

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Carlos Handy

PERSON

Handy, Carlos R, 1950-

Alternative Names: Carlos Handy;

Life Dates: October 18, 1950-

Place of Birth: Havana, Cuba

Work: Houston, TX

Occupations: Research Physicist; Physics Professor

Biographical Note

Physicist Carlos Handy was born on October 18, 1950, in Havana, Cuba, to a Cuban mother and an American father. His father, W.C. Handy, is known as “Father of the Blues.” Growing up in New York City, Handy attended George Washington High School where he was a top math student. In 1972, Handy earned his B.A. degree in physics from Columbia College in New York. He then continued his studies at Columbia university, earning his M.A. degree in physics in 1975 and his PhD degree in theoretical physics in

1978.

From 1878 to 1981, Handy worked as a postdoctoral research associate at Los Alamos National Laboratory focusing on the use of moment representations to relate large scale to local scale features of strong coupling problems. A related approach to this led to Wavelet analysis, as developed by others (i.e. Grossman, Morlet, and Daubechies). In 1983, Handy was hired by Clark Atlanta University as an associate professor of physics. During his time there, he received grant money from the National Science Foundation (NSF), which led to his discovery of the Eigenvalue Method (EMM) technique.

With a second grant from the NSF, Handy established the Center for Theoretical Studies of Physical Systems at Clark Atlanta University, a research and student mentoring center. In 2005, Handy left Clark-Atlanta University and became the head of the physics department at Texas Southern University where assumed full responsibility for the development of the physics program.

Throughout his career, Handy published numerous research articles. The most recent of these was an extension of EMM to determining the symmetry breaking regime of an important pseudo-hermitian system, and application to Regge pole scattering analysis in atomic and molecular physics. His professional concerns include the need for modern facilities in physics education as well as student's early mastery of calculus. Carlos Handy works in Houston, Texas.

Carlos Handy was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 17, 2012.

Related Entries

Columbia University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Ph.D.

George Washington High School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Diploma

Columbia University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

M.A.

Columbia University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

B.A.

Columbia University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

M. PH.

Los Alamos National Laboratory [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Post Ph.D.

Los Alamos National Laboratory [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1950 to ?]

Postdoctoral Fellow

Clark Atlanta University [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1983 to 2005]

Professor

Texas Southern University [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1961 to ?]

Department Chair: Physics

AMAF Industries [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 198106 to 198301]

Research Staff

American Physical Society (APS) [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

**Chair of Minority Committee in Physics and the
Edward Bouchet Award**

National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP) [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

National Society of Hispanic Physicists [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member