Guide to the University of California, Irvine, Chancellor Daniel G. Aldrich correspondence and other materials AS.002

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Contributing Institution: Special Collections and Archives, University of California, Irvine Libraries
Title: University of California, Irvine, Chancellor Daniel G. Aldrich correspondence and other materials
Creator: Aldrich, Daniel G.
Identifier/Call Number: AS.002
Physical Description: 11.1 Linear Feet (29 boxes and 1 OS folder)
Date (inclusive): 1962-1984
Abstract: The collection consists mainly of correspondence sent from the office of Daniel G. Aldrich during his tenure as chancellor of the University of California, Irvine (1962-1984). It also includes correspondence congratulating Aldrich on his appointment as chancellor (1962-1963), desk calendar pages (1972-1973), daily appointment files (1967-1973) and other material.
Language of Material: English.
Access
Access Series 1, subseries 2 (outgoing correspondence) contains restricted personnel records interfiled throughout the subseries. Unrestricted materials in this subseries can be made available with sufficient advance notice. Other materials in the collection are open for research.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
For the benefit of current and future researchers, please cite any additional information about sources consulted in this collection, including permanent URLs, item or folder descriptions, and box/folder locations.
Acquisition Information
Processing History
Historical Background
Daniel G. Aldrich was the founding chancellor of the University of California, Irvine, serving from 1962 until 1984. Aldrich’s background in agriculture and his connection with the land-grant system at the University of Rhode Island influenced his decision to design a campus in which environmental planning and community service would be crucial. After accepting the appointment of chancellor he set out to create a university faithful to the land-grant tradition, yet appropriate to the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century.
Born in Northwood, New Hampshire, on July 12, 1918, Aldrich received his Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Agriculture at the University of Rhode Island in 1939. He earned his Master’s of Science degree at the University of Arizona in 1941 and married the former Jean Hamilton. He went on to get his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin in 1943.
Aldrich began his academic career at the University of California in 1944 as a soil chemist at the Citrus Experiment Station, now the University of California, Riverside. In 1955 he was appointed chair of the Soils departments concurrently for the University of California, Davis and The University of California, Berkeley. In 1958 he became dean of Agriculture for the University of California, presiding over agricultural teaching programs at Davis, Berkeley, Riverside and Los Angeles, as well as the Statewide Agricultural Experiment Station. He was responsible for activities on four campuses, a network of field stations, and the Agricultural Extension Service, with farm advisors and home advisors serving 56 of California’s 58 counties.
When appointed to the position of founding chancellor of UC Irvine, Aldrich was given the responsibility for developing the new campus from blueprints to fully operating academic institution within three years. He accomplished this, encouraging the newly recruited deans and department chairs to establish academic programs that reflected new developments in intellectual inquiry. Thus, the School of Biological Sciences pioneered in establishing departments based on levels of analysis, the School of Social Sciences developed programs emphasizing mathematical approaches to inquiry in the social and behavioral sciences, and the School of Humanities fostered programs in creative writing, literary criticism, and comparative literature. The young UC Irvine campus also provided a fertile setting for the development of newly-emerging
interdisciplinary programs. The campus landscape was Aldrich's applied laboratory, a reflection of his interest and expertise in soils and plant nutrition.

Aldrich retired as UC Irvine chancellor in 1984. However, with the sudden death of the UC Riverside chancellor, he became acting chancellor of that institution from 1984-85. He was called again from 1986-87 to become acting chancellor of UC Santa Barbara, after which he retired, finally, and became Chancellor Emeritus of UC Irvine.

In recognition of Aldrich's key role in the planning and development of the buildings and programs of UC Irvine, the park in the center of campus was dedicated to him and named in his honor in 1984.

Aldrich was involved in numerous civic and professional activities, receiving honorary degrees and awards from a number of academic institutions as well as many honors in recognition of his professional activities and his contributions to service organizations. He served on advisory committees and boards of a large number of local, national, and international organizations and provided leadership to groups concerned with world-wide problems of agriculture and natural resources, including the President's Agricultural Task Force to Zaire (1985).

He was also an active participant in a variety of sports, ranging from coaching Little League teams in Riverside, Davis and Berkeley, to participating (and winning medals) in U.S. Master Track and Field Championships, Senior Olympics, and World Association of Veteran Athletes Championships.

When Daniel Aldrich died on April 9, 1990, he had been with the University of California for 47 years.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

The collection consists mainly of correspondence sent from the office of Daniel G. Aldrich during his tenure as chancellor of the University of California, Irvine (1962-1984). It also includes correspondence congratulating Aldrich on his appointment as chancellor (1962-1963), desk calendar pages (1972-1973), daily appointment files (1967-1973) and other material.

Collection Arrangement

This collection is arranged in 2 series:

Series 1. Correspondence, 1962-1984, 10 linear feet
Series 2. Appointment files and other materials, 1963-1974, 1.1 linear feet

Related Collections

Related materials can be found in the Chancellor Daniel G. Aldrich Records (AS-001) and the Central Records Files (AS-004).

Subjects and Indexing Terms

College administrators -- California -- Irvine -- History -- Sources
Chancellors
Aldrich, Daniel G. -- Archives
University of California, Irvine -- History
University of California, Irvine -- Administration -- Archives
Aldrich, Daniel G. -- Correspondence
Correspondence Series 1. 1962 January-1984 August

Correspondence Series 1. 1962 January-1984 August

Physical Description: 10 Linear Feet

Access

All outgoing correspondence in the series is restricted until 2055 due to the presence of scattered personnel records. Box 9, folders 1-4 have been reviewed and all confidential materials moved to box 9, folder 9. Researchers may contact the Department of Special Collections and Archives to request access to records from particular dates or date ranges, and staff will provide access to unrestricted material after reviewing requested ranges and separating restricted material.

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series comprises correspondence from the Chancellor's office for the years 1962-1984 including: congratulatory letters and responses, general communication and confidential correspondence. The bulk is outgoing correspondence files.

Series Arrangement

This series is arranged in 2 subseries:

Subseries 1. Congratulatory

Subseries 2. Outgoing

Within each subseries, the arrangement is chronological with confidential correspondence last.

box 1, folder 1-3

Congratulatory Subseries 1.1. 1962 January-December, 1963 April-June

Outgoing Subseries 1.2. 1962-1984

1962 December - 1963 December
1964 January-1965 June
1965 June-1966 November
1966 December-1968 January
1968-February-1969 February
1969 March-1970 March
1970 April-1971 January

Scope and Contents

Includes outgoing correspondence from Acting Chancellor Roger Russell, who served in that role while Chancellor Aldrich was on sabbatical January 22, 1971-April 30, 1971.

1971 February-1971 December

Scope and Contents

Includes outgoing correspondence from Acting Chancellor Roger Russell, who served in that role while Chancellor Aldrich was on sabbatical January 22, 1971-April 30, 1971.

1972 January-1972 August
1972 September-1973 July

1973 August-1974 July
1974 August-1975 May
1975 June-1976 February
1976 March-1976 October
1976 November-1977 September
1977 October- 1978 October
1978 November-1979 September
Correspondence Series 1.1962 January-1984 August
Outgoing Subseries 1.2.1962-1984

box 18, folder 1-9  1979 October-1980 September
box 19, folder 1-10  1980 October-1981 August
box 20, folder 1-8  1981 September-1982 April
box 21, folder 1-7  1982 May-1982 November
box 22, folder 1-9  1982 December-1983 October
Scope and Contents
Does not include correspondence dated 1983 April, May and June. Files with these dates were not transferred to Special Collections and Archives along with the rest of the chronological correspondence files.

box 23, folder 1-7  1983 November-1984 May
box 24, folder 1-4  1984 June-1984 August
box 25, folder 1-8  Confidential 1963 October-1977 July
box 26, folder 1-3  Confidential 1977 August-1980 June
Appointment files and other materials Series 2. 1963-1974

Physical Description: 1.1 Linear Feet
Series Scope and Content Summary
This is series includes advisory council and committee records, daily appointment files and desk calendars, and Campus Officer in Charge files.
Series Arrangement
The arrangement is alphabetical.
Access
Materials in this series are open for research.

box 27, folder 1  Administrative Advisory Council: action commentary, meeting minutes, and other materials 1963-1970
box 27, folder 2  Advisory committee of regents for Irvine campus: correspondence and meeting notes 1963

Historical Background
The Regents' Irvine Advisory Committee was established in May, 1963

box 28, folder 1-7  Appointment files 1967 June-1974 June
box 29, folder 1-5  Campus Officer in Charge files 1971 July-1973 December
box FB-069, folder 6  Desk calendars 1972 January-1973 December