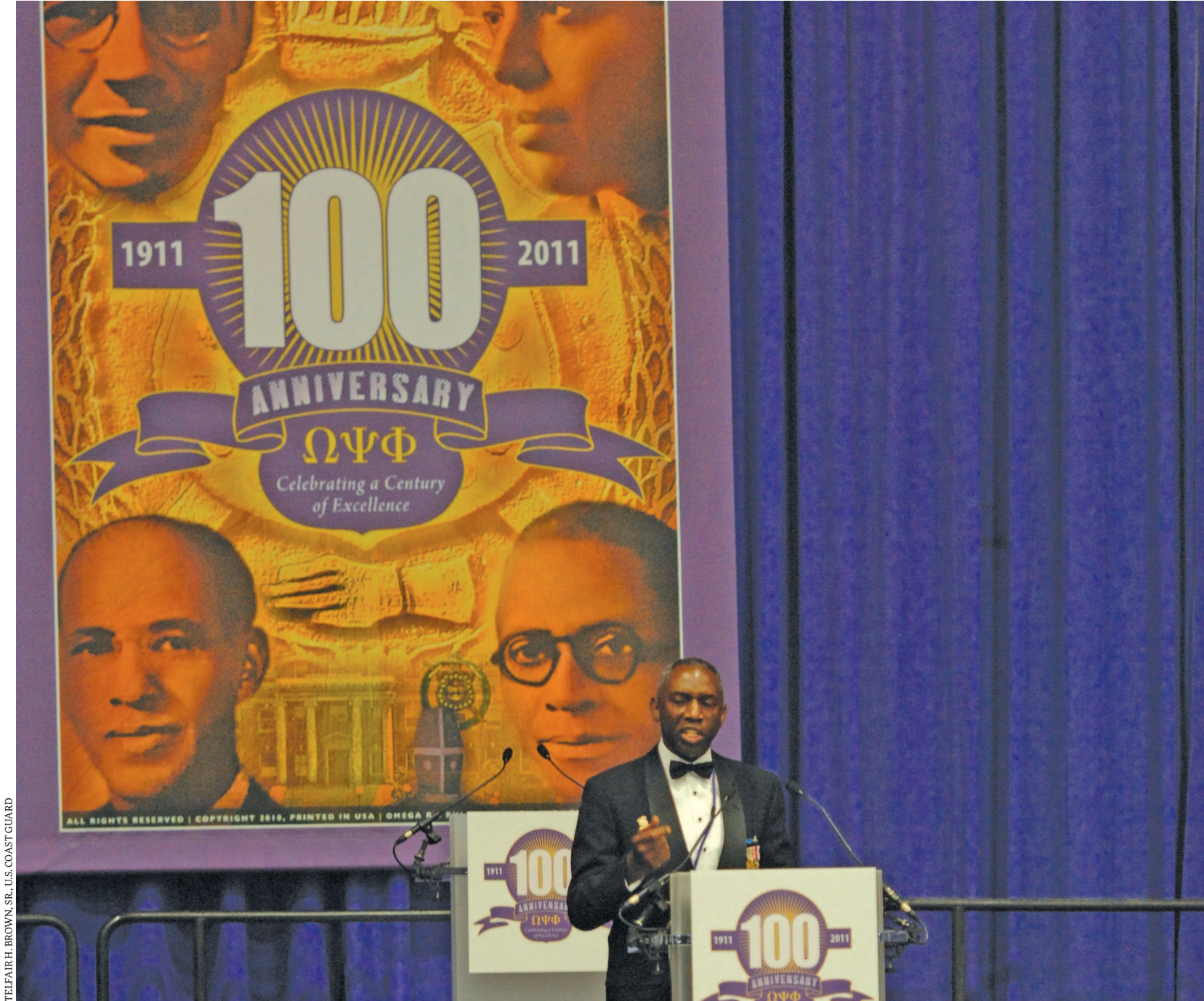


Black History

Ernest E. Just

Another South Carolina native, Ernest Everett Just was a biologist and science writer who advocated the study of whole cells under normal conditions, recognizing the role of the cell surface in the development of organisms.

Just was born in 1883 and survived a bout with typhoid while still young. He went on to graduate from Dartmouth, where he distinguished himself as



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The 100 year celebration of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, honoring the military members of the fraternity.



a Rufus Choate scholar and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He went on to teach at Howard University, where he and three students founded the Omega Psi Phi fraternity. In 1909, Just was invited to the Marine Biology Laboratory at Woods



“ In 1940, Just was working in France when Germany invaded. He was imprisoned but later that year was rescued by the U.S. State Department

U.S. State Department. In 1941, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died that year.

ogy Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass., by University of Chicago head of zoology Frank R. Lillie. He spent just about every one of the next 20 summers in the lab, investigating the eggs of marine invertebrates.

Department of Zoology at Howard. He traveled to Europe, conducting research at prestigious institutions in Italy, Germany and France. Just authored two books, “Basic Methods for Experiments on the Eggs of Ma-

Just was the subject of a book that was a finalist for the 1984 Pulitzer Prize, “Black Apollo of Science: The Life of Ernest Everett Just” by Kenneth R. Manning. A number of symposia and awards also bear his name, and a special issue of the journal Molecular Reproduction and Development is dedicated to him.

In 1916, Just graduated with a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, and continued his duties as the head of the

rine Animals” and “The Biology of the Cell Surface,” both in 1939. But he continued to be frustrated by racism in America and his difficulty finding a more prestigious appointment at a research university.

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