Guide to the Chinese American Democratic Club Archives CEMA 49

Finding aid prepared by Callie Bowdish, Greg Simon, Chip Badley, Paola Novo-Araya

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Library
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Title: Chinese American Democratic Club Archives
Identifier/Call Number: CEMA 49
Contributing Institution: University of California, Santa Barbara, Davidson Library, Department of Special Collections, California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 8.0 linear feet10 document boxes and one oversize box
Date (inclusive): 1985-2000
Abstract: The Chinese American Democratic Club Archives covers the period from 1988 to 2000. It contains campaign material, such as election fliers, endorsements and candidate questionnaires or interviews. San Francisco local politics are viewed from this group’s interaction with politicians, political groups, and coalitions. There are some papers involving state and federal politicians such as the former Lieutenant Governor of Delaware Shien Biau “S.B.” Woo. The club’s newsletters, administrative papers and clippings focus on political activities and civil rights important to Chinese Americans in San Francisco.

Box number: 10 file boxes and one oversize box

Organization History
The Chinese American Democratic Club (CADC) was chartered in 1958 by the California State Democratic Central Committee and the California Democratic Council. This was a response to growing political repression and violations of Chinese American civil rights in the 1950s. This group advances the causes of Chinese Americans in the San Francisco area. The CADC Bylaws Article II Objectives states that: The aim and purpose of this Club shall be to encourage the development of meaningful political awareness within our community and to thereby foster active participation in the democratic process of government by all citizens; to encourage Chinese candidates to run for elective office; to encourage the appointment of Chinese persons to appointive positions; to demand a high standard in government to seek justice and equality for all peoples and to study, develop, and advocate issues relevant to the empowerment and civil rights of Chinese Americans. (http://www.cadcsf.org/) The club has influenced City elections throughout the 1990s and Club leaders have served on important City Commissions, including the Airport, Planning, Port, Civil Service and Human Rights Commissions.

Conditions Governing Access note
none

Conditions Governing Use note
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Scope Note
The Chinese American Democratic Club (CADC) Archives, CEMA 49, along with the Chinese American Voters Education Committee Archives, CEMA 61, chronicle an important San Francisco group dedicated to keeping Asian Americans politically active in San Francisco. Administrative functions, special events, and topics of special concern to them are represented in this collection’s documents. Promoting the election and hiring of Asian Americans to government offices and positions such as school principals is part of CADC’s mission. Shien Biau “S.B.” Woo who even though he was outside the San Francisco area and was elected Lieutenant Governor of Delaware from 1985-1989 was supported by CADC. He ran for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives and was endorsed by CADC. Issues important to CADC members, as well as other members of the community such as housing, education, civil rights, affirmative action and San Francisco politics are covered in this collection. CADC’s affiliations with other San Francisco Groups such as Lesbian/Gay and various democratic and minority groups and officials are apparent in their correspondence, endorsements, and newsletter documents. Former CADC presidents such as Douglas Chan, Roland Quan, and Harold Yee, papers are part of this collection that spans from 1986 - 2000.

Series Description
Series I Administrative Records 1986 - 1997
Administrative records includes traditional board documents such as agendas, minutes and budget information. The CADC Issues Committee documents are part of this series. The series spans from 1986 to 1997 with bulk dates between 1986 and 1990.

Series II Correspondence 1985 - 1999
Correspondence both incoming and outgoing gives the biggest insight into what was politically important to this group. Some of the Documents from government officials have been put into their own are in this series.

**Series III Endorsements and Candidate Information 1986-1999**
Endorsements and candidate information includes publications and fliers providing information about various candidates running for offices in the City and County of San Francisco. CADC interview papers are included. There is a small amount of information on Shien Biau “S.B.” Woo who held the highest political office of an Asian American at the time. The series spans from 1986 to 1999 and includes information on prominent San Francisco politicians, some who became U.S. senators, such as Senator Diane Feinstein.

**Series IV Events 1986 - 1999**
Events includes CADC hosted events as well as ones that CADC members attended. These events include campaign fundraisers, anniversaries, and other occasions. This series spans from 1986 to 1999.

**Series V Club Newsletters and Press Releases 1986 - 1999**
Both internally produced newsletters and publications as well as externally produced articles about the CADC are included. There is an extensive collection of the CADC Fiery Dragon News. This series spans from 1986 to 1999.

**Series VI Subject Files 1985-1998**
This series includes files on Asian American politics, education, government, housing, San Francisco politics, and other miscellaneous subjects. This series spans from 1985 to 1998 with bulk dates between 1985 and 1996.

**Series VII Newspaper Articles and Newspapers**
Newspaper articles and newspapers such as *East West* are part of this series. Oversized articles regarding San Francisco and Asian American Politics are included here.

**Related Collections**
Chinese American Voters Education Committee, Inc. Archives (CEMA 61), Chinese American Political Association Archives (CEMA 48) and Kearny Street Workshop Archives (CEMA 33)

**Preferred Citation**
Chinese American Democratic Club Archives, CEMA 49, Department of Special Collections, University Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Processing note**
This collection was processed by Callie Bowdish, Greg Simon, Chip Badley, and Paola Novo-Araya at CEMA in April, 2009.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Administrative records
Chinese Americans--California--San Francisco.
Chinese Americans--Politics and government.

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**Series I Administrative Records**

| Box 1, Folder 1-2 | Agenda 1986-1997 |
| Box 1, Folder 3-4 | Budget 1986-1997 |
| Box 9, Folder 6   | CADC Endorsement Committee 1986-1998 |
| Box 1, Folder 5-6 | CADC Issues Committee undated |
| Box 1, Folder 7-8 | Memos 1986-1996 |
| Box 1, Folder 9-12| Minutes 1986-1996 |
| Box 2, Folder 1-7 | Minutes |
| Box 2, Folder 8   | Miscellanea undated |
| Box 2, Folder 9-10| Retreat Information 1986-1989 |
| Box 3, Folder 1-2 | Rosters and Mailing Lists undated |
| Box 3, Folder 3-4 | Rules and Bylaws 1987-1996 |

**Series II Correspondence**

| Box 3, Folder 5-10 | Incoming correspondence 1986-1999 |
| Box 4, Folder 1-6 | Outgoing Correspondence 1986-1999 |
| Box 4, Folder 7   | Club Member Correspondence undated |
| Box 4, Folder 8   | Government Officials 1985-1999 |
Series III Endorsements and Candidate Information

- Box 4, Folder 9-15: Endorsements and Candidate Information 1986-1999
- Box 5, Folder 1-15: Endorsements and Candidate Information
- Box 6, Folder 1-3: Candidates Campaign Statements 1990-1994

Series IV Events

- Box 6, Folder 4-12: Internal 1986-1999
- Box 6, Folder 13-19: External 1986-1999
- Box 7, Folder 1: External 1986-1999
- Box 7, Folder 2-3: CADC Anniversary undated

Series V Club Newsletters and Press Releases

- Box 7, Folder 4-13: Internal 1986-1999
- Box 8, Folder 1-10: External 1986-1999, also undated

Series VI Subject Files

- Box 9, Folder 1: American Chinese Association 1987-1989
- Box 9, Folder 2-5: Asian Politics 1988-1989, also undated
- Box 9, Folder 7: California Delegate Selection Plan for the 1988 Democratic Convention 1987
- Box 9, Folder 8-11: Chinese American Voters Education Committee (CAVEC) 1986-1994
- Box 9, Folder 12-19: City and County of San Francisco undated
- Box 10, Folder 1: Committee For Immigration Justice 1989
- Box 10, Folder 2: Council of Asian American Business Associations 1985-1987
- Box 10, Folder 3: Education 1987-1988, also undated
- Box 10, Folder 4: Election Statistics and Data - San Francisco 1987-1992
- Box 9, Folder 20: Government Documents 1986-1993, also undated
- Box 10, Folder 5-7: Government Documents 1986-1993, also undated
- Box 10, Folder 8: Housing 1987-1996, also undated
- Box 10, Folder 9: Human Rights Commission 1989
- Box 9, Folder 21: Legal-Sized Documents Miscellaneous undated

- Box 10, Folder 10: Miscellanea
- Box 10, Folder 11: San Francisco Consolidated General Education 1993
- Box 10, Folder 12: San Francisco Elections 1994
- Box 10, Folder 13: San Francisco Politics 1988-1992
- Box 9, Folder 22: San Francisco Politics

- Box 10, Folder 14: Self-Help for the Elderly 1986
- Box 10, Folder 15: Unified School District 1987-1995

 Oversize-Box 11:

Series VII Newspaper Articles and Newspapers

- Contents
  This oversize box contains East West newspapers and miscellaneous newspapers and clips