The African American Studies Program would like to extend its deepest gratitude to program director and professor of history, Dr. Michael Vinson Williams, for eight years of dedicated service to the students at the University of Texas at El Paso. Dr. Williams touched lives at UTEP and in the greater El Paso community. While every effort put forth by Dr. Williams reached its goal, his yearly lecture series was especially successful. Dr. Williams brought in Angela Davis, Beverly Guy-Sheftall, Molefi Kete Asante and numerous others to speak at UTEP. His commitment did not go unnoticed. We wish him the best as he travels on to the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga this Fall.

“History is not everything, but it is a starting point. History is a clock that people use to tell their political and cultural time of day. It is a compass they use to find themselves on the map of human geography. It tells them where they are but, more importantly, what they must be.”

-John Henrik Clarke