## — SUMS —

## Seminar on Underrepresentation and the Mathematical Sciences

## A BLACK, GAY MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT CHAIR? OR HOW I GOT HERE FROM THERE

RON BUCKMIRE Occidental College

## **Abstract**

The current chair of the mathematics department of Occidental College, Barack Obama's first alma mater, will discuss his career path from growing up in the Caribbean to college in upstate New York to teaching at the most multiculturally diverse liberal arts college in the country. Ron Buckmire has been active in different areas of multiple-issue activism since the early 1990s. He is interested in the imbrications of issues such as immigration and LGBT rights, criminal justice and HIV/AIDS and race and sexuality. Professor Buckmire will explore how combining multiple interests in activism and education and equity and excellence is possible (and perhaps even helpful!) in ones life journey.