



**SOGI UBC PRESENTS**

**EXPLORING BARRIERS TO POSTSECONDARY ACCESS FACING BLACK QUEER YOUTH: BEYOND WHAT ARE GIVEN AS GIVENS**

*SOGI UBC is funded through the Jane Rule Initiative at UBC established by Dr. Robert Quartermain.*

**DR. LANCE T. McCREADY**

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**TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019**

**PUBLIC TALK (ALL WELCOME)**

**12:30-1:30pm, Ponderosa Ballroom**

*(followed by conversation & light refreshments)*

**GRADUATE STUDENT SEMINAR**

**2:30-3:30pm, Ponderosa 2012**

*(Multipurpose Room)*

Little to no research examines the barriers Black queer youth face accessing postsecondary education, and how these barriers are both similar and different from Black youth who identify as heterosexual and/or cisgender. The absence of sexual and gender minority youth in scholarly literature on racialized youths' postsecondary access works against anti-oppressive approaches to policymaking, research and practice that address multiple social determinants of health and their intersections. In this presentation, Dr. McCready reports on the findings of interviews and focus groups with Black queer youth in Toronto, focusing on the experiences of queer and trans identifying young Black women. Dr. McCready argues that Black queer youth narratives are pedagogical, in the sense that they can help educators and policymakers move "beyond what are given as givens" (Stack, 1997) to consider ways in which individuals, schools and community organizations can better support racialized sexual and gender minority youth access postsecondary education as part of their plans for lifelong learning and employment.



**Dr. McCready's** research program is concerned with the education, health and well-being of urban youth. His dissertation and subsequent publications focused on "making space" for diverse masculinities in urban education and how the experiences of gay and gender non-conforming Black male students reframe the troubles Black male students face in urban high schools. His most recent research focuses on the educational trajectories of Black sexual and gender minority youth and access to postsecondary education. Conceptually, he is interested in the ways Black feminist theory (intersectionality), queer of color analysis and social determinants of health frameworks can be mobilized to develop more effective programs that promote achievement, access, engagement and well-being. Dr. McCready earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in Social and Cultural Studies in Education from the University of California, Berkeley with Designated Emphasis in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies.