

## ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

MAIN ENTRY: Vines, Darrell Lee

DATE OF INTERVIEW: December 11, 2009

LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Lubbock, Texas

INTERVIEWER: Andy Wilkinson

FORMAT: Digital Recording

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1:16 hours

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: Dr. Darrell Vines talks about his career and involvement with the Texas Tech Electrical Engineering Department. Much of the interview discusses the early set up of the department under chairman Russell Seacat and how the department evolved over time. He also discusses the aftermath of the fallout over the Crosbyton Solar Power Project.

Darrell Lee Vines was born in Crane, Texas, on March 7, 1936. He attended McMurry College from 1954-1957 and received a BS in Science in 1959. He attended Texas Technological College from 1957-1960 to receive a BS in Electrical Engineering (1959) and a MS in Electrical Engineering (1960). From 1963-1966, Vines attended Texas A&M University. He received his Ph.D. in 1967 in Electrical Engineering. In 1957, Vines married Mary Marcom Vines and together they had three children. Dr. Vines was employed as a researcher at Texas Tech in 1960, became an instructor in 1962 and promoted to rank of assistant professor in 1966.

ABSTRACT:

DVD

TIME STAMP

Biographical Information and Early Electrical Engineering Department	00:01
Reasons for pursuing electrical engineering career	
John Bradford establishes program between Texas Tech and McMurray	
Attends Texas Tech in fall, 1957	
Describes John Bradford and where his office was located	
About half of EE faculty were also grad students	
Paul Griffith, Monte Davenport and Dwayne Jordan	
Graduates in fall of 1959	
Gets master's degree under Griffith in 1960	
Goes to work for TI in Dallas in 1960	08:00
Bradford announces upcoming shift to replace non-Ph.D. faculty to establish	

graduate program in EE	
Working at IT, decides he wants to teach and asks Bradford for a job	12:45
Went to A&M to do doctoral work	
Jack Kilby and TI	
Graduate research at A&M	
Early Electrical Engineering Department continued	
Russell Seacat	
arrives at Tech	
gets Ph.D.	
encourages students such as Tom Burks, Bob Meeks, Wayne Wilkins to get higher degrees	
Convinces Bradford to give him chairman position	
Recruits Vines, David Ferry, Magne Kristiansen, Marion Hagler	
Vines is first person Seacat hired in his role as depart. chairman	22:45
Clive Langford	
Seacat and Langford establish concept of the “project labs”	
EE department in transitional stage	
First grant to department was to Griffith and/or Bradford, not Seacat	
Faculty writing grants	
Kristiansen, Hagler and Ferry’s large impact on department	30:00
Their proposal to NSF for department grant helped hire Tom Trost, Kwong Shu Chao, Don Gustafson, and perhaps John Walkup	
Recruiting and jealousy between departments	
Reputation of EE department	
Seacat’s promotion of department	
Tech EE students highly recruited by others	
Crosbyton Solar Power Project	
Cooperative spirit between EE faculty	42:42
Praises John Reichert as good to work with	
Shock over removal of Reichert and Seacat’s resignation	
Hostility toward Jimmy Smith by faculty	
Took issue with Hagler’s comment to students about the future of the dept. and praises Hagler’s work as chair	52:45
Faculty departures	
Describes Reichert and his ability to lead others to think creatively	58:45
Reflections on Texas Tech Environment	
Working relationship between Electrical, Mechanical, Civil and Chemical Engineering departments	
Culture clash between administration and academic department	1:05:25
John Bradford’s role unclear	
President Lauro Cavazos	
EE department’s ability to attract many internationally recognized faculty to Tech	
EE alumni doing well	

DATE OF BIRTH OF INFORMANT: 1936

GENDER OF INFORMANT: Male

ETHNICITY OF INFORMANT: