### Black History at UI

Ms. Bailey Guyette & Dr. Sydney Freeman, Jr.

# Background

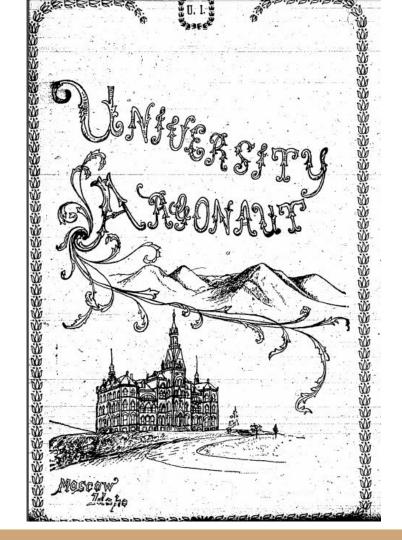
- Hired in 2015
- Wanted to know where I fit in the history of the university.
- Was my presence and the presence of other Blacks significant?
- Had other done any work in this area?
- How could I chronicle my experiences and the experiences of others?
- Wanted to leave a leave a trail that future Blacks could follow.

### The Goal/Purpose

Sought to document the history and achievements of Black students, faculty members, and administrators primarily by conducting interviews with current and past university employees, students, and student leaders, and secondarily by reviewing historical documents at University of Idaho.

## Research

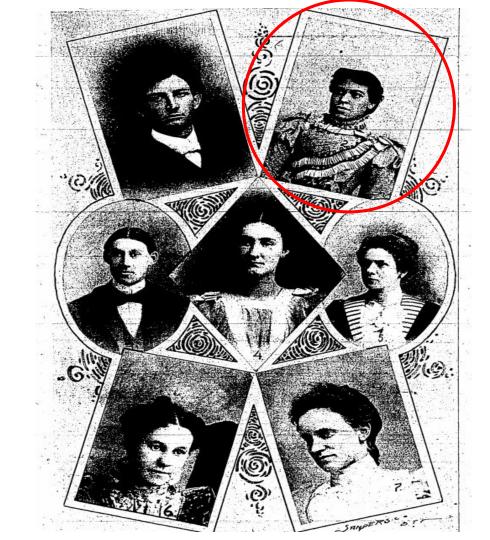
- The Argonaut
- Books
  - Aiken, Katherine G., and Erin Passehl-Stoddart.
    The Campus History Series: University of Idaho. Arcadia Publishing, 2016.
  - Latah County Historical Society. *Legendary Locals of Moscow.* Arcadia Publishing, 2006.
- Special Collections in UI Library
  - Siegfried Rolland Papers
- Oral interviews with various UI staff and faculty



# The Argonaut

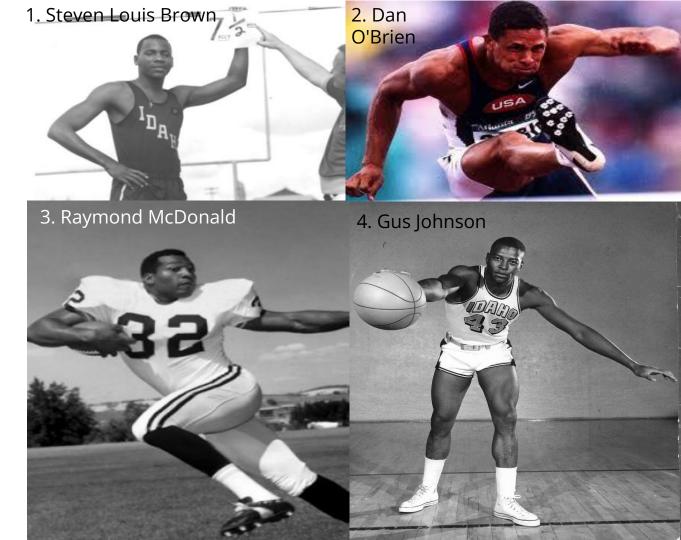
- Jennie Eva Hughes
  - 1st Black graduate,
    B.S. in Botany
  - Class of 1899
- 1% of Americans had degrees at this time. (Latah County Historical Society 33)
- Idaho had only been a state for 8 years
- Wrote opening article for this edition

The Argonaut, Apr. 1, 1899



### *The Argonaut*/Books

- 1. 1967- High jumper, first person in America to clear 7ft.
- 1993- Hurdler for UI, Olympic gold medalist for decathlon, USA Track and Field Hall of Fame
- 1967- played for Washington Redskins, Big Sky Champion (3), All-American (2)
- 4. 1960s- jersey no. 43 retired at UI, 466 rebounds, 11 year NBA career, jumped 11.6 ft at the Corner Club



### Notable Alumni

- Lionel Hampton
  - Jazz music legend
  - 1st Jazzfest, 1967
  - Hampton's 1st
    Jazzfest, 1984
- Reginald Reeves, 1st Black graduate from the UI College of Law, 1952
  - Gave keynote address during Black History month, 2017



To: MR. Matt TELIN ChAIRMAN of the Space Relocations Committee FROM: The BLACK Student UDION Subject: Space Request for the B.S.U. I. Space Requirements And use of Space R. RegulAR MEETING & MEMLERS. 1. 40 members Destimated (1973-74) W. R. planning B. LOUNJE A. RAP SESSIONS 1) Freulty of the University 2) High Steldor & Elementine, Amenity 3) Community members 4) University members C. CLASS ROOM SPACE (ONE) 1. tutoring 2. films D. Library Space E. Kitchin Freilities AND Spree 7. StorAge Space 1. Closets 2. Shelues 3. filing CALIN

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#### February 14, 1973

#### MEMORANDUM

TO: Corky Bush and Bernard Hamilton

Perhaps you have already seen the attached Offense Report regarding property found in the BSU house as the house was being cleaned out.

Can you offer me any counsel as to how the responsibility for this amount of "misappropriated" goods should be handled? Granted, the University departments that lost this property have recovered it, however, the finding of this amount of property in a building under the aegis of BSU certainly reflects poorly on the organization. It makes it even more difficult to argue the special effort and attention required to support minority groups on our campus when the University gets ripped off in the process.

> TOM RICHARDSON Vice President for Student and Administrative Services

#### EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

LDS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90059

OFFICES:

493 West Compton Boulevard Suite E Compton, California 90220

Phone: (213) 636-7452

February 16, 1973

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· Scenkers Bureau

#### Dear Program Coordinators

We are pleased to be able to offer your school a special on CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM L. CLAY. The Congressman usually gets a fee ranging from \$1200.00-2000.00, plus transportation costs, for his West Coast appearances. We have worked out an exclusive arrangement with him that permits us to offer him to you for two engagements, same day, for only \$1400.00!!!!

Following are the dates that we are offering him for the above \$1400.00 fees:

1) 1973: October 11, 12 and 15th and November 29, 30 and December 3rd.

2) 1974: March 7. 8 and 11th and May 2. 3 and 6th.

If you want to book him for the above special rates, inform us via the enclosed, self-addressed card. Also, give at least one, preferably two, alternate dates.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely.

45

Lenton Aikins, Ph.D.

LA: id encl: self-addressed card, brochure

P.S. If you want him and cannot afford the \$1400.00, perhaps a sister school in your area could assist and the Congressman could speak once at each school.

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airman Black Studies Programs UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO Moscow, Ida. 83843









of WILLIAM L. CLAY (D-MO.)

Biographical Sketch

An AP wire story of February, 1971 may tell you more about Congressman William L. Clay of Missouri than perhaps anything else printed. It states: "There is a new kind of black representative in Congress today and a slim, savvy St. Louis Negro is both typical of the new breed and largely responsible for the emergence."

Cong. Clay, a veteran of almost two decades of battling for Negro rights although he is only 40, has emerged as a leading force among the blacks in the House who have banded together in a Black Caucus.

"If we're going to be successful," said Clay in an interview, "it will be because we've completely revised our political philosophy. It's going to be selfish and pragmatic, based on the premise that we have no permanent friends, no permanent enemies -- just permanent interest."

"You're going to see a new kind of black representation," he said, "It might be abrasive. It might be obstructionist. We're going to turn around the idea that what's good for the Nation is good for the minorities and make it what's good for the minorities is good for the

Clay's first elected post was as an Alderman from the 26th Ward in St. Louis which he held for 5 years beginning in 1959.

Clay contributed much to the advancement of civil rights in that city. He wrote and sponsored a Fair Employment Law. His other accomplishments









Political activity, sle to Nat'l, Black









February, 1973

WSU HILLTOPICS

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Talmadge Anderson is in his third year as Director of the Black Studies Program at WSU which offers more than 20 courses

A native of Georgia, Anderson came to WSU from West Virginia Institute of Technology in Montgomery, West Virginia. He received an M.B.A. degree at Atlanta University and also did graduate work at the University of Missouri in Columbus, Mo.

In addition to heading the Black Studies Program, Anderson teaches Black Economics, and Marketing in Black Economics at WSII



Anderson says the social, economic and political contributions of Black people in the Northwest as well as in the country as a whole has been consciously or unconsciously excluded from the overall historical account of the region. As a result Blacks have lost much in terms of self-esteem and whites have acquired a distorted view of early Black achievements.



Long waiting lines are not uncommon at the Black experience entrance and tunnel of the Afro-American Pavilion at EXPO 74 Worlds Fair in Spokane, Washington. For the first time in the history of World Expositions held in the United States, there is a Pavilion for the sole purpose of displaying comprehensively, the contributions of Black Americans to today's environment.

The Pavilion was realized through the struggle and perseverance of Pavilion Director, Frank Russell, and many interested citizens throughout the state. Participation has included members of the Black Studies Program and students at Washington State University.

### Interviews

- Interview Plan
  - 30-45 min. Recorded interview
  - Be a member of Ul's faculty/staff
  - Be a Person of Color
- Ideally, wanted a dozen
  - o Men: 5
  - Women: 3
  - Various departments

## Interview Questions

- Please state your name and your title or role at UI.
- What is your ethnicity or race? Do you identify as African-American, African, Caribbean, etc.?
  - Race- skin color, characteristics (ex. I'm Latina)
  - Ethnicity- cultural factors (ex. I'm Hispanic)
- Where are you from?
- What brought you to UI?
  - Have you had any previous experiences that you feel prepared you for UI?
- Was it a tough transition moving to Moscow since it's predominantly white?
  - Were you nervous to move here or about being here since it's called the South of the North?
- Do you feel like you'll stay in this community for a long time? Why or why not?
- Did you bring family with you?

- Have you built any strong relationships with any other black people or faculty at UI?
- Have you had positive experiences related to your race at UI?
- Have you had negative experiences related to your race at UI?
  - Have you noticed any differences in people's treatment of you since Donald Trump has been in office?
- What do you feel you have contributed to your department at UI?
  - Do you bring anything different to the table?
- Are there any other black people that have left the institution that I should know about that would be helpful to this project?
- Is there anything I should have asked you?
- Have you found any support structure within the institution for faculty and staff of color?

"You can't tell me that dominant society isn't racist and discriminatory because we are within our own communities, from what we have been inculturated with because of dominant society, and how we have internalized the homogeneous ideas and views within OUR OWN COMMUNITIES." -Woman, Gen. X, identifies as mixed w/ Black and Latina, from Idaho originally, has been a student or faculty member on campus for ~15 years

"They keep saying diversity. They keep counting people from other countries and that's okay, but when you have people from this country. They have people in southern Idaho, northern Idaho, middle of Idaho, everywhere. They don't recruit and bring student from there. They give you all sorts of reasons. I'm not saying to go out of your way to get black person. But if you make the environment to bring these people, people will come." -Man, Baby Boomer, identifies as Black, originally from W. Africa, has been a staff/faculty member on campus for ~30 years

"And people are also allowed to be attracted to whomever they're attracted to so that has nothing to do with it. ... But to me what was so striking about that was the underlying assumption was so white supremacist, like "Well I'm not sure that I can deal with you." Because he could've asked a question like "You know I've dated across racial lines, have you done so? What has that been like for you?" But instead he had this clear assumption that he was the one who got to choose and got to say "Maybe I can deal with this, maybe this is worthwhile to me, but of course you think I'm worthwhile because we're living in this world where I'm the default. Of course I'm fine." It's a white supremacist culture, so I think that's what white people are encouraged to think from birth is that they won the jackpot by being born white, and especially a man and all the things then they're all set and then everyone else has to adapt themselves to them and they're never the one who has to adapt." - Woman, Gen. X, identifies as Black/Afro-Caribbean/African-American, originally from Trinidad and Tobago, has a been a staff/faculty member on campus since the 90s

"It's interesting to know that the biggest college at UI, my college, has only one black guy, me. ... People don't give us respect. The respect that I'm talking about is like because of Affirmative Action, people always see us as products of Affirmative Action. All people see you and they just have assumptions and sometimes it's really annoying if you don't get that respect that you think you deserve. ... At one point I got so upset I went to my boss, I wanted to know if my hiring was Affirmative Action. ...(He sent) me to talk to one of the finalist for the position, which I didn't know before. I actually went to the person and asked them how they felt when I got the job and they didn't. She said that when she saw my qualifications she felt embarrassed to be also a candidate for the position. So, that gave me a little bit of peace of mind, knowing that I didn't get a position just because. I know that wouldn't happen here, but that was the perception, that's why I asked." -Man, Gen. X, identifies as African/African-American, originally from W. Africa, has been a staff/faculty member on campus for ~20 years

### Why is doing this type of research important?

- The black experience in Idaho, specifically at this university, is largely unknown, lost in the shuffle
- The white history of the university is only one side
- This research offers new outlooks, perspectives, creates possibilities for growth
- Offers a different set of perspectives and experiences on realities that white people in a predominantly white space may have never had to consider

# What Dr. Freeman is doing to Chronicle his Experiences and Achievements

- Auto-ethnographic methods
- Several other articles/chapters in preparation.
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## Want to be an intern?

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