

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Melvin Stith

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Stith, Melvin, 1946-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Melvin Stith,
Dates:	January 16, 2018
Bulk Dates:	2018
Physical Description:	5 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:02:22).
Abstract:	Academic administrator Melvin Stith (1946 -) was the dean of the college of business at Florida State University, dean of the Martin J. Whitman School of Business at Syracuse University, and an interim president of Norfolk State University. Stith was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on January 16, 2018, in Norfolk, Virginia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2018_012
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Academic administrator Melvin Stith was born on August 11, 1946 in Portsmouth, Virginia to Florence Stith and Millard Stith. Stith graduated from Central High School in 1964, and earned his B.S. degree in sociology from Norfolk State University in 1968. Stith then received his M.B.A. degree in 1973 and his Ph.D. degree in marketing in 1978, both from the Martin J. Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University. Stith served in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Command from 1968 to 1972, achieving the rank of captain.

From 1977 to 1982, Stith worked as an assistant professor of business and an associate dean at the University of South Florida College of Business. He then served as a visiting professor at the Florida A&M University School of Business and Industry from 1982 to 1985, when he accepted an associate professor position in the marketing department at Florida State University, later serving as the department's chair. In 1991, Stith was named dean of the business school and Jim Moran Professor of Business Administration. He left Florida State University in 2005 to become the dean of the Martin J. Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University. Stith also served on a number of boards, including Aflac, Flowers Food Corporation, the Keebler Food Company, and the Tallahassee State Bank. He served as president of the Crouse Hospital Foundation, an independent director at Synovus Financial Corporation, and an advisory board member of Syracuse University's Institute for Veterans and Military Families. In 2018, Stith was appointed interim president of Norfolk State University.

Stith has received numerous awards over the course of his career. In 1990, he won Florida State University's Dr. MLK Jr.'s Distinguished Service Award; and in 2018, he was inducted into the Florida State University College of Business Faculty Hall of Fame. His Ph.D. thesis became part of the Ph.D. Project Hall of Fame in 2014. He was a recipient of the Syracuse University Orange Circle Award, and is a member of the Lyman Beecher Brooks Society at Norfolk State University. Stith was named as a top influential black corporate executive by *Savoy Magazine* in 2016 and 2017.

Stith and his wife, Dr. Patricia Lynn Stith, have three children: Melvin Stith, Jr., Lori Stith, and William Stith.

Melvin Stith was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on January 16, 2018.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Melvin Stith was conducted by Harriette Cole on January 16, 2018, in Norfolk, Virginia, and was recorded on 5 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Academic administrator Melvin Stith (1946 -) was the dean of the college of business at Florida State University, dean of the Martin J. Whitman School of Business at Syracuse University, and an interim president of Norfolk State University.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Stith, Melvin, 1946-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Stith, Melvin, 1946- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Business School Dean

HistoryMakers® Category:

BusinessMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Melvin Stith, January 16, 2018. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Melvin Stith, Section A2018_012_001_001, TRT: 1:28:55 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Melvin Stith, Section A2018_012_001_002, TRT: 2:28:56 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Melvin Stith, Section A2018_012_001_003, TRT: 3:29:04 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Melvin Stith, Section A2018_012_001_004, TRT: 4:31:01 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Melvin Stith, Section A2018_012_001_005, TRT: 5:04:26 ?