Guide to the Chicana and Chicano Studies Department Records 1968/2003

Special Collections & University Archives

Overview of the Collection

Collection Title: Chicana and Chicano Studies Department Records

Dates: 1968-2003

Bulk Dates: 1970-1979

Identification: MS-0442

Creator: Chicana and Chicano Studies Department

Physical Description: 1.67 linear ft

Language of Materials: English, Spanish, Castilian

Repository: Special Collections & University Archives

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Note:

Other Information:

This collection was processed as part of the Chicano Studies Archives Project, made possible by a grant from the President's Leadership Fund.

Historical Note:

Initially developed in 1968 by students and faculty inspired by the Civil Rights and Chicano movements, San Diego State College (SDSC) officially established the Mexican-American Studies Department, now known as the Chicana and Chicano Studies Department, in 1969, and offered both a major and a minor. SDSC faculty and students followed El Plan de Santa Barbara as a blueprint for the codification of Chicana/o Studies at the university level, which had been created at the 1969 UC Santa Barbara Conference of Chicano students, professors, and activists. The purpose of the newly-formed department was to teach an accurate and complete history of Chicanos and Mexican-Americans and their contributions to the United States. In addition, the department hoped to recruit more Chicana/o students to the campus, and teach and develop skills that students could use to help their communities politically and economically.

Initially, students under the guidance of the Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (MEChA) ran the department. They actively participated in departmental meetings and decisions, taught classes, hired and fired faculty, and helped to develop the curriculum. In 1975, however, with San Diego State College's change to university status, SDSU incorporated the Mexican-American Studies Department into the College of Professional Studies. As a result of this institutionalization, the department's decision-making process became faculty and staff centered. Later, in 1980, the department became part of the College of Arts and Letters.

Today, the department maintains a multi-disciplinary curriculum offering classes in film, history, anthropology, sociology, literature, and politics. The curriculum also features classes in immigration and border studies, and encourages community outreach through internships, cultural exchanges, research, and advocacy. Faculty and students participate in cultural documentation projects, such as the Chicano Park Historical Documentation Project, oral interviews, and original research.

Access Terms

This collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Genre/Form of Material:
Institutional Archives

Title:
San Diego State University. Chicana and Chicano Studies

Topical Term:
Chicano movement--California--San Diego
Acquisition Information:
This collection was acquired from the Chicana and Chicano Studies Department (date unknown); material was added in October 2006 from Barbara Friedrich, wife of Dr. Will Kennedy, one of the founders of the Mexican American Studies Department.

Accruals:
2006-029

Conditions Governing Use:
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This collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation:
Identification of item, folder title, box number, Chicana and Chicano Studies Department Records, Special Collections and University Archives, Library and Information Access, San Diego State University

Related Materials:
Rene Nuñez Memorial Collection, 1968-2008
Carmen Sandoval Fernandez Poster Collection, 1974-1983
Arturo Casares Papers, 1968-2007
Maria Garcia Papers, 1968-1997
Chicano Federation of San Diego County Records, 1968-1980
Center for Women's Studies and Services Records, 1947-1997

Scope and Contents
The Chicana and Chicano Studies Department Records (1968-2003) document the development and administration of the department and its curriculum. Highlights include materials relating to the department’s incorporation into the College of Professional Studies and the resulting backlash from students. The majority of the material dates from the 1970s and details early department organization and curricula. The collection includes correspondence, syllabi, memorandums, course files, faculty meeting minutes, and reports. The collection is filed alphabetically.
Box 1, Folder 18  Correspondence: General 1970, 1974-1975
Box 2, Folder 2  Correspondence: General 1975-1976
Box 2, Folder 3  Correspondence: General 1975-1976
Box 2, Folder 4  Correspondence: General 1976
Box 2, Folder 5  Correspondence from Dean Howell and Dean Rost 1975-1976
Box 2, Folder 6  Correspondence from Jane Smith's Office 1975
Box 2, Folder 7  Correspondence from Lois W. Sisson, Director of Personnel Services 1975-1976
Box 3, Folder 1  Denver's Chicano Youth Liberation Conference 1969
Box 3, Folder 2  Departmental Self Study February 2000
Box 3, Folder 3  Faculty Meetings 1973-1975
Box 3, Folder 4  Faculty Meetings 1975-1976
Box 3, Folder 5  Faculty Meeting Minutes 1977-1978
Box 3, Folder 6  Faculty Meeting Minutes 1978-1979
Box 3, Folder 7  Grievance Committee of Victor Salandini 1977-1978
Box 3, Folder 8  Leaflets, Announcements, Newsletters
Box 3, Folder 9  Master's Degree Proposal Appendices circa 2003
Box 3, Folder 10 Memorandums 1972-1977
Box 3, Folder 11 Memorandums from Payroll 1975-1976
Box 3, Folder 12 Mexican American / Chicana/o Studies Course Brochures 1970-1972
Box 3, Folder 13 Mexican American Studies (MAS) 10: Mexican Americans in Transition course early 1970s
Box 3, Folder 14 Mexican American Studies Graduation 1995
Box 4, Folder 1  Mexican American Studies New Major Proposal
Box 4, Folder 2  Mexico-United States Border Program American Friends Service Committee Newsletter January - February 1981
Box 4, Folder 3  Mission Statement
Box 4, Folder 4  Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (MEChA) 1975-1979
Box 4, Folder 5  MEChA: Plan of Organization September 27, 1973
Box 4, Folder 6  National Hispanic Scholarship Fund 1986-1987
Box 4, Folder 7  Personnel Advisory Committee 1975-1976
Box 4, Folder 8  Personnel File Policy Implementation 1975
Box 4, Folder 9  Promotional Material Fall 1978
Box 4, Folder 10 Rationale and Justification for Mexican American Studies
Box 4, Folder 11 San Diego County Ad Hoc Committee Newsletter volume 2 May 1976
Box 4, Folder 12 Semana de la Raza May 3-7, 1971
Box 4, Folder 13 Socioeconomic Conditions of Mexican Americans
Box 4, Folder 14 Supplemental Materials
Box 4, Folder 15 Syllabi: Dr William Kennedy Courses
Box 4, Folder 16 Teaching Materials 1969-1984
Box 4, Folder 17 Travel Policies, Procedures, Advances 1974-1975