Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Special Collections and Archives, University of California, Irvine Libraries
Title: University of California, Irvine, Black Student Union records
source: University of California, Irvine. Black Student Union
Creator: University of California, Irvine. African American Student Union
Creator: University of California, Irvine. Afrikan Student Union
Identifier/Call Number: AS.098
Physical Description: 1.2 Linear Feet (2 boxes) and 13 unprocessed linear feet (9 boxes) and 512 MB unprocessed born digital material
Date (inclusive): 1971-2015
Date (bulk): 1997-2003
Abstract: This collection comprises records of the Black Student Union at UC Irvine from 1971 until 2015. Included are materials that represent the organization's reaction to changes in the Equal Opportunities Program (EOP) and address general problems of race relations on campus in the early 1970s. Other materials document student participation in the organization, activities, and events in subsequent decades.
Access
Processed components of the collection are open for research. Unprocessed additions may contain restricted materials. Please contact the Department of Special Collections and Archives in advance to request access.
Acquisition Information
Materials relating to the Black Student Union's reaction to the Equal Opportunities Program were a gift of Bolerium Books, 2005. Other materials were acquired periodically from campus sources. The 2014 accretion was acquired from the Black Student Union in June 2014. Accession 2019.023 was acquired from Tionna Tank in 2019. Accession 2019.027 contains material separated from the Cross Cultural Center records and accessions 2016-032 and 2018-040.
Collection Arrangement
This collection is arranged in 4 series:
   Series 3. Reports, 1971
The collection also contains four unprocessed additions:
Historical Background
The Black Student Union (BSU) was established in 1971 at UC Irvine in response to the reorganization of the Equal Opportunities Program and to address affirmative action and race relation issues. It is the mission of the Black Student Union to create and promote a supportive and inclusive community, while also intellectually challenging the Black students on the campus of UC Irvine. This organization, established specifically for political reasons, works for a more humane and culturally relevant college experience for UCI students. The Black Student Union strives to provide educational, cultural, and social programs that inspire the community to take action through activism as well as outreach on and off campus. This organization serves as the Umbrella for the other Black organizations on campus, with the ultimate goal of providing a welcoming and united space for the community while also stimulating an awareness of political, economic, and social forces affecting people of the African Diaspora.
Throughout the history of the organization, BSU has chosen to change names as the values and goals of the organization evolved. The organization was known as the African American Student Union from 1990 to 1993. In 1993 it changed its name to the Afrikan Student Union. In 2009 the group voted to change the name back to the Black Student Union in an effort to reconnect with the history of political activism during the Black Campus movement in the mid 1960s and the mid 1970s.
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.

**Processing History**


**Related Collections**

Related materials about the Black Student Union can be found in the following collection in the Department of Special Collections and Archives:

Cross Cultural Center Records, University of California, Irvine. AS-052,
http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt967nd67n/

**Collection Scope and Content Summary**

This collection comprises records of the Black Student Union at UC Irvine from 1971 until 2015. Included are materials that represent the organization’s reaction to a change in the Equal Opportunities Program (EOP) and address general problems of race relations on campus in the early 1970s. Other materials document student participation in the organization, activities, and events in subsequent decades. In particular, this collection highlights the Black Baccalaureate program, the Martin Luther King symposium, and numerous student performances and gatherings in campus-wide events, including the Rainbow Festival.

**Separation Note**

The following publications were removed from this collection and cataloged separately in Special Collections and Archives: *Umoja*. Irvine, Calif: Afrikan Student Union, University of California, Irvine, 1990-2003.

**Publication Rights**

Property rights reside with the University of California. Copyrights are generally retained by the creators of the records and their heirs, unless transferred to the University of California. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine who holds the copyright and pursue the copyright owner or his or her heir for permission to publish where the UC Regents do not hold the copyright.

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**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Minority college students -- California -- Irvine -- 20th century
Scrapbooks -- California -- Orange County -- 20th century
African American college students -- California -- Irvine -- 20th century.
University of California, Irvine. Black Student Union
University of California, Irvine. African American Student Union -- Archives
University of California, Irvine. Afrikan Student Union -- Archives
University of California, Irvine. Black Student Union -- Archives
University of California, Irvine -- Students -- Archives

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**Administrative records 1971; 1997-2006 1997-2006**

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

The majority of this series contains administrative records that document the activities and membership of the Afrikan Student Union between 2001 and 2006. This series also includes program files from the annual Black Baccalaureate event and the 1971 minutes of the Interim Black Council recommending for the establishment of a permanent Black Council to address affirmative action issues on the UC Irvine campus.

**Series Arrangement**

This series is arranged in chronological order.

**box 1, folder 1**

**Interim Black Council minutes 1971 June-July**
box 1, folder 2-4  Black Baccalaureate program files 1997-2002
Scope and Content Note
Includes correspondence, participation lists, menus, budgets, invoices, and planning records.

box 1, folder 5  Afrikan Student Union agendas, calendars, and other materials 2001-2002
Afrikan Student Union board minutes, membership lists, and other materials 2005-2006

Publications Series 2. 1972-2002
Series Scope and Content Summary
This series comprises printed materials produced by the Black Student Union that document events, activities and accomplishments of the student group including the 1982 and 1984 Black Awards Banquet, Black History Month events, the Caribbean Spectacular, and the Martin Luther King Symposium.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged in alphabetical order.

box 1, folder 9  Fliers, invitations, and event programs 1972-1991
box 1, folder 10  Newsletters 2001-2002

Reports Series 3. 1971
Series Scope and Content Summary
This series includes reports created and disseminated to the UC Irvine black family, educators, and administrators in 1971. The documents were created to describe the black students assessment of newly imposed Equal Opportunity Program (EOP) changes and to express their suggestions to improve the EOP to benefit minority students on campus.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged in alphabetical order.

box 1, folder 11  An Open Letter to the Black Family of UC Irvine 1971 July 19
box 1, folder 12  Recommendations by Black Students as the Follow-up to the Chancellor's Conference 1971 June 10
box 1, folder 13  A Visit to the University of California at Irvine: a Report 1971

Photographs Series 4. 1996-2002
Physical Description: Includes approximately 515 color photographic prints.

Series Scope and Content Summary
This series contains approximately 515 color photographs that document student participation in Black Student Union activities and events including dinners, sleepovers, Rainbow Festival performances, and the Martin Luther King Symposium.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged in chronological order.

Processing note
All photographs have been removed from their original scrapbooks and have been re-housed for preservation purposes.

box 1, folder 14-18  Scrapbook photographs, 1996-1997
box 1, folder 19-20  Scrapbook photographs, 1997-1998
box-folder 1 : 21, folder 2 : 1-4  Student life and engagement scrapbook photographs, 1999-2000
box 2, folder 5  Scrapbook photographs, 2002
Unprocessed addition 2014 Accession 2014.034 2010-2014

Physical Description: 9.3 Linear Feet

Access

This addition to the collection is not yet processed. It may contain restricted materials. Please contact the Department of Special Collections and Archives in advance to request access.

Series Scope and Content Summary

This accretion contains board documents including meeting minutes, agendas, and other administrative records; event posters; and drawings and statements by organization members on large rolls of paper.

Unprocessed addition 2015 1987-2015

Physical Description: 1.1 Linear Feet

Access

This addition to the collection is not yet processed. It may contain restricted materials. Please contact the Department of Special Collections and Archives in advance to request access.

Series Scope and Content Summary

Accretion contains forms, memos, and documents on programs including the Students Tutoring and Outreaching to the Minority Population (STOMP) program and events such as the Afrikan Black Coalition Conference. Includes material from the executive board, meeting minutes, and outreach coordinator files. Also contains unidentified photographs, awards, and recognitions.


Physical Description: 1 Linear Feet(1 records carton and 512 MB)

Access

This addition to the collection is not yet processed. It may contain restricted materials. Please contact the Department of Special Collections and Archives in advance to request access.

Series Scope and Content Summary

This accretion contains photograph albums; African Consciousness Quarter and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium fliers; programs from conferences (African Black Coalition); a thumb drive; one Jaded Magazine (Final Issue 2007); an Institute for Responsible Citizenship Program Report; Executive Board material; Black Leadership Advancement Coalition of the University of California, Irvine program; a form with notes about how to get funding from the university; pages of General Meeting notes; Awareness Protest information; Board Member applications; paperwork, plans, schedules and calendars for the school year (circa 2000); AASU photograph album (1994-1995); 2 posters for The Blackworld, a book written by Prince Justice; folder with info for stay over the program; National Society of Black Engineers photograph album from 2001; and ASU Board materials (2007-2008).
Physical Description: 1.6 Linear Feet (3 document boxes and 1 oversized folder)

Access

This addition to the collection is not yet processed. It may contain restricted materials.
Please contact the Department of Special Collections and Archives in advance to request access.

Series Scope and Content Summary