Descriptive Summary

Title: Department of English and Comparative Literature publications, University of California, Irvine

Date: 1966-1990

Collection Number: PS-010

Creator: University of California, Irvine. Dept. of English and Comparative Literature

Extent: 0.4 linear feet (1 box)

Languages: The collection is in English.

Repository: University of California, Irvine. Library. Special Collections and Archives.

Irvine, California 92623-9557

Abstract: The collection comprises reports, brochures, handbooks, course announcements, magazines, directories, memoranda, and fliers created by the University of California, Irvine (UCI), Department of English and Comparative Literature.

Access

The collection is 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

Acquired periodically from the Department of English and Comparative Literature.

Processing History


Historical Background

The Department of English and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine was formed when the campus opened in 1965. The units of English and Comparative Literature are united under the single administrative unit of the School of Humanities. One benefit of placing English, Comparative Literature, and Creative Writing under a single unit is that students may select courses within and across all three programs. The Department of English and Comparative Literature maintains strong ties with the School of Humanities, where faculty combine differing perspectives for collaborative programs and research. Humanities faculty are involved with the Writing Center, the School for Criticism and Theory, University Studies, and the Graduate Critical Theory Emphasis Program (under the School of Humanities).

UCI's faculty in English and Comparative Literature has been the recipient of various prestigious awards and fellowships, including the Guggenheim Fellowship, the "Extraordinary" award, National Endowment for the Humanities grants, and the National Book Award. The department co-sponsors and hosts various symposia and international events. U.S. News & World Report's 2001 edition of "America's Best Graduate Schools" ranked UCI's graduate program in English among the top 20 in the country and first in the specialization of Literary Criticism and Theory. This ranking was awarded because of the diversity of critical approaches, the inclusion of American literature and creative writing, and the presence of scholars and critics who contribute to the department's intellectual achievements and growth.

Biography/Organization History

1965
University of California, Irvine opened.

1966
The UC Irvine Writing Center was established by Board of Regents, James B. Hall dir. (April).
First issue of Synapse, UCI literary magazine published; Tony Gregory ed. (November).
The California Poetry Reading Circuit permanently headquartered at UCI, James B. Hall Dir. (December).
Murray Krieger and Oakley Hall accepted positions. James B. Hall departed to UC Santa Cruz.

1968
KBS Committee staged a rally on campus with 500 out of the 4,100 students participating. "KBS movement was a student movement whose goal was to pressure the university to retain or rehire three instructors that had not completed their requirements to keep their positions. The assistant professors were George Kent (History), Donald Brannan (English) and Stephen Shapiro (English).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Robert L. Montgomery, professor of English and Comparative Literature, was appointed acting Dean of the School of Humanities (October).</td>
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<td>1973</td>
<td>Hazard Adams, Vice Chancellor--Academic Affairs, announced his resignation, effective July 1, 1974, to begin sabbatical leave and return to full-time teaching as professor of English in January 1975.</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>Murray Krieger, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, was named one of nine University Professors by the Regents (April). Hazard Adams, Professor of English received Guggenheim Fellowship (May).</td>
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<td>1975</td>
<td>Hazard Adams, Professor of English and Comparative Literature received &quot;Extraordinarius&quot; award (April). Harold Toliver and Charles Wright, English and Comparative Literature, received Guggenheim Fellowships (April). UCI, the only university in the country offering a doctoral degree in critical theory, chosen as the location for the founding of the School for Criticism and Theory, under direction of Murray Krieger, University Professor of English, and Hazard Adams, Professor of English and Comparative Literature (May). A National Endowment for the Humanities grant of $245,000 was awarded to Krieger and Adams for the start of this school (August).</td>
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<td>1976</td>
<td>Albert O. Wecke, Associate Professor of English, was honored for teaching at UCI Alumni Association at the Lauds and Laurels banquet for excellence (May).</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>Charles Wright, Professor of English and poet, was named as one of the 14 American writers to receive an award from the Academy and Institute of Arts and Letter (April). James McMichael, Professor of English, received a Guggenheim Fellowship. Bruce R. Hallet, a senior majoring in English, took office as president of the Associated Students. Rockefeller Humanities Fellowship was awarded to Murray Krieger, University Professor of English. A scholarship fund was established in memory of Howard S. Babb, Professor of English and chair of the Department of English and Comparative Literature (June). Robert Folkenflik, Associate Professor in English, received a Guggenheim Fellowship (April). Department hosted an eight-day festival honoring the writer George Sand (November).</td>
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<td>1978</td>
<td>Major symposium on &quot;Goethe's Narrative Fiction,&quot; attended by scholars from the United States, Canada and Germany (April). 12th annual Alumni Association Lauds and Laurels Banquet awarded Dr. Harold Toliver, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, the Distinguished Research Award; Dr. Murray Krieger, University Professor of English, received the 1982 Academic Senate Distinguished Faculty Lectureship Award (May). Robert Stone, National Book Award Winner and author of <em>Dog Soldiers</em>, came to UCI as a visiting writer (May).</td>
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<td>1979</td>
<td>Professor of English Charles Wright named co-recipient of the American Book Award in Poetry for his work, <em>Country Music: Selected Early Poems</em>, (April). Dr. Murray Krieger, University Professor of English was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (May).</td>
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<td>1981</td>
<td>Myron Simon, professor of English, received a Fulbright grant. Novelist MacDonald Harris was awarded the Distinguished Faculty Lectureship, the highest honor bestowed on UCI faculty by their colleagues. Harris is the pen name of Donald Heiney, professor of English and Comparative Literature. English professor Oakley Hall published his 19th novel, <em>Apaches</em>, the last of his trilogy of novels on the American West (July). New master's degree program in English designed especially for secondary school teachers announced (November).</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>British detective novelist P. D. James was a visiting professor for three weeks (January). Prizewinning writer Donald Heiney, a UCI professor of Comparative Literature, published his 13th novel, <em>Glowstone</em> (May).</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>John Carlos Rowe, professor of English, was awarded the 1988-89 Distinguished Faculty Lectureship Award for Teaching (April).</td>
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<td>1984</td>
<td>21st Lauds and Laurels banquet awarded J. Hillis Miller, professor of English and Comparative Literature the Academic Senate's Distinguished Lectureship Award for research (April). Georgina Dodge, a senior in English won a 1991 Melon Fellowship in the Humanities (May). Michelle Latiolais, Program in Writing alumna and academic coordinator of undergraduate creative writing, won the gold medal for fiction from the Commonwealth Club of California for her first novel, <em>Even Now</em>, joining former recipients John Steinbeck, Wallace Stegner and Amy Tan (May). Miriam Burstein, a junior Campuswide Honors English major, received a $2,200 National Endowment for the Humanities Younger Scholars Award (June).</td>
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</table>
Prize-winning Australian novelist Thomas M. Keneally was appointed distinguished professor of English and Comparative Literature and joined the faculty of the graduate Program in Writing (June).

1992

Katherine Vaz, 1992 Program in Writing graduate, sold the hardcover and paperback rights to her first novel, Saudale, to Ballantine Books in New York (January).

The UCI graduate English program ranked 15th in the nation by U.S. News and World Report (March).

Judith Grossman, English-born novelist, appointed Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature in the Graduate Program in Writing. Grossman, from Warren Wilson College in North Carolina, is author of the critically acclaimed novel Her Own Terms (May).

1993

Maxine Hong Kingston, author of best-selling novels, spoke as part of her appointment as a Chancellor's Distinguished Lecturer in the Department of English and Comparative Literature (January).

Thomas Keneally, distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature, became a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (April).

Alexander Gelley, Professor of Comparative Literature, became a fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Gelley will study Walter Benjamin's position as critic (April).

1994

Pulitzer prize awarded to alumni Yusef Komunyakaa, MFA in English 1980, for poetry (April).

John Carlos Rowe, director of UCI Critical Theory Institute and professor of English and Comparative Literature, was awarded a $106,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to organize a five-week summer institute in 1995 for high school, college and university teachers to focus on incorporating multicultural issues in teaching American literature (August).

1995

James McMichael, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, was awarded the $30,000 Whiting Writer's Award by the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation (October).

1996

Novelist Wilton Barnhardt, author of Emma Who Saved My Life and Gospel, joined UC Irvine's renowned Program in Writing as a visiting writer for the 1996-97 academic year (October).

Rey Chow, a Professor of English and Comparative Literature at UC Irvine, was winner of the prestigious James Russell Lowell Prize for her book on contemporary Chinese cinema (November).

Richard Ford, MFA in Creative Writing, won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for his novel Independence Day. Richard, graduate student in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at UCI from 1968-70, graduated with his MFA in June 1970.

1999

Peter Goldman, an advanced graduate student in English and Comparative Literature, was selected as the first recipient of the Michael and Stacy Koehn Research Assistantship in Critical Theory (July).

2000

Gabriele Schwab, Professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature in the School of Humanities, was honored with the Distinguished Faculty Lectureship Award for Teaching. Schwab's presentation is titled "Imaginary Ethnographies: The Boundaries of the Human" (November).

2001

The critical theory emphasis in the Department of English and Comparative Literature ranked the top program in the nation by U.S. News and World Report (March). The graduate program in English ranked 15th, tied with Duke University.

Michael Chabon, a graduate of the Creative Writing Program in the School of Humanities, wins Pulitzer Prize for fiction for his novel The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay.

J. Hillis Miller receives the UCI medal, honored for his international preeminence as a literary scholar, critic and theorist. Miller is also cited for his role in securing top national rankings for UCI's graduate programs in Critical Theory and Comparative Literature, and the Department of English (November).

Collection Scope and Content Summary

The collection comprises reports, brochures, handbooks, course announcements, magazines, directories, memoranda, and fliers created by the University of California, Irvine (UCI), Department of English and Comparative Literature. These publications were created for various purposes, including development, recruitment, community building, orientation, administrative needs, and publicity.

Collection Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three series.

Series 1. Unit publications, 1966-2005. 0.3 linear feet
Series 2. Sub-unit publications, 1966-1979. 0.05 linear feet
Series 3. Events, 1968-1990. 0.05 linear feet.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects
Series 1.  **Unit publications 1966-1992**

- Physical Description: 0.3 linear feet

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series comprises general publications of the Department of English and Comparative Literature.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

**Brochures**

- **Box : Folder 1 :** Graduate Program 1966-1992, undated
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Undergraduate Program 1967-1984, undated
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Course Announcements: *Graduate Offerings in English and Comparative Literature* 1977-1990
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Directory: *Graduate Student Directory* 1969
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Examination: Senior Comprehensive Examination, First Day 1968
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Fliers 1970-2005
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Journal: *Spontaneous Overflow: An Undergraduate Literary Journal of the University of California at Irvine* 1989

**Manuals**

- **Box : Folder 1 :** The Graduate Handbook 1986-1988
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Undergraduate English Study 1967
- **Box : Folder 1 :** The Writing Program 1968-1970
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Memoranda 1968-1987

**Programs**

- **Box : Folder 1 :** Poetry in the Schools, information sheets 1973-1975
- **Box : Folder 1 :** "The Role of Humanities in Education" 1975
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Report: Proposals for Programs of Graduate Study for the Master of Arts, Master of Fine Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy Degrees in English, and the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy Degrees in Comparative Literature 1965

Series 2.  **Sub-unit publications 1966-1979**

- Physical Description: 0.05 linear feet

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series comprises publications created by or about a specific sub-unit within the Department of English and Comparative Literature.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically by sub-unit.

**School of Criticism and Theory**

**Brochures**

- **Box : Folder 1 :** Fellowships 1977-1979
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Information bulletins 1976
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Fliers 1978-1979

**The Writing Center**

- **Box : Folder 1 :** Fliers 1966-1978, undated
- **Box : Folder 1 :** Memorandum about scientific writing at Irvine 1966
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<td><strong>Series 3. Events 1968-1990</strong></td>
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<td>Physical Description: 0.05 linear feet</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Series Scope and Content Summary</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This series comprises publications created for English and Comparative Literature events.</td>
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<td>Arrangement</td>
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<tr>
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<td>This series is arranged chronologically.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box : Folder 1 : 23</td>
<td>Irvine Conference in Aesthetics brochure and program 1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box : Folder 1 : 24</td>
<td>English Recognition Day Program, program and memorandum 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box : Folder 1 : 24</td>
<td>Irvine Goethe Symposium: Goethe's Narrative Fiction flier 1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box : Folder 1 : 25</td>
<td>Department of English and Comparative Literature Picnic flier 1990</td>
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