

Truth & Service: The COAS Lecture Series

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT **ON THE RACIAL WEALTH GAP**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

6:30 PM- 7:30PM

Douglass Hall, Room 221



Guest Speaker:

DR. WILLIAM A. "SANDY" DARITY JR.

DISTINGUISHED ECONOMIST
LEADING SCHOLAR ON RACIAL INEQUALITY
VISITING PROFESSOR AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY

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What if the solutions to America's most pressing inequalities aren't about changing individual behavior, but transforming the systems that create them? This is the revolutionary question at the heart of Dr. William "Sandy" Darity Jr.'s groundbreaking work.

Recognized as "perhaps the country's leading scholar on the economics of racial inequality," Dr. Darity founded an entirely new field: stratification economics. This framework has reshaped how economists, policymakers, and activists understand inequality by proving that disparities between groups stem from systemic inequities in resources and power, not cultural deficits. *His insights matter whether you're studying political science, natural sciences, psychology, sociology, or any field—because inequality touches everything.*

Dr. Darity doesn't just theorize; he creates solutions. His "baby bonds" proposal, which gives every American child a wealth-building account at birth, is sparking national policy debates. His book *From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the Twenty-First Century* has become the definitive text on reparations, combining historical analysis with actionable policy frameworks that are shaping conversations in Congress, newsrooms, and communities nationwide.

A Marshall Scholar with a Ph.D. from MIT, Dr. Darity has published over 250 articles, advised the Federal Reserve, led the National Economic Association and Southern Economic Association, and earned the American Economic Association's 2024 Distinguished Fellow Award, one of economics' highest honors. His research appears in publications ranging from *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* to NPR and PBS.

But here's what makes this lecture unmissable: Dr. Darity brings his scholarship home to HBCUs, having taught at Spelman College and now serving as a visiting professor at Howard. He's not just a scholar; he's a mentor who created the Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics (DITE) to ensure the next generation of economists reflects the communities they serve.

This is your moment to hear from a transformative thinker whose work is rewriting the rules on justice, equity, and economic power—and who believes students like you are central to building a more equitable future.

