

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Leon Richards

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Richards, Leon, 1945-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Leon Richards,
Dates:	December 10, 2019
Bulk Dates:	2019
Physical Description:	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:51:48).
Abstract:	Academic administrator Leon Richards (1945-) worked at Kapi‘olani Community College for thirty nine years, serving as chancellor from 2007 to 2016. Richards was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 10, 2019, in Honolulu, Hawaii. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2019_136
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Academic administrator Leon Richards was born on June 7, 1945 in Autauga County, Alabama to Carrie Richards and John Richards. One of twenty-two children, Richards and his family moved to Montgomery, Alabama soon after his birth. After graduating from George Washington Carver High School in 1964, Richards received his B.S. degree in history from Alabama State College in 1968. He went on to receive his M.A. degree in political science in 1970, his Ph.D. degree in political science in 1974, and his second M.A. degree in teaching English as a second language in 2000, all from the University of Hawai‘i.

In 1968, Richards joined Wai‘anae High School as a social science teacher in Wai‘anae, Hawai‘i, where he worked for two years, before joining the Wai‘anae Research & Planning Center’s Model Cities Project for one year. After receiving his M.A. degree, Richards worked as a research assistant for the University of Hawaii department of political science’s Dimensionality of Nations Project for two years. After receiving his Ph.D. degree, Richards joined the East-West Center Communication Institute and the advisory council on international relations at the University of Hawai‘i, as a researcher. In 1977, he joined Kapi‘olani Community College, where he served as assistant dean of instruction and title III grant coordinator from 1977 to 1987, acting provost from 1981 to 1984, and dean of instruction from 1982 to 1999. In 2000, Richards was promoted to senior academic dean and executive director for international education for the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges system and served there until 2002, when he was once again appointed acting provost of Kapi‘olani Community College. He returned to his positions as senior academic dean and executive director for international education in 2003. In 2005, Richards was promoted to vice chancellor for academic affairs and international education, continuing to serve as executive director for international education until 2016. He was promoted to interim chancellor in 2005, before becoming chancellor of Kapi‘olani Community College in 2007. Richards resigned in 2016 and went on to found the Mid-Pacific International Higher Education Consultancy, LLL in 2017, serving as a senior consultant.

Richards has written numerous scholarly works, including *Island Roots*, *Global Reach: A Case Study of Internationalizing Kapiolani Community College in International Reform Efforts and Challenges*, published in

Community Colleges: New Directions for Community Colleges in 2007, and *Elevating Developmental Education at Kapi‘olani Community College: Thoughts on Our Past, Present, and Future*, published in the Journal of the Japan Association for Developmental Education in 2009. He also wrote *Education and Youth Unemployment: Answering a Challenge in Emerging Countries - An Asia Pacific Perspective*, published in 2015, and *Community Colleges in America: Creating Economic, Human Capital, and Social Development for Today and Tomorrow*, published in 2016.

Richards and his wife, Pauline Sakai Richards, reside in Honolulu, Hawai‘i. They have two children: Kayin and Kalera.

Leon Richards was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on December 10, 2019.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Leon Richards was conducted by Larry Crowe on December 10, 2019, in Honolulu, Hawaii, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Academic administrator Leon Richards (1945-) worked at Kapi‘olani Community College for thirty nine years, serving as chancellor from 2007 to 2016.

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:

Richards, Leon, 1945-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Richards, Leon, 1945---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Academic Administrator

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 Leon Richards, December 10, 2019. 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 Leon Richards, Section A2019_136_001_001, TRT: 1:30:42 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Leon Richards, Section A2019_136_001_002, TRT: 2:28:30 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Leon Richards, Section A2019_136_001_003, TRT: 3:28:43 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Leon Richards, Section A2019_136_001_004, TRT: 4:28:45 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Leon Richards, Section A2019_136_001_005, TRT: 5:30:18 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Leon Richards, Section A2019_136_001_006, TRT: 6:29:06 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Leon Richards, Section A2019_136_001_007, TRT: 7:28:33 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Leon Richards, Section A2019_136_001_008, TRT: 8:27:11 ?