The Finding Aid of the Cal Poly Women's Club Records 0064

Lissa Lopez
The processing of this collection and the creation of this finding aid was funded by the generous support of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. Special Collections and Archives
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Abstract: The Cal Poly Women's Club was a campus organization established by the wives of faculty and staff which operated on and off campus from 1946 to 1998. While working to promote the University through social and cultural events, and fostering lifelong friendships, the Club's main objective was to raise funds for various scholarships offered to students who contributed to Cal Poly Pomona through leadership and service. The funds were raised by Club-hosted events held annually, such as the fashion and quilt shows. The Cal Poly Women's Club also held welcome dinners at the beginning of each school year for all faculty and their spouses, until the number of guests grew too large. The collection includes administrative records; newsletters produced by the Club, materials on scholarship; and photographs, scrapbooks, and realia.

Sponsor  
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Advance notice required for access.

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Preferred Citation  
[Box/folder# or item name], Cal Poly Women's Club Records, Collection no. 0081, University Archives, Special Collections and Archives, University Library, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Immediate Source of Acquisition  
The materials were transferred by the Cal Poly Women's Club to the University Library in several installments between 1998 and 2007.

Biographical / Historical  
The Cal Poly Women's Club (CPWC) was established in 1946 and was one of the first clubs formed at the school that would eventually become California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. In 1938, California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo established a satellite campus at the former site of the Voorhis School for Boys in San Dimas, California. The campus became known as the Voorhis Unit and by 1946 had 270 students, all male. The CPWC was formed by three wives of three faculty members at the Voorhis Unit as a group for other wives of faculty and staff to promote the well-being of the college, to assist first and second year students in acclimating to college life, and to offer cultural and social events in an effort to forge lifelong friendships.

Membership in the CPWC was open, initially, to wives of any CPP faculty and staff member, and later included women who joined the faculty and staff. The CPWC functioned as any other organization with a board of elected members, monthly meetings, and committees for special projects. The CPWC worked closely with other interest groups on campus to plan events and activities most often pertaining to popular hobbies of the time, including needlecraft and bridge groups for singles and couples, a book club, and theatre and gourmet groups. Members organized welcome dinners at the beginning of each school year for faculty and staff in the early years, and other activities held throughout the year included theatre trips, special guest speakers, and participation in on-campus annual events such as Poly Vue and the Bronco Bonanza horse show.

In 1948, just two years into its formation, the CPWC began what would become the impetus of its operation: the scholarship fund. The scholarships were available to students at all levels and all majors. Established to offer financial aid to students who provided active leadership and service to Cal Poly Pomona, the number of scholarships awarded, and the amount for each, varied from year to year. Some scholarships were formed in memory of past members or special contributors to the CPWC. Members worked year-round to raise the funds for these scholarships, hosting various events including teas, silent auctions, and a progressive dinner, which each course was eaten at a different home throughout the evening. Two main
events organized by the CPWC each year provided the largest fundraising for the scholarships. First, the annual Fashion Show and Makeover Magic, where members would model the latest trends in clothes and receive makeovers from local hair stylists. Second, the annual Quilt Show. Occasionally held during the weekend of Poly Vue in the spring, the event allowed the needlecraft group to display and auction off the year's wares. In 1988, the CPWC unveiled a special quilt designed in honor of the university's 50th anniversary celebrations. The quilt was worked on by various members for almost four years and remains on display to this day in the university library. In May and September, depending on the year, the CPWC hosted a banquet to award each scholarship recipient and offer them a chance to thank the Club as a whole.

By 1998, membership of the CPWC had dropped to its lowest numbers since its inception, with competing groups offering membership, such as the Women's Council of the State University and the Women Faculty Association. Eventually the Club ceased operation and transferred its remaining scholarship funds to the University. The name of the Cal Poly Women's Club lives on in the form of a scholarship offered yearly by Cal Poly Pomona.

Scope and Contents
The collection includes files related to the operation of the Cal Poly Women's Club, including minutes, materials for event planning, photographs, and correspondence; scrapbooks from the Club's early years that document events held on campus, mentions in the school newspaper, and flyers and mailings for Club-sponsored events; realia and ephemera including placement ribbons for quilts displayed at Poly Vue and a plaque awarded to the Club by the University president in 1995.

Arrangement

Related Materials
Gertrude C. Boland Papers, Collection no. 0081, University Archives, Special Collections and Archives, University Library, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.
Student Wives' Club Poly-Annas Records, Collection no. 0078, University Archives, Special Collections and Archives, University Library, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Processing Information
The collection was initially processed and cataloged by Wendolyn Wysock in 2001. The collection underwent further processing and the finding aid was revised in 2018 by Lissa Lopez to enhance findability and access. The collection number was changed from UA2000/18/1-4 to 0064 and the collection title changed from Cal Poly Women's Club Collection to Cal Poly Women's Club Records.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona -- History
Cal Poly Women's Club
College teachers' spouses
Women in Higher Education

Series 1: Administrative Records 1965-2013
Scope and Contents
The series contains files pertaining to the Cal Poly Women's Club operations from 1965 to 2013. The files include board meeting minutes, treasury reports, constitutions, guidelines, membership lists, and correspondence.

Arrangement
The series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Board Meeting Minutes 1992</td>
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<td>Board Meeting Minutes 1993</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Board Meeting Minutes 1994</td>
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<td>Board Meeting Minutes 1996</td>
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<td>Board Meeting Minutes 1997</td>
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<td>Board Meeting Minutes 1998</td>
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<td>Chi Cheng, Alumnus 1971-2013</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Constitution 1973</td>
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<td>Guestbook 1980-1983</td>
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<td>Member Statement - Cal Poly Federal Union 1994</td>
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<td>Membership Lists 1983-1984</td>
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<td>Membership Lists - Yearbook 1984-1985</td>
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<td>Membership Lists - Name and Address Yearbook and Interest Groups 1985-1986</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Membership Lists - Name and Address Yearbook 1986-1987</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Membership Lists - Name and Address Yearbook 1987-1988</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Membership Lists - Name and Address Yearbook and Potential Members 1988-1989</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Membership Lists 1991-1992</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Membership Lists - Directories 1994-1995</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Membership Lists - Directory, Faculty, Roster 1995-1996</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Membership List - Phone Trees and Roster 1996-1997</td>
</tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Needlecraft Group 1985-1990</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 1: Administrative Records 1965-2013

box 3  Notebook for Nan Miller, Chairperson 1997-1998
box 3  Pace Setters and Women Faculty Association (WFA) Meeting - Minutes, Notes, and Correspondence 1998
box 3  Treasury Records and Reports 1968-1979
box 3  Treasury Records and Reports 1992-1993
box 3  Treasury Records and Reports 1993-1994
box 3  Treasury Records and Reports 1994-1995
box 3  Treasury Records and Reports 1995-1996
box 3  Treasury Records and Reports 1996
box 3  Treasury Records and Reports 1997
box 3  Treasury Records and Reports 1997-1998

Scope and Contents
The series includes various publications either created by the Cal Poly Women's Club or featuring the Club from 1958 to 2000. The files include the Club's own monthly newsletter and Cal Poly Pomona publications, such as Poly Views and the Cal Poly Pomona Bulletin, and other flyers and mailers that publicized the Club events.

Scope and Contents
The series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

box 4  Newsletter 1979
box 4  Newsletter 1980
box 4  Newsletter 1981
box 4  Newsletter 1982
box 4  Newsletter 1983
box 4  Newsletter 1984
box 4  Newsletter 1985
box 4  Newsletter 1986
box 4  Newsletter 1987
box 4  Newsletter 1988
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box 4  Publicity 1978
box 4  Publicity 1981-1982
box 4  Publicity 1983
box 4  Publicity 1984
box 4  Publicity 1985-1986
box 4  Publicity 1988-1989
box 4  Publicity 1993
box 4  Publicity 1995
box 4  Publicity 1996
box 4  Publicity 1997
box 4  Publicity 2000
Scope and Contents
The series contains files related to the scholarship program funded by the Cal Poly Women’s Club from the early 1950s to 2004. The files include information on recipients and fundraisers for the scholarships such as the annual fashion and quilt shows. The files also include information on the loan fund, the financial aid offered by the Club before it was changed to a scholarship fund.

Arrangement
The series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Box 5-6

Series 3: Scholarship circa 1950-2004

Bronco Bonanza - Horse Show 1995
Christmas Party 1997
Fashion Show 1986
Fashion Show 1995
Fashion Show 1996
Fashion Show 1997
Fashion Show - 50th Anniversary 1998
Fundraising Ideas 1995-1996
Holiday Gathering 1994-1995
Loan Fund (Pre-Scholarship) 1953-1954
Loan Fund (Pre-Scholarship) 1964-1965
Loan Fund (Pre-Scholarship) 1971
Loan Fund (Pre-Scholarship) 1977
Progressive Dinner 1995
Quilt Show 1977
Quilt Show 1978
Quilt Show 1979
Quilt Show 1980
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Scholarship Information 1998
Scholarship Information 2000
Scholarship Information 2004
Scholarship Luncheon 1973
Silent Auction 1994-1996

Box 6

Series 4: Photographs, Scrapbooks, and Realia 1949-2009

Gavels circa 1950
Photograph - Faculty Dinner circa 1950s
Series 4: Photographs, Scrapbooks, and Realia 1949-2009

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box 6  Photographs - Needlecraft Group 1977
box 6  Photographs - Quilt Show 1979
box 6  Photographs - Farewell gathering circa 1980s
box 6  Photographs - Quilt Show 1981
box 6  Photographs - Quilt Show 1983
box 6  Photographs - Needlecraft Group circa 1984
box 6  Photographs - Quilt Show 1985
box 6  Photographs - Quilt Show 1986
box 6  Photographs - Quilt Show 1988
box 6  Photographs - Needlecraft Group 1989
box 6  Photographs - Needlecraft Group 1990
box 6  Photographs - Fashion Show 1995
box 6  Photographs - Installation Dinner, Fashion Show 1996
box 6  Photographs - Fashion Show 1998
box 8  Photograph Album - Scholarship Recipients 1973-1978
box 9  Photograph Album - Needlecraft Group 1977-1998
box 10 Photograph Album 1985-2009

Scope and Contents

The album includes photographs of Club reunions in 2004 and 2009.

box 11  Photograph Album - Blue Cover 1998
box 12  Plaque - Certificate of Appreciation from Cal Poly Pomona 1995
box 13  Ribbons - Poly Vue 1985
box 14  Scrapbook - Brown Cover with Black Diamond 1949-1960
box 15  Scrapbook - Ivory Cover 1960-1968
box 16  Scrapbook - Imitation Leather with Gold-Embossed Spine 1968-1972
box 17  Scrapbook - Brown Cover 1972-1977