

CONTENTS

Preface: Changing the World from a Very Small Place ix

Introduction: A University for Learning and Labor 1

PART ONE. SINGULAR PEOPLE

Remarkable Individuals Who Triggered
Innovation at the University of Illinois and Beyond

Isabel Bevier: Bringing Science into the Home ▪ Elisa Miller 11

Arthur Palmer: The Chemistry of Safe Water ▪ Kelsey Reinker 19

Austin Harding: Inventor of the School Band ▪ Tim Brown 20

Victor E. Shelford: Environmental Pioneer ▪ George O. Batzli and
Jeffrey D. Brawn 21

Katharine Sharp: Shattering the Glass Ceiling of Library Leadership ▪

Nicholas Hopkins 29

Ven Te Chow: Hydrologist, Educator, and Rainmaker ▪ Marcelo H. Garcia 31

Stuart Pratt Sherman: Literary Criticism Comes to the University ▪

Kelsey Reinker 40

Ruth Maslow Lewis and Oscar Lewis: Giving Voice to the Voiceless ▪
Susan M. Rigdon 41

Thomas K. Cureton: The Father of Physical Fitness ▪ *Rafal Ciolcosz* 49

Timothy Nugent: “Wheelchair Students” and the Creation of the Most
Accessible Campus in the World ▪ Leslie J. Reagan 50

- Renée and Henry Kahane: Exploring Language's History and Structure* ▪
Kelsey Reinker 60
- Alta Gwinn Saunders: The Invention of Business English ▪ Carol Spindel 62
Shozo Sato: Reinventing Kabuki Theater ▪ Nicholas Hopkins 68
- John Bardeen: Citizen of Science ▪ Vicki McKinney and Lillian Hoddeson 69
Carl Woese: The Discovery of a Third Domain of Life ▪ Steven Lenz and
Nicholas Hopkins 75
- Clarence Shelley: The Campaign to Diversify the University ▪
Joy Ann Williamson-Lott 77
-

PART TWO. WORLD-CHANGING INVENTIONS

Created and Nurtured on the University of Illinois Campus,
Then Spread to the World

- Affordable Higher Education ▪ James R. Barrett 87
Sound on Film ▪ Alexis Clinebell 92
- Inventing Professional Architecture ▪ Bryan E. Norwood 93
The Hillel Foundation: The Invention of University Diversity ▪
Nicholas Hopkins 101
- Clarence W. Alvord: The Illinois Historical Survey and the Invention of
Local History ▪ Robert Michael Morrissey 103
Beyond Women's Studies ▪ Kristen Allen 110
- John Laughnan: Sweet Corn Revolution ▪ William F. Tracy 114
Remarkable Animals: Illini Nellie and Big Al ▪ Nicholas Hopkins 119
- "2 + 2 = green": Innovation in Experimental Music at the University of Illinois ▪
David Rosenboom 121
The Beginning of Public Broadcasting ▪ Kristen Allen 135
- Joseph McVicker Hunt: The Invention of Early Childhood Education ▪
Elizabeth H. Pleck 136
Samuel Kirk: The Birth of Special Education ▪ Nicholas Hopkins 142
- The Invention of MRI ▪ Katherine Skwarczek 144
Nick Holonyak Jr.: The Development of LED Lights ▪ Steven Lenz 151

Mosaic: The First Point-and-Click Internet Browser ▪ Jimena Canales 152
Superfluidity ▪ Tim Brown 159
Bottled Sunshine: Discovering and Harnessing the Power of Photosynthesis ▪
Claire Benjamin and Claudia Lutz 160
Interdisciplinary Scholarship at the College of Law ▪ Michael Hughes 168

PART THREE. PLACES OF INNOVATION

Where Ideas and People Meet to
Produce Innovation

The Morrow Plots ▪ Kathleen Mapes 173
Bringing Innovation to the Farm through the Farmers' Institutes ▪
Kristen Allen 179
The Story of the University of Illinois Library ▪ Winton U. Solberg 180
*Improvising an Innovation: Stadium Terrace Housing and the Arrival of
“Nontraditional Students”* ▪ Lauren Tokarewich 186
Across the Pacific: The University of Illinois and China ▪ Poshek Fu 187
The ILLIAC Computers: Product and Source of Innovation (and Controversy) ▪
Rafal Ciolcosz 197
The Krannert Center for the Performing Arts ▪ Harry Liebersohn 199
Ebertfest: Where Hollywood Comes to the Prairie ▪ Tim Brown 207
Innovation across Disciplines: The Institute for Genomic Biology ▪
Nicholas Hopkins 208
The Business Instructional Facility: Designed for Innovation ▪ Jonathan Binkley
and Kelsey Reinker 210
The Beckman Institute: Imagining Interdisciplinarity ▪ Stephanie A. Dick 212
Nevada Street: A Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity ▪ Frederick E. Hoxie
and Michael Hughes 219

Snapshots of University History 225
Acknowledgments 243
Bibliography 245
About the Authors 247
Index 253