

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Leonard Haynes, III

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Haynes, Leonard, III, 1947-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Leonard Haynes, III,
Dates:	July 31, 2003
Bulk Dates:	2003
Physical Description:	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:17:21).
Abstract:	Foundation chief executive and academic administrator Leonard Haynes, III (1947 -) is the former president of Grambling State University, and has held appointments with the U.S. Information Agency and the Department of Education. Haynes was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on July 31, 2003, in Silver Spring, Maryland. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2003_174
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Education advocate Leonard Haynes III was born in Boston on January 26, 1947. Haynes is the oldest child of a father who worked as a minister and professor and a mother who was a teacher. Haynes completed his B.A. from Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1968, and earned an M.A. from Carnegie-Mellon University the following year. After earning his first degrees in history, Haynes attended Ohio State University, where he earned a Ph.D. in higher education administration in 1975.

Haynes' career in education has taken him to a variety of institutions, having served on the faculty at Howard University, the Ohio State University, the University of Maryland, Southern University, the Brookings Institution and George Washington University. While on the faculty at Southern University, he was appointed to the position of executive vice president. He later served as the assistant superintendent of academic programs for Louisiana's State Department of Education and then as the senior assistant to the president of American University. During President George H.W. Bush's administration, Haynes was the first African American to be appointed to the position of U.S. assistant secretary of postsecondary education and director of academic programs for the United States Information Agency (USIA). While with the USIA, Haynes worked to increase international education through cooperatives with Mexico, Canada and the European community. In 1997, Haynes was appointed to serve as the acting president of Grambling State University. President George W. Bush appointed Haynes to serve as the special assistant to the secretary of education in 2001, and in 2003 he was appointed to serve as the director of the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education in the Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education.

Widely recognized for his work in the educational community, Haynes has offered his counsel to numerous organizations, including the Ford Foundation and the Merck Corporation. He has appeared in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in Black America*, and is the recipient of nine honorary degrees. He and his wife, Mary, live in Maryland. They have four children.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Leonard Haynes, III was conducted by Larry Crowe on July 31, 2003, in Silver Spring, Maryland, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Foundation chief executive and academic administrator Leonard Haynes, III (1947 -) is the former president of Grambling State University, and has held appointments with the U.S. Information Agency and the Department of Education.

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:

Haynes, Leonard, III, 1947-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Haynes, Leonard, III, 1947---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Academic Administrator

University President

HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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 Leonard Haynes, III, July 31, 2003. 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 Leonard Haynes, III, Section A2003_174_001_001, TRT: 0:28:55 ?

Leonard Haynes, III, born on January 26, 1947 in Boston, Massachusetts. His mother, Leila Davenport was born in Atlanta, Georgia on June 12, 1926 to Adele and Walter Davenport. His maternal grandfather was a foreman in an iron

factory. He describes his maternal side of the family as middle class and Republican. His mother attended school with Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and had a career teaching French. Haynes' father, Leonard Haynes, Jr., was born on March 15, 1923 in Austin, Texas. Both he and Haynes' grandfather were prominent Methodist ministers. Their family name originates from a slaveholder in Barbados who migrated to colonial America in 1741. Haynes moved often as a child because of his father's ministry and he and his siblings had many opportunities, including the chance to meet Thurgood Marshall at Claflin University. Haynes finished high school at Southern University Laboratory High School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he was president of his senior class.

Video Oral History Interview with Leonard Haynes, III, Section A2003_174_001_002, TRT: 0:29:20 ?

Leonard Haynes, III attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he received his high school diploma in 1964, as well as his B.A. degree in 1968. As an undergraduate, Haynes developed a specific interest in African American history. In 1966, he studied at Howard University in Washington, D.C., where he spent time with H. Rap Brown, the SNCC leader who attended the same high school. Haynes met his wife, Mary, who also attended Southern University, and talks about their move to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to pursue his graduate studies at Carnegie Mellon University. In the fall of 1968, Haynes avoided being drafted into the Vietnam War because of his asthma. He earned his M.A. degree in history in 1969 and returned to Southern University to teach history. He studied law at the University of Illinois briefly before taking an internship in education policy in Springfield, Illinois, which inspired him to pursue his Ph.D. in higher education administration at Ohio State University.

Video Oral History Interview with Leonard Haynes, III, Section A2003_174_001_003, TRT: 0:28:45 ?

Leonard Haynes, III reflects on the problems he sees in American education and gaps in African Americans' knowledge of African American history and the broader world. Haynes also describes his time at Ohio State University as a doctoral student. He earned his Ph.D. degree in higher education administration in 1975 in only seven semesters. In his final year, he applied for directorship of the Black Cultural Center at Ohio State University; the president encouraged him to instead think about other positions in the institution. After graduation, he worked as assistant to the provost at Ohio State University. Subsequently Elias A. Blake offered him a position at the Institute for Services to Education, where he focused on education desegregation. In his three years there, he made contact with policymakers and key leaders in higher education. Haynes also reflects on the shortcomings of busing as a desegregation policy, and the ways that race and class affect classrooms.

Video Oral History Interview with Leonard Haynes, III, Section A2003_174_001_004, TRT: 0:30:54 ?

Leonard Haynes, III reflects on desegregation and reconciliation as necessary steps towards integration. He then recalls his various places of employment, beginning with his time as director of the Public Black College Office, where he helped to secure funding for historically black colleges & universities. After three years, Haynes returned to Southern University as executive vice president. He then returned to Washington, D.C. as the first African American assistant secretary for post-secondary education in the Department of Education under George H.W. Bush. In this post, he was responsible for historically black colleges, international education, and all student aid. In 1997, he accepted a

position as the acting president of Grambling State University. After a year, he returned to D.C. and worked as an advisor to D.C. public schools, amongst other duties. Haynes reflects on the problems in D.C. public school education, as well as his personal political views and how they connect to the black experience.

Video Oral History Interview with Leonard Haynes, III, Section A2003_174_001_005, TRT: 0:19:27 ?

Leonard Haynes, III shares his thoughts on school vouchers and the options for bettering one's education. He also describes his current role as director of the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, "the crown jewel" of the Department of Education. Haynes hopes that African Americans will place a higher value on education and expresses his concern about health issues and intra-community violence. Haynes wants his legacy to be that of helping the African American community as a whole and he hopes to be remembered as someone whose contributions to the community were positive. He concludes the tape by narrating his photographs.