



Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. Hollis Underwood

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Underwood, Hollis Dr.
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Hollis Underwood,
Dates:	July 14, 2007
Bulk Dates:	2007
Physical Description:	3 Betacam SP videocassettes (1:26:30).
Abstract:	Internal medicine physician Dr. Hollis Underwood (1957 -) specializes in internal medicine and is president of Sonoran Health Specialists, Inc. in Arizona. Underwood was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on July 14, 2007 in Phoenix, Arizona. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2007_208
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Internal medicine physician Dr. Hollis Jonetta Crowe Underwood was born on October 29, 1957 in Chicago, Illinois to Robert Arthur and Janetta Martha Crowe. Underwood graduated from Cass Technical High School in Detroit, Michigan in 1975. She attended the University of Maryland as a zoology major. Underwood then completed her M.D. degree at Howard University School of Medicine and did her post graduate residency training at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota.

In 1987, Underwood worked in the National Health Service Corps at Frederiksted Health Center in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. While there, Underwood co-chaired the 1989 Peer Review Committee at the Virgin Islands Medical Institute in Christiansted, Virgin Islands. Underwood then began working as the Medical Director and Acting Project Director for Frederiksted Health Center and as the District Health Officer at the Charles Harwood Memorial Hospital in Christiansted until 1990.

In 1990, Underwood was hired as the Lead Internist and Director of Hypertension & Lipid Clinic at the Ohio Permanente Medical Group in Parma, Ohio, before working as an intermediate Lipid Specialist for the American Heart Association at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1994, Underwood became a consultant for the Department of Community Internal Medicine at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Arizona, where she worked until 2000.

In 1997, Underwood acted as a consultant on a sixteen member multi-disciplinary medical team that traveled to Dakar, Senegal to provide cardiovascular medical care for the community. The venture, Project MEDHELP, led by Albert F. Olivier, consisted of cardiothoracic and general surgeons, anesthesiologists, cardiologists, internists, public health experts, dermatologists and gynecologists.

In February 2000, Underwood became President of Sonoran Health Specialists, Inc., working alongside her husband Dr. Paul L. Underwood, Jr., in Scottsdale, Arizona. Underwood served on several boards and organizations including the Center for Women's Health, Vibetree Foundation and Planned Parenthood. She is also active in several organizations including the Links, Inc., the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Dr. Hollis Jonetta Crowe Underwood resides in Phoenix, Arizona with her family.

Dr. Hollis Jonetta Crowe Underwood was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on July 14, 2007.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Dr. Hollis Underwood was conducted by Jacques Lesure on July 14, 2007, in Phoenix, Arizona, and was recorded on 3 Betacam SP videocassettes. Internal medicine physician Dr. Hollis Underwood (1957 -) specializes in internal medicine and is president of Sonoran Health Specialists, Inc. in Arizona.

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:

Dr. Hollis Underwood.

Lesure, Jacques (Interviewer).

Stearns, Scott (Videographer).

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews.
Dr. Hollis Underwood--Interviews.

African American women physicians--Interviews.

Organizations:

HistoryMakers (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

HistoryMakers® Category:

MedicalMakers

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 Dr. Hollis Underwood, July 14, 2007. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 8/25/2011 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, July 14, 2007

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Hollis Underwood, Section A2007_208_001_001, TRT: 0:28:40 2007/07/14

Dr. Hollis Underwood slates the interview and lists her favorites. She provides information about her parents, Janetta Martha Everet Crowe and Robert Arthur Crowe Jr. Underwood's recalls that her maternal grandmother, Margarite Evert Graves, was a community leader and was very active in politics. In addition, Graves served as the president of Grand Court Order of Calanthe, which was organized in 1897 to provide burial insurance for African Americans. Underwood comments that her father was an accomplished jazz pianist and mathematician, who attended Purdue University on a full-ride scholarship. Underwood grew up in Gary, Indiana, which was transitioning from a Caucasian to an African American community. She details the type of social activities in the community. Underwood discusses her trip at age seven to visit her aunt in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

African American families--Indiana--Gary.

African Americans--Indiana--Societies, etc.

African American parents--Indiana--Gary.

Saint Thomas (V.I.).

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Hollis Underwood, Section A2007_208_001_002, TRT: 0:28:10 2007/07/14

Dr. Hollis Underwood talks about her time in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands with her aunt and uncle. She discusses how she found out that her father died from choking and what happened afterwards. The family decided to move to Detroit, Michigan, where her mother was teaching at Wayne State University and was a practicing nurse. Underwood details her educational experiences at Coffey Junior High School and at Cass Technical High School in Detroit. She notes the influence of Ms. Wen, who was one of the few African American teachers at Coffey. Ms. Wen taught science and inspired Underwood to pursue medicine as a career. Thus, at that age of twelve she knew what she wanted to do in life and from seventh grade through high school she assisted Bill Farmer, who was the family doctor. For medical school, Underwood chose Howard University in Washington, D.C.

African American families--Michigan--Detroit.

African Americans--Education (Secondary).

Medicine--Study and teaching.

Saint Thomas (V.I.).

Howard University.

Fathers--Death.

Science--Study and teaching.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Hollis Underwood, Section A2007_208_001_003, TRT: 0:29:40 2007/07/14

Dr. Hollis Underwood reflects on her job at the Mayo Clinic, which was a predominantly Caucasian and male institution, which was different from her experience at Howard University. She recounts the instances of racism and sexism that she experienced while she was working there. While at the clinic she meets her future husband, Paul Underwood, who was also pursuing a career in medicine. In 1987, Underwood did her public health requirement in St. Croix in the Virgin Islands and the Underwoods lived in the country for three years and raised their two sons there (Ian and Paul). Underwood talks about experiencing Hurricane Hugo and its aftermath in the Virgin Islands. After the

hurricane, Underwood and her family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where she became the physician manager and a lipid specialist. After four years in the city, the family moved to Phoenix, Arizona.

African American women--Arizona--Phoenix.

Discrimination in employment--Medicine.

Mayo Clinic.

Women in medicine--Minnesota--Rochester.

African American physicians--Ohio--Cleveland.

African Americans in medicine.

Saint Thomas (V.I.).

Women in medicine--Washington (D.C).

African Americans physicians--Ohio--Cleveland.

Hurricane Hugo, 1989.