

UBC Professors Emeriti Oral History Project fonds

Compiled by Christopher Hives (2004)

University of British Columbia Archives



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Fonds Description

UBC Professors Emeriti Oral History fonds. – 1990.

16 audio tapes.

0.5 cm. of textual records.

Administrative History

In 1990, Ann Carroll conducted interviews with nine members of the Alumni Associations Professor Emeriti Division. Those interviewed included: J. Lewis Robinson, Benjamin Nelson Moyls, Joseph A. Gardner, Beryl Elizabeth March, George Michael Volkoff, Sadie Boyles, Robert M. Clark, M.W. Steinberg, and Margaret Street. Many of the interviewees talked about student days at UBC as well as their professional activities and changes they witnessed in their departments during their careers at the University.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of 16 audio recordings. There is a transcript for only one interview, that with Margaret Street. The following list is arranged by tape number with a short summary of the tape contents provided by Ann Carroll. There is also a link to a digitized copy of each interview.

Note

Item list available.

File List

- UBC AT 1753 J. Lewis (Lou) Robinson (January 23, 1990)
1. As a student for one year at UBC : meeting with President Norman MacKenzie in Ottawa : joint department with Geology in old Applied Science building : formation of two divisions - Geology and Geography in 1953 : separate departments in 1958 : first head of Geography : retirement as head in 1968 and heart attack : life as a professor of geography and undergraduate advisor.
2. Author of books and articles on Canada : retirement in 1984 : formation of the Professors Emeriti Division of Alumni Association : "second" career as a hockey player.
[Listen to recording](#)
- UBC AT 1754-1 Benjamin Nelson Moyls (August 21, 1990)
Recalls life as a student at UBC, 1936-1941 : talks about faculty in the Mathematics Dept. - Dean Daniel Buchanan, Walter Gage, F.S. Nowlan and Ralph Hall : freshman week : as a professor in the Mathematics Dept., 1947 : Acadia Camp : evolution of the Mathematics Dept., 1948-1983 - thrust of the program - faculty participation in University governance - democratic administration of the department - evolution of the Dept. of Statistics : as assistant and acting Dean of Graduate Studies, 1967-1975 : as director of Ceremonies, 1977 : talks about duties and Malcolm McGregor.
[Listen to recording](#)
- UBC AT 1754-2 Benjamin Nelson Moyls (August 21, 1990)
Continues discussion of position as Director of Ceremonies ; as a member of Senate, 1969-1972, 1975-1978 : involvement and results of deliberations of committee on faculty participation in University government and the teaching evaluation committee : activities in retirement : revision of school mathematics curriculum : B.C. committee on undergraduate program in math : how he was fired from UBC : involvement in Professors Emeriti group.
[Listen to recording](#)
- UBC AT 1755-1 Joseph A. Gardner (February 28, 1990)
1. Life as a student at UBC in the 1940s - professors : as an officer in C.O.T.C. : working in the Federal Government's Forest Products Lab on campus, 1947.

2. Appointment as Dean of Forestry, 1965 : Forestry School program and philosophy : comments on President John MacDonald : as a member of the Committee of Deans : as member of Senior Appointments and Promotion Committee : as president of the Association of University Forestry Schools in Canada.

[Listen to recording](#)

UBC AT 1755-2 Joseph A. Gardner (February 28, 1990)

1. Acadia Camp

[Listen to recording](#)

UBC AT 1756-1 Beryl Elizabeth March (April 6, 1990)

1. Student days at UBC, 1938-1942 : work - industrial researcher Canadian Fishing Company - Dept. of Poultry Husbandry, 1947-1986 - as research assistant, instructor, professor.

2. Continues discussion of professor : role as acting Dean of Agricultural Sciences, 1984/85 : as a woman in the Faculty : role in the development of the Faculty's graduate program : membership in national and international associations and on committees : work - post-retirement.

[Listen to recording](#)

UBC AT 1756-2 Beryl Elizabeth March (April 6, 1990)

1. Brief discussion of Professors Emeriti group.

[Listen to recording](#)

UBC AT 1758-1 George Michael Volkoff (May 23, 1990)

1. Life in Russia during the Revolution : Canada and then Harbin, Manchuria : life as a student at UBC : meeting his future wife : Gordon Shrum and Gordon Hebb : applying to graduate school in the U.S. : work on his PhD under Oppenheimer and the theory of neutron stars.

2. Continuation of discussion of theory of neutron stars : about being a theoretical physicist : work on allied war effort at the Universite de Montreal to develop atomic bombs : work designing first reactor to be used at Chalk River : professor at UBC : developing graduate program at UBC : work as head of Dept. of Physics : Morris Price.

[Listen to recording](#)

- UBC AT 1758-2 George Michael Volkoff (May 23, 1990)
1. Erich Vogt : development of TRIUMF : work as Dean of Faculty of Science : member of Senate : jobs in retirement - Board of Trustees, V.G.H., Technical Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste Management, president of Local Rate Payers Association of the University Endowment Lands : Professors Emeriti group : role as Russian speaking physicist.
[Listen to recording](#)
- UBC AT 1759 Sadie Boyles (February 1, 1990)
1. UBC in the 1920s : The Pilgrimage [Great Trek] : Fairview campus : Professor G.G. Sedgewick : opening of the Point Grey campus : the Letters Club : work as senior editor of The Ubysey : after graduation, 1926-1936.
2. As a teacher in high school : getting her M.A. at UBC : as a professor at UBC : as associate director of secondary education : "Ecoutez" radio broadcast : "Chacun son Govt" (1969) : as vice president of the Faculty Association : on the UBC Board of Governors.
[Listen to recording](#)
- UBC AT 1760-1 Robert Mills Clark (May 14, 1990)
1. Talks about his father, professor Robert H. Clark : being a student at UBC in the 1930s and 1940s - subjects he studied and professors : Harvard post-graduate studies : professor at UBC : commentary on the evolution of the Dept. of Economics, heads of the department with a few descriptions of Henry Angus.
2. Continued discussion on the Dept. of Economics : teaching methods : reflects on his experience in the department : work outside the University on five government projects.
[Listen to recording](#)
- UBC AT 1760-2 Robert Mills Clark (August 24, 1990)
1. Discusses his appointment and role as director of Academic Planning, 1965-1975 : discusses work as part of a University Administration Committee on the development of a new pension plan for members of the faculty and university administrative staff : role on Senate : reads verse on building priorities by Roy Daniells : University Act revisions and his involvement, 1974 : Committee on Long Range Objectives.

2. Reads his own verse on Walter Gage's retirement read in Senate : reads his own verse on free trade, another on exemption of basic foods in the GST : discusses his activities in retirement : Professors Emeriti group.

[Listen to recording](#)

UBC AT 1761-1

M.W. Steinberg (October 9, 1990)

Make up of the English Department in 1946 : teaching English at UBC in the late 1940s (student make up, class locations, size and methods of teaching) : fellow professors - G.G. Sedgewick, Roy Daniells, Earle Birney : creation of Creative Writing Dept. and Drama Dept. : living in Acadia Camp : changes over the years in the English Dept. : Americanization of the department in the 1960s : turmoil of the 1970s : tenure questions (Mayne and Powell) : Dean of Arts committee to look into administration and function of the department : service on committee to revamp entire Arts faculty (1964) : Senate Committee on Long Range Objectives (early 1970s) : Walter Gage.

[Listen to recording](#)

UBC AT 1761-2

M.W. Steinberg (October 9, 1990)

Founding of the poetry quarterly "Prism" (1950s) : Shaw Festival (1956) in Vancouver organized by Steinberg and Dorothy Somerset : Poetry Centre initiated, organized and directed by Steinberg : A.M. Klein papers : Professors Emeriti group.

[Listen to recording](#)

UBC AT 1762-1

Margaret Street (October 30, 1990)

Explains why she pursued a nursing career, 1930s : what brought her to UBC in 1952 : courses she taught in 1952/53 : mentions other professors : employment between 1953 and 1960 (away from UBC) : courses she taught between 1960-1972 and other activities, committees : School of Nursing in the 1960s - program and professors : accommodation for School of Nursing : Ethel Johns : influence on School of Nursing program of directors Evelyn Mallory, Elizabeth McCann and Muriel Uprichard : PhD program at UBC : progress of education of nurses.

[Listen to recording](#)

UBC AT 1762-2

Margaret Street (October 30, 1990)

Discusses task force on the accreditation of School of Nursing,
1950s : activities since retirement from UBC in 1972 : Order of
Canada : Professors Emeriti group.

[Interview transcript \[PDF\]](#) / [Listen to recording](#)