

**For Immediate Release**

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**Harris-Stowe to Host The Talking Drum Symposium in Celebration of Black History Month**

ST. LOUIS, MO (February 6, 2013) – Harris-Stowe State University will host The Talking Drum Symposium: “Voices from Africa and Abroad,” Wednesday, February 13, 2013, from 6-8 p.m. in the Emerson Performance Center’s Bank of America Theatre.

The symposium is an effort that is spearheaded by HSSU Instructor of Speech and Theater Gregory S. Carr. He is hoping that the event will promote campus-wide awareness of Africa and people of African descent and encourage a wholesome open discussion on such topics, while introducing the campus community to scholars and experts within the field.

Guest speakers and forum participants include Dr. Sowande Mustakeem, assistant professor of the Department of History and African and African American Studies Program at Washington University; Dr. Adell Patton, Jr., associate professor of the Department of History at the University of Missouri-St. Louis; Mama Fatou, West African dance choreographer and protégé of legendary choreographer Katherine Dunham.

This event is free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early, as space is limited. For more information call Gregory S. Carr at (314) 340-3667.

Harris-Stowe State University, located in midtown St. Louis, is a four-year institution that offers 14 degree programs in the areas of Accounting, Business Administration, Biology, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Health Care Management, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Information Sciences and Computer Technology, Mathematics, Middle School Education, Professional Interdisciplinary Studies, Secondary Education and Urban Affairs. Ranked by *U.S. News* as one of America’s Best Colleges in the Midwest, the university, which has been in existence for more than 150 years, offers the most affordable bachelor’s degree in the metropolitan area. Harris-Stowe is also home to the Don and Heide Wolff Jazz Institute.

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