

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with J. K. Haynes

Overview of the Collection

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| Repository: | The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com |
| Creator: | Haynes, John K., 1943- |
| Title: | The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with J. K. Haynes, |
| Dates: | April 14, 2011 |
| Bulk Dates: | 2011 |
| Physical Description: | 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:33:59). |
| Abstract: | Academic administrator and biologist J. K. Haynes (1943 -) developed methods for detecting and preventing sickle cell anemia. He joined the faculty of Morehouse College in 1979 and later became Dean of the Division of Science and Mathematics. Haynes was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on April 14, 2011, in Atlanta, Georgia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview. |
| Identification: | A2011_013 |
| Language: | The interview and records are in English. |

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Biologist and academic administrator John K. “J.K.” Haynes was born on October 30, 1943 in Monroe, Louisiana to John and Grace Haynes. His mother was a teacher and his father was the principal of Lincoln High School in Ruston, Louisiana. Haynes began first grade when he was four years old. When he was six, his family moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Haynes began attending Southern University Laboratory School. He attended Morehouse College when he was seventeen and he received his B.S. degree in biology in 1964. Haynes aspired to attend medical school. However, a professor advised him to apply to graduate school and he went on to attend Brown University, where he obtained his Ph.D. degree in biology in 1970.

Haynes completed his first year of postdoctoral research at Brown University, where he worked on restriction enzymes. During this time, he became interested in sickle cell anemia, which led to a second postdoctoral appointment in biochemistry at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where he worked with Vernon Ingram, the scientist who discovered the amino acid difference between normal and sickle cell hemoglobin. In 1973, Haynes joined the faculty at the Meharry Medical School as a junior faculty member in the department of genetics and molecular medicine and the department of anatomy. His research was focused on why sickle cells were less deformable than normal. In 1979, he returned to Morehouse College as an associate professor of biology as well as the director of the Office of Health Professions. As part of his work, Haynes created a program for high school students interested in medical school. Haynes has also helped recruit minority students into science with the assistance of agencies like the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Haynes became the endowed David E. Packard Chair in Science at Morehouse College and chairman of the biology department in 1985. In 1991, he took a sabbatical and went to Brown University to continue his work on sickle cells. Since 1999, he has served as Dean of Science and Mathematics at Morehouse College.

Under Haynes administrative leadership, new buildings for both chemistry and biology were built at Morehouse

College as well as a curriculum with an emphasis on lab work. Haynes has published papers on cell biology as well as on undergraduate STEM education.

J. K. Haynes was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on April 14, 2011.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with J. K. Haynes was conducted by Larry Crowe on April 14, 2011, in Atlanta, Georgia, and was recorded on 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Academic administrator and biologist J. K. Haynes (1943 -) developed methods for detecting and preventing sickle cell anemia. He joined the faculty of Morehouse College in 1979 and later became Dean of the Division of Science and Mathematics.

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, John K., 1943-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Haynes, John K., 1943- --Interviews

African American scientists--Interviews.

African American biologists--Interviews.

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Morehouse College

Occupations:

Biologist

HistoryMakers® Category:

ScienceMakers

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 J. K. Haynes, April 14, 2011. 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 J. K. Haynes, Section A2011_013_001_001, TRT: 1:30:10 ?

John Kermit “J.K.” Haynes’s interview is slated and he shares his favorites. He then discusses the family background of his mother, Grace Ross Haynes. She was born in Monroe, Louisiana, and attended Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. Her father, Daniel F. Ross, was a lawyer. Haynes then talks about his father, John Kermit Haynes’, family background. He was born in Gloster, Louisiana and became a well-respected businessman and educator, eventually becoming president of the Louisiana Teachers Association. Haynes recalls his earliest childhood memories growing up in Ruston, Louisiana and later Baton Rouge where he attended Southern University Laboratory Schools for elementary school and high school. He recalls leading his senior class during a walk-out to join the college students of Southern University in their protest.

African American families.

African American students--Education--Louisiana--Baton Rouge.

Video Oral History Interview with J. K. Haynes, Section A2011_013_001_002, TRT: 2:23:19 ?

J.K. Haynes recalls his high school years at Southern University Laboratory High School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He was popular among his classmates and graduated as co-salutatorian. At the request of his mother, Grace Ross Haynes, Haynes decided to attend Morehouse College. He discusses a number of influential men that he encountered there, including Benjamin Mays, Roy Hunter, Henry McBay, Frederick Mapp, and John Burney. Haynes was involved with the Civil Rights Movement in Atlanta during the early 1960s, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee was active on campus with student leaders like Julian Bond and David Satcher. Following the suggestion of his college mentor, Roy Hunter, Haynes decided to attend Brown University for graduate school, where he worked in the laboratory of Don Kimmel studying tryptophan pyrrolase.

African American men--Education (Higher).

Morehouse College (Atlanta, Ga.).

Brown University.

Civil rights movements--United States--History--20th century.

African Americans--Civil rights--History--20th century.

Bond, Julian, 1940-.

African American students--Rhode Island--Province.

Video Oral History Interview with J. K. Haynes, Section A2011_013_001_003, TRT: 3:28:53 ?

J.K. Haynes begins by talking about his Ph.D. and post doctoral studies. He did his dissertation work on tryptophan pyrrolase regulation in frog development, and then stayed at Brown University for an extra year as a post-doctoral fellow so that he could learn about the latest techniques in molecular biology under the guidance of Seymour Lederburg. After hearing about sickle cell anemia, Haynes decided to study the disease under the tutelage of Vernon Ingram at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and later he continued his sickle cell research at Meharry Medical College. Haynes describes his research on the sickle cell membrane before moving to Morehouse College in 1979.

African Americans--Education (Higher)--Massachusetts.

African American scientists.

Biology--Research.

Ingram, Vernon M.

Sickle cell anemia--Research--Tennessee.

African Americans--Education (Higher)--Rhode Island--Providence.

Morehouse College (Atlanta, Ga.).

Meharry Medical College.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Video Oral History Interview with J. K. Haynes, Section A2011_013_001_004, TRT: 4:30:34 ?

J.K. Haynes continues to discuss his research in sickle cell anemia, including his discovery of alterations in the sickle cell membrane proteins. During a sabbatical in 1991, Haynes worked with Leon Goldstein to study how the cells of skate fish are regulated when exposed to different salt concentrations with hopes of identifying a similar process in human red blood cells. As a result of that work, they were able to characterize a novel protein channel. Haynes goes on to discuss his work with Project Kaleidoscope, which he joined in 1990, as well as the history of Mapp-Nabrit-McBay Hall at Morehouse College. The president at Morehouse at the time was Walter Massey who restructured the school's departments to allow for increased interdisciplinary conversation. Haynes also served as chair of the Minorities Affairs Committee of the American Society for Cell Biology. He finishes by discussing treatments of sickle cell anemia.

Medicine--Research.

Sickle cell anemia--Research.

African American scientists.

Massey, Walter E.

Goldstein, Leon, 1933-.

Project Kaleidoscope.

Video Oral History Interview with J. K. Haynes, Section A2011_013_001_005, TRT: 5:28:49 ?

J.K. Haynes reflects on the lessons he learned from his parents, and then describes his academic promotions at Morehouse College. He became the dean of the Division of Math and Sciences in 1999 at which point he had to juggle his administrative, research, and teaching responsibilities. Haynes ultimately decided to forego his research to do more work in improving the quality of education for undergraduate students. He was involved with the World Learning School for International Training in 2004, and the development post-doctoral program, Fellowships In Research and Science Teaching (FIRST). Haynes goes on to share his hopes and concerns for both the future of Morehouse College and sickle cell research. He closes this section of the interview by reflecting on his life's accomplishments, particularly at Morehouse College.

African American families.

Morehouse College (Atlanta, Ga.).

African American teachers--Education (Higher).

Sickle cell anemia--Research.

Science--Study and teaching (Higher)--Georgia--Atlanta.

Video Oral History Interview with J. K. Haynes, Section A2011_013_001_006, TRT: 6:12:14 ?

J.K. Haynes discusses his family members, including his parents, brothers, and his wife. His youngest brother, Darryl Haynes, was diagnosed with depression and pulled out of school, and his middle brother, Maurice Haynes, played football for Michigan State University, but died at fifty-nine of a heart condition. Haynes goes on to talk about how he would like to be remembered, and the

interview closes with a discussion on Haynes' interest in collecting art, and his desire to be a "renaissance man."

African American families.

African American art--Collectors and collecting.

Brothers--United States.