

## AFRICAN AMERICANS IN RICE'S HISTORY

Nov. 8, 1928

A fake document read before the Rice Pre-Law banquet, supposedly a faculty-administration appeal to urge campus integration "in the name of equality," results in a massive student uproar and is voted down 14 to 5.

Dec. 18, 1948

A *Thresher* editorial asserts "all students who apply for admission to the Institute should be judged equally and solely upon scholastic qualification and capabilities." By January, students are circulating a petition for integration.

1953

Student poll on integration  
For: 57% Against: 44%

1957

Student poll on integration  
For: 61% Against: 38%

1962

Student poll on integration  
For: 65% Against: 35%

Oct. 3, 1962

Campus debate over integration starts up again after a *Thresher* editorial condemning racial violence in Mississippi.

Nov. 1, 1963

Student group to promote integration holds its first meeting and gains official club status two weeks later as ACCORD.

Feb. 10, 1964

A jury in the 127th District Court of Texas grants Rice the right to change its charter.

Nov. 1968

The Student Committee on University Research (SCOUR) releases a report titled "Who Enters Rice?" It recommends that the university take steps to increase enrollment of black students, such as Affirmative Action, recognizing lack of opportunity and creating a more welcoming atmosphere on campus.

Feb. 13, 1891

William Marsh Rice signs an indenture granting \$200,000 for the creation of the William Marsh Rice Institute, limiting beneficiaries to "the white inhabitants of the city of Houston and the state of Texas." However, Hispanic and Asian students are soon let in.

Sept. 16, 1948

*Thresher* Editor in Chief writes a letter to presidential candidate Strom Thurmond, condemning ads he ran in Houston against integration as a "hate campaign." Thurmond writes back, asserting that "separation of the races is necessary."

Feb. 14, 1949

In a letter to the editor, President W.V. Houston writes: "The Rice Institute was founded and chartered specifically for white students. The question of admission of Negroes is therefore not one for administrative consideration, and the discussion is entirely academic." Thus, the debate that emerged in the *Thresher* is essentially shut down.

Sept. 16, 1962

Rice's board passes a resolution to obtain legal authority to change the Rice charter to allow black students and charge tuition.

June 20, 1963

Rice is counter-sued to keep the charter the same.

Jan. 7, 1964

Rice alumni and local officials file a suit to allow the Board of Trustees to alter the charter. As their main argument, the trustees note that to receive federal government funds, Rice must fall into accordance with federal nondiscrimination laws.

Sept. 1965

Two black students admitted to Rice. Neither graduates. After three semesters, one, Charles Freeman, transfers to TSU. He reapplies back to Rice in Fall 1968, but is denied admission despite faculty votes in support. President Frank E. Vandiver claims it is due to his previous academic record and political activism.

Dec. 13, 1968

Students hold a rally to protest Dean William Gordon blocking SCOUR's recommendations.

1974

## LECTURE

From page 1

children or inculcating within them the value of learning and education," Marable said.

Marable's father was a sergeant in the segregated Army Air Corps during World War II. After obtaining a college degree under the GI Bill, he worked two full-time jobs for two decades so his children could have educational opportunities he did not. Marable said his family's story is typical.

"Just like millions of other Americans, African-American people have always overcome the odds against us by using education," Marable said. "Yet despite our limited educational victories over the last 150 or so years, the chasm between America's democratic rhetoric and unequal reality still seems as vast as the Grand Canyon for millions of black, brown and poor Americans."

In recent decades, Marable said, minorities have made limited but unacceptable progress in graduate school and faculty representation, while undergraduate enrollment has leveled off or declined.

He attributed the undergraduate drop to federal court decisions, such as 1996's *Hopwood v. Texas* — which prohibited the consideration of race as a factor in college admissions in the 5th circuit district — state-level ballot propositions in California and Washington, and southern states' failure to integrate their universities. Additionally, federal and state governments have limited funding of state universities, resulting in rising tuition.

*'There is progress in higher education, but the progress is incredibly, painfully slow. We have a long way to go until we see some kind of equality'*

— Manning Marable  
Columbia University professor

"What that means is working class and lower income families making tremendous sacrifices to [attend] public universities are now expected to assume an even greater share of the costs," Marable said



Speaking at the Grady University Professor Manning Marable in the United States

of preaching mu... High school and college textbooks, for that America has multicultural social commercials and un... of student life cele... with thousands of pa... every year, he said.

"Yet there's a cr... between the recog... and the acknow... the reality of differe... unequal outcomes a... chances for citizens... country," Marable... words, difference do... matters differently, ... skin you're in."

Rather than dwe... turalism, Marable s... should study the sep... of different groups... including ethnic gro... shown racial status i...

"There were gro... Ashkenazi Jews and... experienced extren... tion but nevertheles... scale the hierarchy... Marable said.

But it is history, that opponents o... Action have systema... or manipulated. P... California Propositio... outlawed the use of... ethnicity by public... 1996, manipulated... of the Civil Rights M... Martin Luther King

