC Alliance of Black School Educators [scabse.com](http://scabse.com)
- National Humanities Center Toolbox Resources [NationalHumanitiesCenter.org](http://NationalHumanitiesCenter.org)
- Harriet Barber House: Hopkins, SC [harrietbarberhouse.org](http://harrietbarberhouse.org)
- SCCAAS Listserv. To join. [SCCAASgroup-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SCCAASgroup-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

### OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS: 2009-2010

We are working hard to make SCCAAS an organization that will help to foster networking and collaboration among teachers professionals and statewide organizations.

SCCAAS recent projects include:

1. Teaching American History Grant project with the Orangeburg 5 School District. We will complete year 2 of a 5 year grant in

June.

2. Presentation at the 2009 SC Council for the Social Studies Conference (SCCSS).
3. Presentation at the 2009 SC Alliance of Black School Educators Conference (SCABSE).
4. Presentation at the Attacking the Achievement Gap Summit, hosted by the Richland

County Education Association (RCEA), 2009.

5. Teacher training sessions at over 10 schools across the state, 2008-2009 school year.
6. Hosted our 4th Annual SCCAAS Conference in February.
7. Look for our website redesign coming **JUNE 2010.**

### WHAT'S NEXT: A SCCAAS MEMBER EVENT

All SCCAAS members are invited to attend our first networking event scheduled for **Saturday, August 28th** in Columbia.

This social event will be an opportunity for SCCAAS

members to interact, network and discuss SCCAAS future projects.

Details about the event will be mailed to each member around the first of August.

We hope to see you all there!



### THANK YOU TO OUR 2010 CONFERENCE SPONSORS



South Carolina Department of Education

Together, we can.

Also, thank you to the following:

Dr. Rick Kittles, WIS-TV & Judi Gatson, SC Governor's School for the Arts & Humanities, & KISS 103.1

## SPOTLIGHT: 2010 CONFERENCE PRESENTER

DR. HONG JIANG: MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE, BENEDICT COLLEGE

Dr. Hong Jiang's dynamic presentation at the SCCAAS 2010 conference received the highest evaluation feedback from the participating teachers.

Dr. Jiang's presentation, [Promoting Education with Free and Open Source Software \(FOSS\)](#), provided teachers with practical and

useful information that could be immediately adapted to individual classrooms. Dr. Jiang's presentation featured free software found on the internet, such as Google Docs for file creation, storing and sharing; OpenOffice.org for the creation of Word, PowerPoint and other Office documents; Ubuntu for multimedia editing and

Edubuntu a multimedia resource for educators, parents and students.

### Useful Links:

- [Edubuntu.org](http://Edubuntu.org)
- [Ubuntustudio.org](http://Ubuntustudio.org)
- [Openoffice.org](http://Openoffice.org)
- [Docs.google.com](http://Docs.google.com)



Dr. Hong Jiang  
[jiangh@benedict.edu](mailto:jiangh@benedict.edu)

## SHARING BEST PRACTICES: CONFERENCE TO CLASSROOM

WRITTEN BY: ROBIN K. WRIGHT, SOCIAL STUDIES INSTRUCTOR, OCS D5

During this year's SCCAAS conference, I attended Mrs. Samantha DeVries' workshop on integrating African American Studies and English. She explained how she created a much needed African American literature class at her school and the types of activities used in the class.

One of the activities was creating a quilt using the secret symbols used with the

Underground Railroad. I have since used that same activity with my African American Studies classes at the Orangeburg Consolidated School District 5 Technology Center.

Fabric and sewing machines were donated by various OCS D 5 employees and members of the Orangeburg community. Mrs. DeVries also assisted by sending fabric and a book on making

an Underground Railroad quilt. Each student created three squares with secret symbols from the Underground Railroad.

The classes completed the quilt within a week and it is currently on display at the OCS D 5 Technology Center.

Robin K. Wright, OCS D

Samantha K. DeVries is a teacher at Chester High School, Chester, SC.



Wright's African American Studies Class, OCS D5

## SPOTLIGHT: ON AN AUTHOR

GINETTA V. HAMILTON

First time author Ginetta V. Hamilton will debut her first book, *Black History: Someone Forgot To Teach the Children*, this year.

Hamilton's book is written in tribute to her grandmother, Amy Victoria Wright Hamilton, whose favorite saying was, "Lord, I dun bin through someum yah."

*Someone Forgot to Teach the*

*Children* will alert the readers to the "urgency" of reaching out and teaching our children the strong, rich heritage of Black people in America. This book connects the present to the past in such a meaningful way that the readers will be empowered to make a difference while moving forward.

Ginetta V. Hamilton has

dedicated herself to enriching the lives of individuals of all ages. She is a passionate, "self-taught" historian who takes great pride in being an African American, as well as educating others about the heritage, struggles and victories of African Americans in the United States of America.

Publisher: Author House Publishing



Ginetta Hamilton, far left,  
2006 Conference

## 2011 SCCAAS CONFERENCE: FEB 4-5, COLUMBIA, SC

SCCAAS will host its 2011 Conference **February 4th-5th** in Columbia, SC. Our theme, ***African American Studies in the Digital Age II***, will continue to look at how teachers can use emerging technology effectively in the classroom for all subject areas. This theme was such a success we decided to host a second year on the technology theme.

Some of the workshops

presented were, "YOU" can save "FACE" and not be a "TWIT": Using YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter to Design and Implement Curriculum by Pren Woods and Stimulating Creativity in Language Arts Through Technology Integration by Pamela Small.

Comments from the attending teachers included:

*"I want to start a Facebook page for my class – try to use*

*more technology in class."*

*"Information was easy to follow. I can use it at school."*

*"Great information."*

*"Very informative. Presenter was great!"*

*"Session was superbly presented!"*

Registration will begin **Monday, September 13, 2010.** [www.SCCAAS.org](http://www.SCCAAS.org)



2010 Conference  
Computer Lab

## CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

Individuals are hereby invited to submit applications to present concurrent sessions at the 2011 **South Carolina Council for African American Studies** Conference. Our theme of ***African American Studies in the Digital Age II*** will continue to look at how teachers can use emerging technology effectively in the classroom for all subject areas.

Workshop sessions will

provide participants with new and exciting ways to utilize technologies in the classroom to support African American Studies across the curriculum.

The hallmark of a SCCAAS conference is providing workshop attendees with practical information and resources that can immediately be used in the classroom.

To submit a proposal visit the SCCAAS website to download an application. **Proposal deadline is September 17th.** Accepted proposals will be notified by October 1st.

**Electronic submissions only.** Interested individuals may download the application now at [www.SCCAAS.org](http://www.SCCAAS.org).



## SPOTLIGHT: 2010 CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

SCCAAS was honored to have **Dr. Rick Kittles** as the keynote speaker at our February 2010 conference.

Dr. Kittles completed a round of publicity for the conference, appearing on WIS-TV with anchor, Judi Gatson, also appearing on ETV's weekly minority affairs program CONNECTIONS, as

well as doing a radio spot on ETV's NPR program "Your Day."

SCCAAS also sponsored a drawing for conference participants to have their African DNA profile completed by Dr Kittles' company African Ancestry, Inc. The winners of the drawing were presented with their results

at the conference dinner. The results revealed that Gatson is a combination of the Fulani, Mende and Mandinka people of West Africa; Lenora Burgess is of the Balanta people of Guinea Bissau; Cedric McKnight is of the Mende people of Sierra Leone and Erich Robinson is of the Bassa people of Cameroon.



(l to r) Robinson, Kittles, Gatson, Burgess and McKnight

### **African Ancestry, Inc.**

Founders:

Gina Paige and Dr. Rick Kittles

**Sales:**

202-723-0900, ext. 4013

[www.AfricanAncestry.com](http://www.AfricanAncestry.com)

## SCCAAS MEMBERSHIP

The SCCAAS Membership Committee is initiating its 2011 membership drive.

Due to our efforts last year, we were able to see new faces from almost 100 South Carolina teachers at our conference. We look forward to doubling those numbers this year.

Our committee has developed several fresh ideas to reach all school districts in South Carolina. This year we are even seeking a greater student membership.

For an application visit SCCAAS at [www.SCCAAS.org](http://www.SCCAAS.org).

## TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT

Orangeburg School District 5  
Camden Battleground



## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest board members.

### High School Rep.

Robin K. Wright  
Orangeburg, SC

### Middle School Rep.

Connie Geer  
Columbia, SC

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## THE BOARD

### Executive Board

Urica P. Floyd, Exec. Dir.

Larry Watson, President

Jennifer Strickland-Poole, Vice President

Arthur McClendon, Secretary

Uvette Pope-Rogers, Treasurer

### Board

Anthony Blair

Jane Eason

Ginetta Hamilton

Janon Jackson

Valinda Littlefield

Melissa Pearson

Veronica Primus

Chanda Robinson

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## SCCAAS

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Web Site: [www.SCCAAS.org](http://www.SCCAAS.org)

Join the SCCAAS Listserv:

[SCCAASgroup-subscribe@yahogroups.com](mailto:SCCAASgroup-subscribe@yahogroups.com)

*Address service requested*

U.S. POSTAGE



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