A Fair Chance in the Race of Life
The Role of Gallaudet University in Deaf History
Brian H. Greenwald and John Vickrey Van Cleve, Editors

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In February 1857, President Franklin Pierce signed the authorizing legislation that created the Columbia Institution, the school that became the first college for the deaf when Abraham Lincoln signed the collegiate charter in 1864. Since its beginning, the institution has been affected by all of the significant movements of the past century and a half. Learn how it coped during times of segregation, oralism, and paternalism in the first comprehensive, critical history of Gallaudet University.

A Fair Chance in the Race of Life presents studies from the 2007 conference marking the 150th anniversary of the Columbia Institution and the Kendall School. The lead essay by James M. McPherson, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the Lincoln Prize, sets the stage for the fascinating accounts that follow. An impressive array of Gallaudet alumni, faculty, staff, and former employees contributed to this outstanding collection, including:

Ben Bahan, '78, Professor, Deaf Studies
Brian Greenwald, '96, Associate Professor, History
I. King Jordan, '70, former Professor, Psychology, former GU President
Michael Olson, '79
Lindsey Parker, G-'07
Ronald Sutcliffe, '59
Hansel Bauman, Director of Campus Design and Planning
David De Lorenzo, Librarian, University of California, former Gallaudet archivist
Christopher Krentz, Associate Professor of English, University of Virginia, former Gallaudet development officer
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