

June 27, 1983

Mrs. Maria Antoinetta Marcillo
Resident Manager
Ronald McDonald House
1145 N.W. 11th Terrace
Miami, Florida 19136

Dear Mrs. Marcillo,

This letter will attempt to answer the telephone call placed in your name to this office this morning by one of your friends.

Francisco Javier Martinez (called in Ecuador Martinez Aguirre), graduated from the Medical Department of this University with the degree of M.D. in 1871. Two sons of Dr. Martinez also attended the University: Francisco [Javier?] Martinez, M.D. 1904 and Julio Rafael Martinez, D.D.S. 1899. [Javier?] Martinez, M.D. 1904 and Julio Rafael Martinez, D.D.S. 1899.

We have in this department biographical folders on our alumni. Consulting the folders of the two physicians Martinez I find that the father held two faculty appointments in the two years following his graduation and that he later became a distinguished public figure in his own country. (Mr. Charles Lyon Chandler who visited him in 1916 and mentioned him in a Philadelphia newspaper story in 1934 was an old friend of mine.)

Of the two sons, the dental graduate died soon after leaving the University and the physician, who was active in student life while here, was evidently alive in 1929 and living then in Puerto Rico - but he seems to have had little contact then with the University and we do not even have his date and place of death.

I am sending you xerox copies of everything we have on these three men. There are two newspaper stories of 1903 or thereabouts which mention a "fund" established by an earlier Francisco J. Martinez who is stated to have graduated from the Medical School in 1832. I am able to tell you that our matriculation records are complete from the beginning of the 19th century and not only was this earlier Martinez not a degree recipient, he never matriculated in the Medical course at the University. I cannot explain why such a statement appeared in print.

Further, it may be that this earlier Martinez was a physician in Guayaquil and it may also be a fact that he established a fund to enable his descendants to study in Philadelphia but if such a fund ever existed --and it seems from the clippings that it did-- it was set up in, and administered by, trustees in Guayaquil. No such fund was ever bequeathed to this University to establish

*HJee;
see P.S.

a fund of any kind by or in the name of the Martinez family.

We have checked our file of defunct trust funds, checked with the Office of the Treasurer, the Financial Aid Office and the administration of the Medical School - and nowhere is there any record of such a bequest. Mr. Edwin Carré, Assistant to the Treasurer, tells me he believes a query from you came to him several years ago and he also answered it, telling you essentially what I now do.

It would be a very interesting, indeed thrilling, piece of our history if, indeed, the University had been involved in the last century in any such permanent relationship with a Latin American alumni family but, unfortunately, the records indicate otherwise.

If you have the date of death of the earlier Francisco J. Martinez, the man who is incorrectly stated to have studied here in the 1830's, could you not write to the Probate Office in Guayaquil for the name of the notary who made this man's will, obtain the name of the notary's successor and secure a copy of the will to see to what local organization (a bank?) or to which individual trustees such a fund may have been placed?

In any event, this letter gives you every scrap of information on the subject which we can find.

With kindest regards,

Yours truly,

F. J. Daltell

P.S. The 1909 clipping mentions a third Martinez brother, "Serrano I. A. Martinez." This is an error for Ignacio Alberto Martinez Serrano who entered the Dental School in 1909, repeated his first year in 1910-11, took his second year in 1911-12 and his final year in 1912-13 but who did not successfully complete his course and did not receive a degree. We have no further biographical information on Ignacio except that he entered with a Bachelor of Philosophy degree from the University of Ecuador. Perhaps this man is still living; we do not know.