

**Paul R. Jones Outstanding Paper Award
Dean F. Martin (1933 -)**



Vera V. Mainz, Gregory S. Girolami and Dean F. Martin are the recipients of the 2021 Paul R. Jones Outstanding Paper Award for “St. Elmo Brady (1884-1966). The First African American Chemistry Doctorate Recipient,” *Bull. Hist. Chem.*, **2021**, *46(1)*, 83-107.

Dean F. Martin, Distinguished University Professor of Chemistry Emeritus, at the University of South Florida received a B.A. with honors from Grinnell College in 1955, and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Penn State in 1958. He was an NSF Postdoctoral fellow at University College London (1958-59) before joining the faculty of the University of Illinois (1959-64) as a member of the inorganic chemistry area. He then joined the Chemistry Department at the University of South Florida (USF) (1964). A USF faculty member for 55 years, Martin taught in several modes including distance learning via broadcasting from a classroom studio to reach four campus locations. He benefited from the example of the breadth of his Ph.D. mentor (Dr. W. Conard Fernelius). His efforts became associated with the expansion of USF that led to changes to more traditional approaches in teaching chemistry and related subjects.

Commentary provided by David E. Lewis, winner of the 1997, 2010, and 2019 Outstanding Paper Awards:

It is only in the last few decades that the contributions of pioneering African American chemists to organic chemistry have been addressed seriously by the chemistry community at large. The honored paper is an important contribution to this area of scholarship. It provides a comprehensive account—as its 169 references attest—of the life and career of St. Elmo Brady, the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in chemistry. The subject of the paper details the career of Dr. Brady, who was instrumental in building the chemistry programs at the graduate and undergraduate levels at four Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Tuskegee University, Howard University, Fisk University and Tougaloo College. The paper gives a very

useful summary of the development of higher education for African American students before World War II, and it does an excellent job of highlighting the difficulties faced and overcome by Brady and his colleagues in the Jim Crow era. The context for this commentary is provided by quotations from a variety of sources from the era. This paper is a standout contribution that I enthusiastically recommend to all members of the chemistry community.

BULLETIN FOR THE HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY

Division of the History of Chemistry of the American Chemical Society



VOLUME 46 Number 1

2021



St. Elmo Brady, Ph.D.