TSU’s Intercultural Communication Conference Takes A Look at Icons: Obama to Jackson


The School of Communication at Texas Southern University will host its 31st Intercultural Communication Conference, April 15th and 16th, 2010, on the Campus of Texas Southern University, 3100 Cleburne Street, Houston, TX 77004. There is no registration fee and the event is open to the public.

This year’s theme is “The Rhetorical Impact of Transformational Global Icons: Barak Obama to Michael Jackson, Communication and Construction of Popular Culture.” Panel discussions will be led by scholars with Q & A sessions following each panel allowing for full audience participation.

You are invited to submit proposals abstracts for papers, panels, or creative presentations that address cultural, social, political and economic issues associated with the study of various modes of communication as it relates to this year’s theme. Some of the areas we are interested in having covered during the conference include but are not limited to the following:

- Media Portrayals of the First Family
- Blogs or Blogging Phenomena
- Media and Health Care Reform
- The Obama Family and African-American Families
- Emerging Political Communication Strategies
- Media Portrayals of Michael Jackson
- Role of the Internet in the Obama Campaign and Movement
- Media Coverage of Michael Jackson before and After Death
- The Media’s Framing of Michael Jackson and His Drug Usage
- Michael Jackson’s Influence on the Recording Industry
- Reactions to President Obama’s Selection as the Winner of the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize
- Framing of the 2008 Presidential Campaign
- Framing of the Obama Administration and its Policies
- Obama and the Race Problem in America
- Grass Roots Organizing
- Role of the Internet in the Michael Jackson Hype
- Michael Jackson’s Impact on Music Videos
- Other related topic ideas are also welcome

Proposal abstracts should be submitted electronically no later than January 10, 2010. If your abstract is accepted, you will receive additional information about the conference and when full papers must be submitted to the review committee. Additionally, acceptance of a submission implies a commitment to attend the conference or a provision of an appropriate alternate presenter.

Please send proposal abstracts via e-mail to: Mr. Peter Thornton, thornton_pb@tsu.edu and Ms. Monica Hill, hillml@tsu.edu of the School of Communication. ***Be sure to reference the conference in the subject line.
For more information or other questions concerning the conference, please contact: Dr. Rockell Brown Burton, Conference Chair, via e-mail or phone: brownra@tsu.edu or (713) 313-4312; or contact Dr. Dorothy Franzone, Conference Founder via e-mail or phone: franzone_dl@tsu.edu or (713) 313-7656.

Texas Southern University was founded in 1926 and became a state institution in 1947. Texas Southern possesses an impressive array of undergraduate and graduate programs, a diverse faculty, more than 80 student organizations, and an alumni network comprised of educators, entrepreneurs, public servants, lawyers, pilots, artists, and more, many of whom are change agents on the local, national and international stage. Nestled upon a sprawling 150-acre campus, Texas Southern has served as a cornerstone for developing the greatest potential in leaders from various socioeconomic, cultural, and racial backgrounds. Texas Southern is located in the heart of the city, giving its students and faculty easy access to the Museum District, neighboring educational institutions, the Texas Medical Center, downtown Houston, two major airports and all of the city’s major freeways. More than 9,487 students, along with nearly 1,500 faculty and staff comprise the University’s community making it one of the nation’s largest Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU’s). For more information, visit www.tsu.edu.