Case 1: The Myth of Openness

1.
*In the U.S. Circuit Court, N. District of Illinois, The Union Mutual Life Insurance Co. vs. The University of Chicago.* p. 172
Old University of Chicago Records.

This document records the testimony of University of Chicago President Galusha Anderson in the 1884 foreclosure proceedings against the old University.

2.
Photograph of Galusha Anderson, [n.d.].
Archival Photographic Files.

Anderson was born in 1832 and trained at Rochester Theological Seminary. He served as pastor of Second Baptist Church in St. Louis from 1858-1866 and of Second Baptist in Chicago from 1876 to 1878 when he became fifth president of the University of Chicago. He left the old University when it closed in 1886 but in 1892 returned to the new University as professor in the Divinity School, from which he retired in 1904. He died in 1918.

3.
Rare Book Collection, Gift of Danielle Allen.

In retirement, Anderson wrote this memoir of his time as pastor of Second Baptist in St. Louis during the Civil War. He had worked aggressively to keep Missouri in the Union and devoted considerable energy to the establishment of “negro schools” throughout the city.

4.
General Collections.

The Old University of Chicago was struggling to find its feet in the same years that the country was struggling with the consequences of the Civil War.

5.
Photograph of the Old University of Chicago, [n.d.].
Archival Photographic Files.
The Old University of Chicago located on the west side of Cottage Grove Avenue north of 35th Street.

6. Photograph of the razing of the Old University of Chicago, 1890. Archival Photographic Files.

The buildings of the Old University of Chicago were demolished in 1890 after the school had closed. A stone from Douglas Hall can be found today in the wall of the archway between Wieboldt and Classics on the new campus.

Case 2: The Truth of the Difficult Course toward Integration


Senator Douglas, who served as a Trustee of the Old University of Chicago, had no interest in racial integration, and his Baptist collaborators had conflicting opinions on the question.


These two articles give some sense of the controversy surrounding Senator Stephen A. Douglas and, by association, the University of Chicago.

4. Addresses and Appeals in Behalf of the University of Chicago Library and the Baptist Theological Seminary, during the Anniversaries at Chicago, in May, 1867. Chicago: Church and Goodman, 1867. General Collections.

In 1867 the University of Chicago celebrated its tenth anniversary in conjunction with the annual Baptist convention held that year in Chicago. The speakers at the Baptist convention included an African American, but this inspired at least one speaker at the University celebrations to argue for supporting educational institutions lest “this long down-trodden race . . . pass us by in the race.”

5.
Rare Book Collection, Gift of Danielle Allen.

6. Reproduction of
   “Chicago University and Dr. Howard.” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, July 15, 1857.
   ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

7. Photograph of Baptist Convention at the old University of Chicago, 1867.
   Archival Photographic Files.

**Case 3: Introductory Essay**

**Case 4: The Old University of Chicago: Toward Integration**

1. Reproduction of
   ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

   This *Chicago Tribune* article reports on a speech given by General Hurlbut in the chapel at the Old University of Chicago; he addressed the topic of the education of former slaves.

2. Major-General Stephen Augustus Hurlbut, Treasury Department, to the General, June 2, 1864.
   Lincoln Collection. Lincoln Miscellaneous Manuscripts.

   This letter, held in the Library’s Lincoln collection, indicates the level of Hurlbut’s political involvement.

   General Collections.

   An example of the public conversation surrounding issues of race and education during the period of Reconstruction.

4. Excerpt from
   “Ethical culture active 50 years.” *New York Times*, May 9, 1926.
5. Typewritten account of sermon given by Horace J. Bridges for Chicago Ethical Society with program, January 7, 1940.
Ernest Watson Burgess Papers.


   This song was written by Felix Adler (1851-1933), the founder of ethical humanism. Named by him the “Ethical Culture Hymn,” it can also be found in the Unitarian Universalist Association hymnal.

7. Lecture to the St. Louis Ethical Society by University of Chicago Professor Frederick Starr, scrapbook clippings [ca. 1901].
Frederick Starr Papers.

   Starr’s lecture on the culture of Native Americans caught his audience’s attention particularly for its description of women in the role of household head.


**Case 5: The Old University of Chicago: Idiosyncratic Advocacy and Matters of Policy**

1. Reproduction of
   ProQuest Historical Newspapers.
   The dean of the Chicago law school advertises places for the fall’s class.

2. Excerpt from
   “Law Graduates a Woman and a Negro.” *Chicago Tribune*, July 9, 1870.
   ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

   The University had, according to the report of the *Chicago Tribune*, debated whether Mrs. Kepley could properly be awarded a “Bachelor’s of Law” degree but decided that, since she was married, it made no sense to award her a degree of “Maid of Law.” She received the Bachelor’s degree.
At the bottom of the left hand page, we find the minutes recording the faculty’s decision to recommend the admission of women “to take either the regular classical or the regular scientific course in the university in the university.” Two of the three young women whose cases prompted this important policy decision were daughters of faculty members.


General Collections.


Rare Book Collection, Gift of Danielle Allen.

In her memoir Mrs. Kepley reflects on her law school experience. Eventually she became a Unitarian minister, a religion with close ties to ethical humanism.

6. Old University of Chicago, group photograph of students.
Archival Photographic Files.

7. Old University of Chicago, group photograph of faculty.
Archival Photographic Files.

**Case 6: Founding a new University and affirming prior commitments**

1. Photo of John D. Rockefeller, founding donor to the University of Chicago, [n.d.].
Archival Photographic Files.

2. Photo of William Rainey Harper, [ca. 1900].
Archival Photographic Files.

3. Excerpt from
“New role of wealth, Rockefeller’s part in making Chicago a Mecca of culture.” *Chicago Daily*, July 30, 1894.
ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

This alumni directory, including alumni from both old and new Universities of Chicago, is the best remaining indication of the continuity between old and new as experienced by contemporaries. We are left to speculate that the association of the Old University of Chicago with Stephen Douglas may explain the later suppression of the connection between the two Universities of Chicago.

5. Excerpt from “In Caps and Gowns University Professors Hold their First Convocation.” *Chicago Daily,* January 3, 1893. ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

This article, reporting on first convocation of the new University of Chicago, makes note of a student Cora B. Jackson, “a negro girl,” who has won a scholarship for excellence in the December examination. This is the first record of an African American student at the new University of Chicago. She graduated in 1896.


Cora B. Jackson is shown here as a faculty member in English at the “Colored High and Training School”.


After her graduation from the University of Chicago, Cora B. Jackson taught at this Baltimore “Colored High and Training School.”

8. Photograph of University of Chicago, Convocation, July 2, 1894. Archival Photographic Files.

**Case 7: Who were the first African Americans at the University of Chicago? An Old Question**

1.
A researcher at Oberlin seeks information about African Americans at the University of Chicago and is told “One of the fundamental principles of the University of Chicago is democracy and therefore our courses have been open to negroes on the same terms as members of the white race from the beginning.”

2. 

This program comes from the church of alumnus Richard Wright Jr. (1901) and the related newspaper clipping indicates his public prominence in Chicago.

3. 
“See negro's boon in his education,” n.d.

4/5.
F. Foster Hardy to William Rainey Harper, regarding alleged religious persecution of Jewish students at the University, and Harper distinguishing “social” from “religious” matters in response, November 28, 1902 and November 29, 1902.

6.

7.
Robert Lee Vann to Secretary to the President David A. Robertson with reply, August 4, 1907 and August 7, 1907.

Mr. Vann ultimately chose to go to the University of Pittsburgh where he earned a law degree. He founded the Pittsburgh Courier and was Republican Party publicity director for the campaigns of Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, and Herbert Hoover.

The earliest yearbook record of an African American presence at the University of Chicago.


The first dissertation by an African American awarded a PhD degree at the University of Chicago.

**Case 8: The Social Question- Round 1**


Dean Small’s letter, with the accompanying “Exhibit A” containing the relevant newspaper clipping, explains the harm done by newspaper articles about African American graduate student Cecelia Johnson, who was accused of having tried to pass as white to enter a sorority


3. Photograph of the Women’s Quad, 1901. Archival Photographic Files.


Miss Breckrenridge would become an outspoken advocate for racial integration; her views would eventually, in the 1920s, prompt the formation of a University committee to give direct consideration to the topic of “housing Negroes.”

6.
Albion Small to Cecilia Johnson, July 24, 1907.

President Judson was not generally sympathetic to the cause of racial integration; however, he took lengthy vacations in Canada each summer, appointing an acting president for the interim. An active Progressive, Dean Small took advantage of his interim presidency to offer from the president’s office the strongest condemnation of racial intolerance that can be found in these early years.

7.
Cap and Gown. Chicago: University of Chicago, 1907.
General Collections

The women in this sorority had been members of a club that included Miss Cecilia Johnson. The controversy around Johnson’s racial status appears to have emerged when these women converted their club into a chapter of a national sorority.

Case 9: Future Intellectuals: Monroe Nathan Work

1.
General Collections.

Booker T. Washington acknowledges the importance of Work’s research in the preface to his own book, The Story of the Negro. Interestingly, we can see that Chicago’s present 4th Ward Alderman, Toni Preckwinkle, herself read this book when she was an undergraduate at the University of Chicago in the 1970s.

2.
General Collections.

3.
General Collections.
Work’s major publication, the annual *Negro Year Book*, cataloged a remarkable array of demographic details about early 20th century African American life. Importantly, these texts also catalogued lynching statistics and, in so doing, finally helped focus the attention of American citizens on this problem.

   General Collections.

   General Collections.

Work’s *Year Book* was translated into a wide range of languages including, Esperanto, the universal language that embodied the progressive goal of unifying humanity.

**Case 10: Future Intellectuals: Carter Woodson**

1. Carter G. Woodson to Julius Rosenwald, regarding the quarterly statement of the *Journal of Negro History* and the financial aid necessary to maintain the publication, January 17, 1918.
   Julius Rosenwald Papers.

2. Secretary of Julius Rosenwald to Carter G. Woodson, regarding a donation toward the publishing of *The Journal of Negro History*, January 22, 1918.
   Julius Rosenwald Papers.

   Julius Rosenwald Papers.

This set of letters between Carter G. Woodson and William Graves, secretary to the philanthropist Julius Rosenwald, provide a good window into Woodson’s role as an institution builder. He was constantly fundraising and seeking support for his fledgling institutions. Rosenwald was an important backer of the University of Chicago, of Tuskegee Institute, and of African American causes generally.

   General Collections.

Along with journals like *Opportunity*, founded by University of Chicago alumnus Charles Johnson, and *Crises*, founded by W.E.B. DuBois, this journal helped establish the scholarly basis of African American studies.


Woodson was interested not only in scholarly pursuit of research into African American history and literature but also in popularizing the fruits of that research. He founded this journal to educate a general public about African American history.


**Case 11: Future Intellectuals: Ernest Everett Just**


These pictures appear to have been taken at the Wood’s Hole Marine Biological Laboratory.


3. E.E. Just to Julius Rosenwald explaining the trials faced in realizing his goal of doing scientific work, August 27, 1920. Julius Rosenwald Papers.


**Case 12: Future Intellectuals: Georgiana Simpson**


Her dissertation supervisor Martin Schütze cited Simpson in his own 1921 article on Herder, writing that the question of the role in Herder’s aesthetics of ideas about “essential collective personality” and the “function of collective personality” had already been “fully discussed by Dr. Georgiana Simpson, one of my students.”


Case 13: The Social Question- Round 2


This article provides an overview of the events at Harvard in 1923 that occasioned national discussion of social integration.


President Burton had sought advice from his friend, Mr. Hurlbut, a faculty member at Harvard, about policy developments there.


In this interesting letter Wallace Heckman, the University Counsel, reports on efforts to understand the legal basis for supporting or resisting social integration. He describes a survey of Lincoln’s writings as leading to cautiousness about social integration.


Here President Burton acknowledges Miss Breckenridge’s leading role in forcing the question of social integration, a role she had adopted first in 1907 when the question of Miss Georgiana Simpson’s residence in Green Hall had arisen (see Case 8).

6. Typewritten document proposing members for a committee charged with making recommendations on “the problem of housing negro students,” May 10, 1924.
This yearbook photo of Samuella G. Caver should be contrasted with that of Monroe Nathan Work in Case 9. Miss Carver participated in many extra-curricular activities, which earlier African Americans studying at the University of Chicago did not do.

**Case 14: Future Intellectuals: Albert and Katherine Dunham**

1. Photograph of Katherine Dunham with child, 1936.
   Archival Photographic Files


   Dunham submitted this paper for an advanced anthropology course with Prof. Redfield.

   Regenstein Library, Microforms Collection.

   During her time as a student in Chicago, Dunham explored her interests by writing pseudonymously for publications like *Esquire*.

   Robert Redfield Papers.

   Dunham and Pratt would break social taboos and laws in several states to marry across race lines in 1939. They were married until Pratt’s death in 1986. An artist, Pratt also became Dunham’s set designer.

   General Collections.

This book contains the fruits of Dunham’s research trip to Haiti in the mid 1930s as a Julius Rosenwald Fellow.

**Case 15: Future Intellectuals: Benjamin Mays**

1. Photograph of Benjamin Elijah Mays, [n.d.].
   Johnson Publishing Co.


   This autobiography is a signed copy and was given by the author to the University of Chicago Library.


   In this interview with journalist John Gunther, Mays presciently and grimly expresses concern that social conditions in American cities may eventually result in riots.


6. Excerpt from
   Benjamin Elijah Mays, Eulogy written for Dr. Martin Luther King’s funeral, 1968.

7. Selection from “Julius Rosenwald and the Negro” from *The Crisis* with photographs of YMCA buildings, 1922.
Mays was a political activist even during his student days. While this photograph of African American YMCA buildings dates to 1922, it provides some sense of the importance of the context for Mays’ engagement with that institution.

Case 16: Future Intellectuals: Lorenzo Dow Turner

1. Photograph of Lorenzo Dow Turner.
   Roosevelt University Library Archives, Portrait Collection.

   General Collections, Gift of the Author.

Items 2-4 allow us to see the range of Turner’s interests, from historical to literary questions.

3/4.
   *Poetry*

The publication of Melvin Tolson’s poem, “Libretto for the Republic of Liberia,” was an important literary event, and Turner responded with a review in a major literary organ of the period.

5. Mitford M. Matthews, memo to University of Chicago Press staff, about the manuscript of Lorenzo Dow Turner’s *Africanisms in the Gullah Dialect*, October 31, 1946.
   University of Chicago Press Records.

   University of Chicago Press Records.

7. Rollin D. Hemens, memo to University of Chicago Press staff member William Terry Couch about the manuscript of Lorenzo Dow Turner’s *Africanisms in the Gullah Dialect*, August 19, 1946.
   University of Chicago Press Records.
This set of three memos shows an interesting progression in how the press editors describe Turner. In the first memo he is “a Negro Ph.D. from Chicago.” In the second memo he is described in the first paragraph as having taken “his degree here in English many years ago” and only in the second paragraph as “being himself colored.” Finally, in the third memo he is simply “a Ph.D. in English from the U. of C.” and there is no mention of Turner’s own race. In other words, over the course of the Press’s consideration of Turner’s scholarly work, Turner evolves from being a “Negro Ph.D.” to being instead, a Ph.D. who has produced “a scholarly and prolonged investigation” into the Gullah dialect.

8.
General Collections, Gift of the Press.

**Case 17: Mentors & Models**

1. R. Johnson, Irving Miller, F.D. Hooker, W. R. Bedford to President W.R. Harper, requesting the University flag be lowered to half-mast upon the death of Frederick Douglass, February 26, 1895.

2. Photograph of Frederick Douglas.
memory.loc.gov/master/pnp/cwpbh/05000/05089u.tif


Archival Serials Collection.


Julius Rosenwald Papers

Case 18: Patrons
1. Photograph of Warden Clyde Allee with his Ecology class, 1923.
Archival Photographic Files.

2. Photo of Frank Lillie, 1925.
Archival Photographic Files.

3. Frank Lillie to C. E. McClurg, a letter to Julius Rosenwald requesting aid to support the career of E.E. Just, December 8, 1919.
Frank R. Lillie Papers.

4. Photograph of Robert E. Park, [ca. 1944].
Archival Photographic Files.

5. Willam C. Graves to Julius Rosenwald, requesting financial aid on behalf of The Journal of Negro History, January 26, 1918.
Julius Rosenwald Papers.

6. Photograph of Julius Rosenwald, December 2, 1924.
Archival Photographic Files.

7. E. E. Just to Julius Rosenwald, expressing gratitude and eagerness to research in Italy, December 12, 1928.
Julius Rosenwald Papers.
Archival Photographic Files.

9. Lorenzo D. Turner to John Matthews Manly, regarding Turner’s research projects, November 14, 1930.
University of Chicago Department of English Language and Literature Records.

**Case 19: Strategies for Coping with the Social Issue**
University of Chicago, Office of the Registrar, Examiners' and Instructors' Reports.

The earliest African American students to attend the University of Chicago typically found enrollment at the U. of C. financially and socially challenging. One common strategy for meeting these challenges was to work during the academic year and to pursue studies primarily in the summer with perhaps one or two final years in full residence. These three transcripts indicate patterns of absence that reflect choices both to work and, in Woodson’s case, to experiment with other cultural and social contexts, for instance, through work in the Philippines.

2. Ernest Everett Just, transcripts, 1911-1916.
University of Chicago, Office of the Registrar, Examiners' and Instructors' Reports.

University of Chicago, Office of the Registrar, Examiners' and Instructors' Reports.

4. 57th St. Art Colony, black and white contact sheet, ten pictures, [n.d.].
Hyde Park Historical Society Collection.

This art colony provided an environment for students at the University of Chicago, including African American students, to interact in a broader social milieu accepting of diversity.

5. Renaissance Society, announcement of Sebree and Pratt exhibition, May 18, 1936 through June 10, 1936.
Charles Sebree was an important African American painter who moved in the same artistic circles as Dunham, Pratt, Marian Minus and others. The Renaissance Society, founded in 1915 by Eva Schütze, wife of German professor Martin Schütze, to showcase contemporary art, is said to have purchased a Sebree drawing entitled “Seated Boy” in the 1920s.


The African American poet Margaret Walker studied at Northwestern University but participated in the artistic circles of Chicago’s Southside in which University students like the Dunhams, Pratt, and Marian Minus also participated.


African American undergraduate, Marian Minus, became a fiction writer and during her student days was close to novelist Richard Wright.


Librarian Vivian Harsh (MLS 1931) who oversaw the George Cleveland Hall Branch of the Chicago Public Library encouraged African American artists to gather and collaborate in this space. Similarly, Albert Dunham started a theater group that performed in the Harper Theater. And in 1940 Eleanor Roosevelt would cut the ribbon on the Southside Community Art Center, which soon became the center of African American artistic production in Chicago.

**Case 20: Networks**

Here Woodson reports on what an important organ the *Journal of Negro History* has become and describes the professional networks that have developed around the journal.

2. Roger Arliner Young to Frank R. Lillie, regarding her pursuit for a Ph.D. at the University, February 20, 1929. Frank R. Lillie Papers.

Roger Arliner Young was a student of Ernest Just’s at Howard and he encouraged her to attend the University of Chicago, making introductions for her to scholars like Frank Lillie. Psychological difficulties ultimately kept Miss Young from finishing her degree at the University of Chicago, but she finally earned a Ph.D. from Penn in 1940.

3. Photograph of Roger Arliner Young, 1927. Marine Biological Laboratory Archives


This letter describes a conference aimed specifically at bringing together African American doctorate holders in the social sciences. DuBois actively fostered networks among African American scholars.


Here we see alumni Charles Johnson (1917) and Monroe N. Work (1902, 1903) appearing in the same issue of Johnson’s journal, *Opportunity*.


Monroe N. Work (1902, 1903) and Dudley Woodward (1906) both taught at Tuskegee.

**Case 21: Courses of Study: a credit to the race or a race man? - Science**

1. Roger Arliner Young, Ph.D. exam questions and handwritten, January 10, 1930. Frank R. Lillie Papers.

Integrating the Life of the Mind- 21
In this letter, Just describes his efforts to determine whether to focus on teaching or research and how best “to use his energy for the greatest good.” As he begins to move away from teaching, he writes: “I do not want either you or Mr. Rosenwald to think that I am trying to run away from my duty and responsibilities in the uplift of my people.”

Case 22: Course of Study: a credit to the race or a race man? – Sociology

   Archival Monograph Collection.

   General Collections.

3. Horace Cayton, eulogy of Robert Park, July 30, 1944.
   Robert Ezra Park Collection.

Case 23: Course of Study: a credit to the race or a race man? – History


Woodson’s ambition was not merely to provide the infrastructure for the scholarly study of African American culture but also to popularize such knowledge. He founded the *Negro History Bulletin* to make study of such themes a part of the education of the general public.


Thanks to the leadership of pioneering intellectuals like Carter Woodson and Georgiana Simpson and institutions they built, like the ASNLH Press, later students were able to write dissertations on themes in African American culture. In 1935 Benjamin Mays wrote “The Idea of God in Contemporary Negro Literature,” and Lorenzo Dow Turner’s 1926 on anti-slavery sentiment in American language prior to 1865 was quickly published by the ASNLH Press.


**Case 24: Final Thoughts**

1. Photograph of Martin Schütze, [n.d.].
   Martin Schütze Papers.

2. Photograph of Spencer Cornelius Dickerson, [ca. 1901].
   Rush University Medical Center Archives.

3. Photograph of Harry Pace, [n.d.].
   Atlanta University Photographs.
   Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center.

4. Photograph of Geraldine Mardis Lane, [n.d.].

   In 1939 Miss Geraldine Lane was nominated for most beautiful co-ed. When she appeared to be running in the lead in the balloting, she was asked to withdraw from the competition on account of her race. She did so but the related controversy made national news.

5. Photograph of Charles S. Johnson, [n.d.].
   Fisk University Franklin Library’s Special Collections.

6. Photograph of E. Franklin Frazier, [n.d.].
   Fisk University Franklin Library’s Special Collections.

   The American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives.

8.
Photograph of Regina Anderson, [ca. 1940].

9.
Photograph of Albert Dunham, 1926.
Special Collections Research Center, Morris Library, Southern Illinois University Carbondale.