"Africa Speaks, America Answers: Modern Jazz in Revolutionary Times" Topic of Lyons Lecture

University of Southern California Professor Robin D.G. Kelley Speaks April 7 at Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

For Immediate Release

Friday, March 11, 2011

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Galloway Township, NJ- American historian and jazz expert Robin D.G. Kelley, Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California will deliver the next Paul Lyons Memorial Lecture Series talk at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

Kelley will explore some of the roots of one of America's most popular forms of music in the speech "Africa Speaks, America Answers: Modern Jazz in Revolutionary Times" to take place **Thursday April 7, 2011 at 6 p.m. in Alton Auditorium** (A-Wing) at the main campus in Galloway Twp.

Kelley is Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California. He is author of the prize-winning books *Thelonious Monk: The Life and Times of an American Original; Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists during the Great Depression*; and *Race Rebels: Culture Politics and the Black Working Class.* His book Yo' Mamma's DisFunktional!: Fighting the Culture Wars in Urban America was selected as one of the top ten books of 1998 by the Village Voice.

He recently completed *Going Home: Jazz and the Making of Modern Africa*, from which the topic of the Stockton lecture comes. This topic is particularly appropriate for the Lyons Lecture series, as the late Stockton Professor Paul Lyons, for whom the series was named, was not only a lover of jazz but a saxophone player and vocalist in Stockton's popular Faculty Band. The Faculty Band plays at numerous college and community events.