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**Finding aid to the Lesbian and Gay Academic Union records, 1973-1987**  
**Coll2011-041**

Marc LaRocque and Cooper Moll

Processing this collection has been funded by a generous grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources.

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

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**Language of Material:** English

**Contributing Institution:** ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

**Title:** Lesbian and Gay Academic Union records

**creator:** Gay Academic Union

**creator:** Berzon, Betty

**creator:** DeCrescenzo, Teresa

**creator:** Steele, Gary L.

**Identifier/Call Number:** Coll2011-041

**Identifier/Call Number:** 181

**Physical Description:** 3 Linear Feet3 boxes.

**Date (inclusive):** 1973-1987

**Abstract:** Correspondence, meeting minutes, manuscripts, publicity material, notes, financial records, photographs, membership records, conference administrative records, grant applications, bylaws, articles of incorporation, and other records documenting activities of the Lesbian and Gay Academic Union (LGAU), 1973 to 1987. Founded in 1973 in New York, New York, the Gay Academic Union consisted of a national network of college and university chapters. In 1978, the national headquarters moved to Los Angeles, California.

#### **Administrative History**

The Gay Academic Union (GAU) was founded in New York, New York, in 1973, "to promote and disseminate research on homosexuality and gay people." The GAU consisted of a national network of college and university chapters, totaling a dozen chapters by 1979. In 1978 the GAU's Board of Directors, as well as its annual conference, moved from New York to Los Angeles, California. In the early 1980s, GAU changed its name to the Lesbian and Gay Academic Union (LGAU). The Los Angeles chapter and National office of the LGAU ceased operations, circa 1987. However, some chapters of LGAU continued into the 1990s.

#### **Access**

The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.

#### **Publication Rights**

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#### **Preferred Citation**

[Box/folder #, or item name] Lesbian and Gay Academic Union Records, Coll2011-041, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California.

#### **Processing Information**

A basic collection-level finding aid was created in 2011 for this collection as part of a project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Processing of this collection and publication of a folder-level finding aid was completed in December 2014 as part of a project funded by the Council on Library and Information Sciences. This collection was processed by Cooper Moll, December 2014.

#### **Scope and Content**

This collection comprises correspondence, meeting minutes, manuscripts, publicity material, notes, financial records, photographs, membership records, conference administrative records, grant applications, bylaws, articles of incorporation, and other records documenting activities of the Lesbian and Gay Academic Union (LGAU), 1973 to 1987. Materials in the collection document activities, including Board of Directors meetings, annual LGAU conferences, public events, and distribution of scholarships. The bulk of the collection comprises scrapbooks and administrative records of the Los Angeles chapter of LGAU, particularly from the period after LGAU's national board of directors moved from New York to Los Angeles in 1978. This collection also includes administrative records and publicity material from other chapters of LGAU.

#### **Arrangement**

This collection is divided into two series:

Series 1. National LGAU and Los Angeles chapter records

Series 2. Other chapter administrative records.

#### **Related Materials**

Betty Berzon Papers, Coll2011-004, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California.

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Teresa DeCrescenzo Papers, Coll2015-006, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California.

Gary L. Steele Papers, Coll2014-032, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California.

### **Separated Materials**

The following have been separated to the ONE Archives periodical collection:

About Our Children (1978)

Books Bohemian, Catalogue No. 5 (April 1979)

Books Bohemian, Catalogue No. 6 (June 1979)

California Human Rights Advocates "From the Lobby" (undated)

Gay Academic Union, Inc., Los Angeles Chapter, Newsletter (undated)

Grove Press (Fall 1979)

Newsletter of the Interdisciplinary Clearinghouse of Gay Research, No. 1 (May 1974)

Lesbian and Gay Academic Union, Los Angeles Chapter, Newsletter (Winter 1982)

The L.O.V.E.R. Home Companion Vol. 2 No. 7 (September 1978)

The L.O.V.E.R. Home Companion Vol. 2 No. 8 (October 1978)

Making a Difference, National Association of Gay Gerontologists, Vol. 1 No. 1 (July 1978)

Open Quest Calendar (May-June 1979)

Open Quest Calendar (November-December 1979)

Professional Advisory Council calendar (July 1978)

Professional Advisory Council calendar (September 1978)

### **Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Gay and lesbian studies

Gays -- Education

Gays in higher education

Homosexuality and education -- United States

Lesbians -- Education

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### **National LGAU and Los Angeles chapter records Series 1 1975-1985**

#### **Scope and Contents**

This series comprises scrapbooks, minutes, correspondence, articles of incorporation, bylaws, photographs, publicity material, clippings, manuscripts, conference schedules, financial records, membership records, workshop material, surveys, and other administrative records from the Los Angeles chapter of the LGAU (LGAU/LA), which also became the LGAU's national office in 1978. Notably, the scrapbooks include photographs documenting gay and lesbian activists at events organized by LGAU/LA, including conference presentations, women's committee programs, and general membership meetings.

#### **Arrangement**

Scrapbooks and photographs are at the beginning of this series. The remaining folders are arranged alphabetically.

Box 1, Folder 1-16

**Scrapbooks, photographs, and slides 1979-1985**

Box 1, Folder 1-2

**1979 Scrapbook 1979****Scope and Contents**

Scrapbook includes images of GAU/LA steering committee, including Gary Steele, Bob Hodges, Betty Berzon, John A. Cohan, Sal Licata, Mark Hickey, Larry Lyon, Don Carufo, Teresa DeCrescenzo, and Ben Teller; Women's Committee, including Diane Abbitt, Roberta Bennett, Janet Johnson, Deborah Ellis Stevenson, Sheridan Thomas, Gail Browne, and Ginger Roth; and GAU speakers, members, and attendees, including Jay Hayes, Dr. Wayne Wooden, Mike Riley, Dr. Dan Calder, Vitto Russo, Paul Siegel, Jean O'Leary, Pat Rocco, John Odom, Don Clark, Midge Costanza, Steve Lachs, Don Knutson, Anne Peplau, Christine Padeskey, Susan Cochran, Pat Berlly, Myra Riddell, Joyce Gonzales, Marty Rochlin, Paul la Riviere, Sheldon Adelson, Jeanne Cordova, Jeanne Berson, Charlotte Bunch, Meg Christian, Dottie Wine, Ivy Bottini, Pam Parker, Brian Miller, Laud Humphreys, Christopher Isherwood, Fred DeCanio, Fred Green, Jeff Beane, Sharon McDonald, Jim Long, Bonnie Moore, Eric Lichtman, Bronwyn Anthony, Janet Witkin, Linda Poverny, Loretta Lotman, Malcolm Boyd, Harry Hay, Rex Reece, and Joe Laundry.

Box 1, Folder 3-4

**1980 Scrapbook 1980****Scope and Contents**

Scrapbook includes images of GAU speakers, members, and attendees, including Anne Peplau, Bronwyn Anthony, Bonnie Moore, Sharon Raphael, Brian Miller, James Lipsett, Linda Barone, Lois Bencangen, Mike Riley, Southern California Physicians for Human Rights, Rose Maly, Jane Patterson, Susan Cochran, Sheila Bob, Jeff Beane, Mina Robinson, Alan Maylon, Michal Gregg, Harry Hay, Travis Foote, Alcoholism Center for Women, Jane Hoose, Wally Funk, Helene Rosenbluth, Kay Loveland, Amy Erisman, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Sheila Williams, Lynn Turner, Pam Parker, Johnnie Phelps, and Marny Hall.

Box 1, Folder 5-7

**1981 Scrapbook 1981****Scope and Contents**

Scrapbook includes images of GAU speakers, members, and attendees, including Morris Kight, Lillian Faderman, the Women's Committee, the Hollywoodwinds, No Strings Attached (band), Judith Goodman, Rex Reece, Dr. Marilyn Mehr, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Susan McGreivy, Peter Nardi, Dick Follett, Bob Hodges, Linda Poverny, Gunther Freehill, Bill Rossitar, and Dr. Jane Patterson.

Box 1, Folder 8-10

**1982 Scrapbook 1982****Scope and Contents**

Scrapbook includes images of GAU speakers, members, and attendees, including Dr. John de Cecco, Professor Betty Brooks, Kay Loveland, Marty Rochlin, Dr. Jane Haven, Rev. Nancy Wilson, Gunther Freehill, Jim Kelley, Jean Weishaar, Griff Humphreys, Gay Abarrbanal, Shirley Blue, Susan Gross, Susan McGreivy, Marlene Bram, Carter Wilson, and Dennis Altman.

Box 1,  
Folder 11-12**1983 Scrapbook 1983****Scope and Contents**

Scrapbook includes images of the Lesbian and Gay Academic Union (LGAU) contingent in an unidentified gay pride parade.

Box 1,  
Folder 13-14**1984 Scrapbook 1984**Box 1,  
Folder 15-16**1985 Scrapbook 1985****Scope and Contents**

Scrapbook includes images of unidentified attendees at an LGAU monthly meeting.

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Box 1, Folder 17	<p><b>GAU 7 conference, Los Angeles slides 1980</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 44 color slides.</p> <p><b>Scope and Contents</b></p> <p>Includes images of speakers Evelyn Hooker, Jim Kepner, and other unidentified individuals.</p>
Box 1, Folder 19 Box 1, Folder 18	<p><b>Unidentified event with Lillian Faderman, negatives and contact sheet 1981</b></p> <p><b>Women's meeting photograph with Susan Gross, Shirley Blue and Gay Abarrbanal circa 1982</b></p>
Box 2, Folder 1-2 Box 2, Folder 3 Box 2, Folder 4 Box 1, Folder 20 Box 2, Folder 5 Box 2, Folder 6 Box 2, Folder 7 Box 2, Folder 8 Box 2, Folder 9 Box 2, Folder 10-21 Box 2, Folder 10 Box 2, Folder 11 Box 2, Folder 12 Box 2, Folder 13 Box 2, Folder 14 Box 2, Folder 15 Box 2, Folder 16 Box 2, Folder 17 Box 2, Folder 18 Box 2, Folder 19 Box 2, Folder 20 Box 2, Folder 21 Box 2, Folder 22 Box 2, Folder 23 Box 2, Folder 24-25 Box 2, Folder 26 Box 2, Folder 27 Box 2, Folder 28 Box 2, Folder 29 Box 2, Folder 30-33 Box 2, Folder 34 Box 2, Folder 35 Box 2, Folder 36 Box 2, Folder 37 Box 2, Folder 38 Box 3, Folder 1-2 Box 3, Folder 3-7 Box 3, Folder 8-10	<p><b>Administrative records 1979-1985</b></p> <p><b>Administrative records, chapter records 1977-1985</b></p> <p><b>Advertisements 1981-1982</b></p> <p><b>Articles of incorporation and bylaws 1974-1979</b></p> <p><b>Board of directors documents 1979-1985</b></p> <p><b>Brochures 1979-1985</b></p> <p><b>Certificate of affiliation 1977-1985</b></p> <p><b>Clippings 1973-1980</b></p> <p><b>Collier Art Corporation fundraising project 1981</b></p> <p><b>Conference administrative records</b></p> <p><b>GAU 2, New York 1974</b></p> <p><b>GAU 3, New York 1975</b></p> <p><b>GAU 4, New York 1976</b></p> <p><b>GAU 5, Los Angeles 1978</b></p> <p><b>GAU 6, Los Angeles 1979</b></p> <p><b>GAU 7, Los Angeles 1980</b></p> <p><b>GAU 7, Los Angeles banquet 1980</b></p> <p><b>GAU 7, Los Angeles facilities 1980</b></p> <p><b>GAU 7, Los Angeles financial records 1980</b></p> <p><b>GAU 4-7 conference programs 1974-1980</b></p> <p><b>Gay Academic Unions of California conference 1, San Francisco 1976</b></p> <p><b>Conference and workshop information circa 1975-1985</b></p> <p><b>Correspondence 1979-1985</b></p> <p><b>Correspondence, chapter starter packet 1979-1980</b></p> <p><b>Correspondence and papers, Gunther Freehill 1983-1985</b></p> <p><b>Correspondence and papers, James Levin 1975-1977</b></p> <p><b>Correspondence and papers, Gary Steele 1978-1980</b></p> <p><b>Correspondence to all membership circa 1978-1985</b></p> <p><b>Financial records 1977-1981</b></p> <p><b>Flyers 1977-1985</b></p> <p><b>Gay and lesbian studies, academic papers, and bibliographies 1977-1985</b></p> <p><b>Homosexual survey 1981</b></p> <p><b>Information resources 1977-1985</b></p> <p><b>Mailing lists 1979-1985</b></p> <p><b>March on Sacramento administrative records 1980</b></p> <p><b>Minutes, national 1978-1983</b></p> <p><b>Minutes, steering committee 1978-1985</b></p> <p><b>Newsletter editorial copy 1981-1983</b></p> <p><b>Scope and Contents</b></p> <p>Includes 1 black and white photograph of unidentified woman.</p>
Box 3, Folder 11 Box 3, Folder 12 Box 3, Folder 13 Box 3, Folder 14	<p><b>Notes and manuscripts, incomplete 1977-1985</b></p> <p><b>Notes, Jim Kepner 1975</b></p> <p><b>Press releases 1979-1985</b></p> <p><b>Scholarship funds publicity material and records 1979-1985</b></p>

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Box 3, Folder 15

**Whitman-Brooks, "Developing a Positive Gay Identity" workshop material 1978-1980**  
**Other chapter administrative records Series 2 1973-1987**

**Scope and Contents**

This series comprises correspondence, publicity material, newsletter editorial copy, and other administrative records from various chapters of LGAU, including foreign affiliates in Canada, Mexico, and Europe.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically.

Box 3, Folder 16

**Chicago, Illinois 1977-1982**

Box 3, Folder 17

**Cincinnati, Ohio 1979-1984**

Box 3, Folder 18

**Florida Atlantic University 1977-1985**

Box 3, Folder 19

**Foreign affiliates 1975-1979**

Box 3, Folder 20

**Las Vegas, Nevada 1985-1987**

Box 3, Folder 21

**Maine 1979**

Box 3, Folder 22

**Michigan 1977-1980**

Box 3, Folder 23

**Minneapolis, Minnesota 1979**

Box 3, Folder 24

**New England 1974-1979**

Box 3,

**New York 1973-1979**

Folder 25-27

Box 3, Folder 28

**North Carolina 1978-1980**

Box 3, Folder 29

**North Texas 1979-1981**

Box 3, Folder 30

**Orange County, California 1978-1979**

Box 3, Folder 31

**San Bernadino / Riverside, California 1979**

Box 3,

**San Diego, California 1979-1985**

Folder 32-33

Box 3, Folder 34

**San Francisco Bay Area, California 1976-1983**

Box 3, Folder 35

**St. Louis, Missouri 1978-1979**

Box 3, Folder 36

**Santa Fe, New Mexico 1979**

Box 3, Folder 37

**Tempe, Arizona undated**

Box 3, Folder 38

**Washington, D.C. 1981-1982**