

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Donald Sevener

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Education is Key-Community College Oral History project

Interview # EC-A-1-2013-090

Don Sevener covers his involvement with community colleges as a journalist, adjunct teacher, in his communication/legislative work at the higher education board, and as an author on community college history. Mr. Sevener was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key-Community College* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: October 9, 2013 Location: Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: Pat Freeman, ALPL volunteer

Edited by: Richard Herndon & Janice Culp, ALPL volunteers

Total Pages: 16 Total Time: 1:07 / 1.12 hrs

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The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Donald Sevener, *Education is Key-Community College*, EC-A-L-2013-090

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Donald Sevener was born in Flint, Michigan in 1947. He graduated from Flint Central High School in 1965. He earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Michigan in 1969 and a master's degree in journalism from Michigan State University in 1973. His early work was as a journalist in Michigan and later in Illinois. This included state house reporting in Springfield, Illinois. During that time he also did adjunct teaching at both the community college level and in four-year institutions. In 1987 he joined the Illinois Board of Higher Education, working in the area of communications and in legislative matters. He retired in 2011 from the Board of Higher Education. At the time of the interview he was doing research on the community college system and is anticipating the release date of a book on the subject.

Sevener discusses his involvement with Illinois's many community colleges as a journalist, adjunct teacher, and member of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. He has studied the subject thoroughly in the process of writing a book on Illinois's community college history.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Higher Education Board and the role with the community college; legislation and the community; early history of the community college, 1901-1965; challenges facing community colleges; objectives of the community college; teaching at a community college.

Note to the Reader: Readers of this oral history memoir should bear in mind that it is a transcript of the spoken word and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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