

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Paul Gueye

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Guèye, Paul, 1966-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Paul Gueye,
<b>Dates:</b>	February 6, 2012
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2012
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:35:07).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Physics professor and physicist Paul Gueye (1966 - ) has served as a research professor at Hampton University since 2001 and president of the National Society of Black Physicists since 2011. Gueye was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on February 6, 2012, in Hampton, Virginia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2012_022
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Physics professor and physicist Paul Guèye was born on July 8, 1966 in Dakar, Senegal to Jupiter Guèye and Elisabeth Soumah. He earned his B.S and M.S. degrees in physics and chemistry from the University Cheikh Anta Diop in 1987 and 1990, respectively. Guèye became the first Senegalese to earn his doctorate degree in nuclear/high energy physics; receiving his Ph.D. degree from the University of Clermont-Ferrand in 1994.

After completing his education, Guèye joined the physics department at Hampton University as a postdoctoral fellow and conducted research at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility. In 2001, he was appointed a research professor at Hampton University and head of the brachytherapy research and development group of Hampton's medical physics graduate program. In 2002, Guèye joined the Hampton University School of Science Recruitment Committee. His research interests include experimental nuclear physics, accelerator physics, medical physics, space science and Geant4 Simulation. Guèye worked with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to improve knowledge of radiation's interaction with matter and is the Geant4 coordinator for the NASA space radiation program. He has also patented an "Apparatus and Method for Brachytherapy Radiation Distribution Mapping." Guèye has worked extensively with the National Society of Black Physicists including serving as the co-chair of the medical physics section since 2004, chair of pre-college programs committee since 2005, co-chair of the nuclear and particle physics section since 2006 and president of the National Society of Black Physicists since 2011.

In addition to his research, Guèye co-supervised the first African American female Ph.D. students in nuclear physics and medical physics at Hampton University. He is very active in improving minority science education for both students and professionals. Guèye is the chair of the African Affairs sub-committee of the American Association for Physicists in Medicine. He coordinated the American Association for Physics Teachers' "Strategic Programs for Innovations in Undergraduate Physics" Workshop in 2011 and in 2008, and he organized the *Fifty Years of Women in Medical Physics Symposium*. Guèye co-led an international collaboration to develop a large

research facility for Africa and is a member of the US Materials Research Society Sub-Committee in Africa. Guèye is fluent in French, Spanish and Italian. He lives with his wife Mornetka in Hampton, Virginia.

Paul Guèye was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on February 6, 2012.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Paul Gueye was conducted by Larry Crowe on February 6, 2012, in Hampton, Virginia, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Physics professor and physicist Paul Gueye (1966 - ) has served as a research professor at Hampton University since 2001 and president of the National Society of Black Physicists since 2011.

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## 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®.

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## 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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

### Persons:

Guèye, Paul, 1966-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Guèye, Paul, 1966- --Interviews

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African American physicists--Interviews.

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African American professors--Interviews.

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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## Occupations:

Physicist

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

ScienceMakers

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## 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 Paul Gueye, February 6, 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).

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## 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.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

## Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Paul Gueye, Section A2012\_022\_001\_001, TRT: 1:30:02 ?

Paul Guèye describes his family background. His mother, Elisabeth Soumah, was born in Guinea-Conakry (Republic of Guinea) in West Africa. His father, Jupiter Guèye, was born in Dakar, Senegal, and attended college in France. Both Guèye's parents came from educated families, and were principals at an elementary school and a high school, respectively. Guèye describes his non-traditional family life in Senegal, his cultural upbringing, his family's stress on education, and their Christian faith. He also describes the religious demographic of Senegal, the country's popularity in sub-Saharan Africa, and the difference between life in Senegalese villages and cities.

Families--Africa--Senegal.

Education--Africa--Senegal.

African mothers.

African fathers.

Senegal--Social life and customs.

Christianity--Africa--Senegal.

Dakar (Senegal).

Video Oral History Interview with Paul Gueye, Section A2012\_022\_001\_002, TRT: 2:31:09 ?

Paul Guèye was born and raised in Dakar, Senegal, and describes his childhood there. He talks about how his parents met, their employment as school principals, and his likeness to both of them. Following his parents' divorce, Guèye and his twin brother, Rene, were raised by their paternal grandmother, Mary Georgina Morgan Guèye. He describes his childhood neighborhood, family gatherings in Dakar, the time spent on Goree Island, and his interest in football and the Vietnamese martial art, Viet Vo Dao.

Childhood and youth--Africa--Senegal--Dakar.

Families--Africa--Senegal--Dakar.

Divorce.

Gorée Island (Senegal).

Dakar (Senegal).

Video Oral History Interview with Paul Gueye, Section A2012\_022\_001\_003, TRT: 3:32:50 ?

Paul Guèye attended École Protestant de Plateau, Dial Diop School and Lycée Van Vollenhoven in Dakar, Senegal, where he followed the French system of education. He talks about his early interest in science, the teachers who influenced him throughout his schooling, and reminisces about his and his twin brother, Rene's mischievousness at school. Guèye also describes his decision to pursue physics and chemistry in college, and the differences between the social approach to education in Senegal and the United States.

Education Africa, French-speaking West.

Childhood and youth--Africa--Senegal--Dakar.

Education--Africa--Senegal--Dakar.

Mentoring in education.

Chemistry.

Video Oral History Interview with Paul Gueye, Section A2012\_022\_001\_004, TRT: 4:30:15 ?

Paul Guèye attended school in the city of Dakar in Senegal, where he took an interest not only in his science and math classes, but also in history and philosophy. He talks about his aunt and uncle who served as his scientific

mentors, his own work ethic in school and college, and his early interest and aptitude for teaching. Guèye contrasts the infrastructure available at Senegalese schools, to that available in schools in the United States. He also describes the strong desire to learn, that is common amongst Senegalese students. Guèye attended the University of Cheikh Anta Diop for his B.S. and M.S. degrees in physics and chemistry. He talks about the history of Senegal and the prominent socio-political icons of his country.

Education--Africa--Senegal--Dakar.

Mentoring in science.

Education, Higher--Senegal.

Chemistry.

Physics.

Senegal--History.

Video Oral History Interview with Paul Gueye, Section A2012\_022\_001\_005, TRT: 5:30:02 ?

After earning his M.S. degree in physics and chemistry from the University of Cheikh Anta Diop in Senegal in 1990, Paul Guèye attended the University of Clermont-Ferrand in France to pursue his doctoral studies in experimental nuclear physics. Guèye describes his experience as a doctoral student in France, and explains his dissertation research on dispersive effects and Coulomb effects in nuclear physics. He also shares his experience in school in Senegal and his interest in Senegalese music. Guèye talks about his twin brother, Rene, who works in the business sector in Senegal. Upon earning his Ph.D. degree in 1994, Guèye moved to the United States to pursue his post-doctoral research under the tutelage of HistoryMaker Oliver Keith Baker, at Hampton University and Thomas Jefferson National Laboratory. He formed his first impressions of the U.S. during a cross-country road trip to attend a Viet Vo Dao martial arts meeting in Texas.

Education, Higher--France.

Clermont-Ferrand University.

Nuclear physics--Research.

Nuclear fragmentation.

Brothers.

Hampton University (Va.).

Baker, Oliver Keith.

Video Oral History Interview with Paul Gueye, Section A2012\_022\_001\_006, TRT: 6:30:01 ?

In 1995, Paul Guèye joined the physics department at Hampton University as a post-doctoral researcher in HistoryMaker Oliver Keith Baker's group.

Throughout his tenure at Hampton, Guèye has worked on particle physics experiments at Thomas Jefferson National Laboratory (Jlab). Guèye describes the fundamental basis of particle scattering experiments, and the collaboration between Jlab and Hampton University. In 2001, Guèye was appointed as a research professor at Hampton University. He talks about the Ph.D. program in experimental nuclear physics at Hampton University, which is the only one of its kind at any HBCU in the United States. He also describes the significance of his doctoral dissertation work on dispersive effects and Coulomb effects in nuclear physics, the establishment and application of the Center for Advanced Medical Instrumentation (CAMI), and shares his perceptions of social and cultural diversity in the United States.

Nuclear physics--Research.

Hampton University (Va.).

Baker, Oliver Keith.

Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (U.S.).

Nuclear fragmentation.

Particles (Nuclear physics).

Video Oral History Interview with Paul Gueye, Section A2012\_022\_001\_007, TRT: 7:30:48 ?

Paul Guèye was elected the president of the National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP) in 2012. He describes his involvement with NSBP in exposing African American students to medical physics. Guèye also talks about his efforts to promote minorities to pursue studies in physics and other STEM fields, and his work towards the establishment of a particle accelerator facility at Hampton University. He reflects upon his life and his legacy, his goals for the future, and his hopes and concerns for the African American community. Guèye concludes the interview by talking about his wife and his daughter, and sharing how he would like to be remembered.

National Society of Black Physicists.

Mentoring in science.

Reminiscing.

Hampton University (Va.).

African American families--Virginia.