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By Prof. David Burgess

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summers as they were not allowed to join the MBL club where all summer social activities were held.

In spite of his publication record and impact on the field and ability to garner foundation grants, Just was not able to obtain a position at an American research university. Just began his period of research in Europe in 1928, where he was widely accepted. His research continued to be focused on early embryos, the cell surface, changes of cell adhesiveness during cleavage divisions, and cellular aspects of development. He traveled to Europe nine different times while still working at Howard. He worked at numerous European institutes, including in Paris, at the Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn in Naples, Italy, the Station Biologique in Roscoff, France and at the Kaiser-Wilhelm Institut für Biologie in Berlin, Germany. He spoke at conferences throughout Europe, garnering accolades not afforded to him by scientists in America at the time. He had a series of affairs, including one with the daughter of the famous biologist Theodore Boveri, and with his future second wife, Dr. Hedwig Schnetzler, a white German biologist. Because of the interracial nature of their relationship he was forced to move to France from Germany. In 1940 he fled Paris due to the outbreak of World War II. After being briefly detained by the Nazis he had a harrowing escape from Europe through Portugal. He returned to Washington, DC to teach at Howard for half of the salary he made in Europe. He died in October, 1941 of pancreatic cancer.

Just's research legacy, summarized in his 1939 book *The Biology of the Cell Surface*, left an impact on the field of cell biology with its focus on the cell cortex and cell surface and its arguments for the role of the cytoplasm.

His legacy carries on today in several ways. The MBL has established the EE Just Fellowship program for visiting scientists. The American Society for Cell Biology established the annual EE Just Lectureship and Award in 1994. Dartmouth College funded the EE Just Professorship in a position at an American university. 0 0 1 246 450 c 10 10BL