

Speaker Series



William A. Smith, Ph.D.

Distinguished Professor, University of Utah

Chief Executive Administrator for Strategic Initiatives
and Mental Health Justice
Huntsman Mental Health Institute

Racial Battle Fatigue

Presented by the Commission on Racial Justice and
Reconciliation of the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

Online: <https://tinyurl.com/2my3254a> or scan QR code to the right



William A. Smith is a Distinguished Professor at the University of Utah with roles spanning the Departments of Psychiatry and Education, Culture, & Society, and the African American Studies division of the Ethnic Studies Program. He is also the Chief Executive Administrator for Strategic Initiatives and Mental Health Justice at the Huntsman Mental Health Institute. His initiatives include the Stop Stigma Together and Love Your Mind national campaigns to reduce mental health stigma and promote wellness across diverse communities.

Internationally renowned for his pioneering work on Racial Battle Fatigue, a concept he coined in 2003, Dr. Smith's research has significantly advanced the understanding of how systemic racism and racial aggressions—both micro and macro—affect the mental and physical well-being of minority individuals. He describes Racial Battle Fatigue as a systemic, racism-related repetitive stress injury with profound and cumulative impacts on those targeted by racism.

Dr. Smith's scholarly contributions include co-editing the seminal work *The Racial Crisis in American Higher Education: The Continuing Challenges for the 21st Century*, which saw its third edition published in 2023. His research has been widely published in prestigious journals, and his prolific academic output underscores his influence in the fields of education, sociology, psychiatry, psychology, ethnic studies, and social justice. sought-after speaker.

Tuesday, October 14, 2025, 7:00 p.m.