Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers ® Video Oral History with Gary May

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	May, Gary S.
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Gary May,
Dates:	December 10, 2012
Bulk Dates:	2012
Physical Description:	4 uncompressed MOV digital video files (1:46:17).
Abstract:	Electrical engineer and academic administrator Gary May (1964 -) is the Dean of the College of Electrical Engineering of Georgia Institute of Technology. May was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 10, 2012, in Atlanta, Georgia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2012_207
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Electrical engineer and academic administrator Gary Stephen May was born on May 17, 1964 in St. Louis, Missouri. He was one of two children born to Warren May, Jr., a postal clerk, and Gloria Hunter, a teacher. As a high school student, May participated in a summer program called "Developing Engineering Students" at McDonnell Douglass Corporation in St. Louis, Missouri for three summers. He was subsequently employed by the company as a cooperative education student. May received his B.S. degree in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1985, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering and computer science from the University of California at Berkeley in 1987 and 1991, respectively.

May joined the George Tech College Engineering in 1991 as a member of the microelectronics research group. In 1992, May created the Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering/Science (SURE) program with a grant from the National Science Foundation. May is also the co-founder and director of the Facilitating Academic Careers in Engineering and Sciences (FACES) program, for which he has received over $10 million in funding from NSF to increase the number of African American Ph.D. degree graduates produced by Georgia Institute of Technology. In 2001, May was named Motorola Foundation Professor, and was appointed associate chair for Faculty Development in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE). Then, in 2005, May was promoted to Steve W. Chaddick Chair of ECE; and, in 2011, he became Dean of the College of Engineering at Georgia Tech.

Throughout his career, May has published numerous articles in academic journals, including *Journal of Applied Physics*, the *International Journal of Materials and Manufacturing Processes*. He also served as editor-in-chief of *IEEE Transactions on Semiconductor Manufacturing*. In 2006, May was the co-author of *Fundamentals of Semiconductor Manufacturing and Process Control*; and in 2003, he co-authored *Fundamentals of Semiconductor Fabrication*. May is also the recipient of professional and academic awards. In 2004, May received Georgia Tech's Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award, as well as the Outstanding Minority Engineer Award from the American Society of Engineering Education. In 2006, he received the Mentor Award from the American

Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). For his academic contributions, May was named a fellow of the AAAS, the IEEE, and received an honorary doctorate from the Universidad Latina de Panama.

May and his wife, LeShelle Mary, live in Atlanta, Georgia with their two daughters, Simon and Jordan.

Gary Stephen May was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on December 10, 2012.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Gary May was conducted by Larry Crowe on December 10, 2012, in Atlanta, Georgia, and was recorded on 4 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Electrical engineer and academic administrator Gary May (1964 -) is the Dean of the College of Electrical Engineering of Georgia Institute of Technology.

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:

May, Gary S.

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
May, Gary S.--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Georgia Institute of Technology

Occupations:

Electrical Engineer

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 Gary May, December 10, 2012. 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 Gary May, Section A2012_207_001_001, TRT: 1:28:46 ?

Gary May talks about his family history. His mother, Gloria Hunter May, was a public school teacher born in St. Louis, Missouri in June 1938. She was the first in her family to receive a college education, and she received her B.S. degree in education from the University of Missouri. His father, Warren May Jr., was born in Delhi, Louisiana in November 1937. He received his college degree later in life, during the 1980s, but spent his career working at the U.S. Post Office. Mays talks about his childhood hobbies and experiences growing up in the suburbs of St. Louis, Missouri. He attended Ascension Catholic School through the eighth grade, where his favorite subject was math.

Affirmative action programs.

Affirmative action programs.

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Video Oral History Interview with Gary May, Section A2012_207_001_002, TRT: 2:29:15 ?

Gary May graduated from Ascension Catholic School in 1977 and went on to attend Lutheran High School North in St. Louis, Missouri. During the summers, he participated in the Developing Engineering Students program that was sponsored by the McDonnell Douglas Corporation, which was an aerospace manufacturer and defense contractor. After graduating from high school in 1981, he went on to pursue his B.S. degree in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. While there, May joined the National Society of Black Engineers and later became president of the organization. He also had internships in research and development at AT&T and McDonnell Douglas. May graduated from Georgia Tech magna cum laude in 1985. He attended the University of California at Berkeley, California, where he pursued his Master's and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering and computer science.

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Video Oral History Interview with Gary May, Section A2012_207_001_003, TRT: 3:29:33 ?

Gary May graduated from the University of California in Berkeley, California in 1991, where he earned his Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering and computer science. His research centered on the development of a manufacturing process for integrated circuits, or computer chips. After graduating, May returned to the Georgia Institute of Technology as an assistant professor in the electrical and computer engineering department. He has been involved in several development programs for minority college students, including FACES, Facilitating Academic Careers in Engineering and Science; and SURES, Summer Undergraduate Research and Engineering Science. In 2004, he received the Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award for his efforts with the SURE program. In 2005, May became Georgia Tech's first African American chair of the electrical and computer engineering department and in 2011, May was appointed as dean of Georgia Tech's college of engineering.

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Video Oral History Interview with Gary May, Section A2012_207_001_004, TRT: 4:18:43 ?

Gary May describes his goals for Georgia Institute of Technology's College of Engineering, as dean in 2011. During May's tenure, the College of Engineering made significant efforts to increase the diversity of its faculty and student population. Moreover, during his service as dean, all eight schools of engineering have been consistently ranked in the top ten programs in the United States. May discussed his legacy as an engineer, a researcher and as an administrator.

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