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Collection Summary

Repository: Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries

Creator: Vassar College. Africana Studies Program

Title: Vassar College Africana Studies Records

Dates: 1969-2004

Quantity: 11 cubic feet (11 boxes)

Abstract: The collection consists of administrative records of the Africana Studies Program, primarily correspondence and subject files.

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Administrative History

With recommendations and urging from the Vassar College Students' Afro-American Society (SAS), a multidisciplinary program in Black Studies was approved in February, 1969. The Urban Black Studies Center was also established and opened off-campus that year to provide educational opportunities for Poughkeepsie residents. Both initiatives were considered experimental and not assured of permanent funding.

In 1975, the program was renamed as the Africana Studies Program. The Urban Center was closed in 1981, its funding shifted toward an endowment for Third World Studies.

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Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of administrative records of the foundation and early development of the Africana Studies Program. Of particular note are the faculty meeting minutes and program chair's files. In addition to the standard records, there are two photograph albums and additional envelopes of photo prints from the 1971 study trip to Africa.

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Access and Use

Access

There are three boxes of material that are restricted for reasons of personnel privacy as well as FERPA. The rest of the collection is open for research according to the [regulations of the Vassar College Archives and Special Collections Library](#).

Restrictions on Use

Permission to quote (publish) from unpublished or previously published material must be obtained as described in the [regulations of the Vassar College Archives and Special Collections Library](#).
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Related Material

Related Materials

- [Lawrence H. Mamiya Papers](#)
- [Vassar College 1969 Black Studies Sit-in Records](#)
- [Vassar College Office of the President Records, Alan Simpson Files](#)

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Subject Headings

Names:

- Fierce, Milfred C., 1937-
- Mamiya, Lawrence H.

Organizations:

- Vassar College--Faculty
- Vassar College--Students

Subjects:

- Africa--Study and teaching
- African American students
- African Americans--Study and teaching (Higher)--New York (State)--Poughkeepsie

Document Types:

- Correspondence
- Financial records
- Minutes (administrative records)
- Photographs
- Printed ephemera
- Reports

VCL Categories:

- Vassar College Academic Departments and Programs

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Encoding Information

Encoded by Laura Streett, November 2019. Updated by Emma Gronbeck, December 2024.

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Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Vassar College Africana Studies Records, Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries.

Processing Information

Processed by Laura Streett, October 2019.

Acquisition Information

Materials were transferred in two accessions. The date of the first accession is unknown. Six boxes were transferred in 2013. [A2013-027]

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Series List

[Series I.](#) General Program Files, 1973-2004

[Series II.](#) Subject Files, 1971-2004

[Series III.](#) Lectures and Events, 1975-2004

[Series IV.](#) Student and Personnel Records, undated [RESTRICTED]

Container List

Series I. General Program Files

Box 1	Annual reports (incomplete set), 1977-2004 (7 folders)
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- Box 1 Program reviews and reports, 1975, 1978, 1988 (8 folders)
- Box 1 Faculty Committee on Black Studies, 1974-1975 (2 folders)
- Box 1 Trustee Committee on Minority Affairs, 1985-1986
- Box 1 Faculty correspondence, 1990-1992 (3 folders)
- Box 1 Faculty evaluation by students, 1978
- Box 1 Faculty forums, 1980-1981, 1985-1988 (5 folders)
- Box 1 Faculty handbook, 1985-1986
- Box 1 Faculty meetings (incomplete set), 1973-2003 (15 folders)
- Box 1 Faculty memos, 1977-1978
- Box 1 Faculty recruitment, 1974-1987 (3 folders)
- Box 1 Faculty retreats, 1980-1992 (4 folders)
- Box 1 Program chairs' files, 1974-1982 (9 folders)
- Box 2 Program chairs' files, 1985-1992 (16 folders)

Series II. Subject Files

- Box 2 AAAVC (African-American Alumnae/i of Vassar College)
- Box 2 Admissions, 1974-1978, 1986 (5 folders)
- Box 2 Advisor to Minority Students 1988-1990
- Box 2 Advisers (pre-major), 1985-1986
- Box 2 Affirmative action, 1976-1986 (4 folders)
- Box 2 Africana Studies Committee on Cultural Affairs and Student Forum, 1978
- Box 2 Africana Studies handbook, 1985
- Box 2 Africana Studies majors, 1974-1988, 2003-2004 (5 folders)
- Box 2 Africana Studies Majors Committee, 1985-1990, undated
- Box 2 American Culture Program (2 folders)
- Box 2 Arabic Studies, 1987
- Box 2 Area Studies, 1987-1988
- Box 2 Audiovisual resources, 1977-1987 (4 folders)
- Box 2 Black college exchange, 1975
- Box 2 Black conferences, 1974-1975
- Box 2 Black drama workshop, 1980
- Box 2 Black faculty caucus, 1980-1981, 1988-1990, 1998 (3 folders)
- Box 2 Board of Trustees - Salary freeze, 1976
- Box 2 Bracketing courses, undated
- Box 2 Budget files, 1977-1983 (10 folders)
- Box 3 Budget files, 1985-2004 (19 folders)
- Box 3 Bulletin board (2 folders)
- Box 3 Career Development, 1987-1989 (2 folders)
- Box 3 Catalog copy (Registrar), 1974-1989 (10 folders)
- Box 8 Catalog retrospective, 2002 (2 binders)
- Box 3 Coalition of Concerned Students and Faculty, 1990 Jan 26
- Box 3 College Course, undated
- Box 3 Committee on Curricular Policies (CCP), 1974-2004 (12 folders)

- Box 3 Committee on the Education of Minority Students Report, 1970
- Box 3 Community Leaders Directory, 1987
- Box 3 Conferences, undated
- Box 4 Copyright, 1978, 1985
- Box 4 Correlate sequence, 1986-1987
- Box 4 Course listings and schedules, 1974-2004 (4 folders)
- Box 4 Dean of the College, 1985-1990 (4 folders)
- Box 4 Dean of Freshman - Pat Kaurouma, 1977-1978
- Box 4 Dean of Student Life, 1989-1990
- Box 4 Dean of Studies, 1988-1990
- Box 4 Development Office, undated
- Box 4 Educational Services and Student Relations (Office of), 1975 (3 folders)
- Box 4 Exploring Transfer Program, 1989
- Box 4 Faculty Appointments and Salary Committee, 1978-1979
- Box 4 Faculty bulletin board information, 1987-1988
- Box 4 Faculty-Freshman Dialogue, 1985
- Box 4 Faculty leaves and replacements, undated
- Box 4 Faculty meetings (general college), undated
- Box 4 Faculty review process, undated
- Box 4 Faculty staffing plans, 2000-2004
- Box 4 Faculty teaching schedules, 1981-1991 (5 folders)
- Box 4 Faculty tenure, reappointment and promotion, 1975, 1978 (2 folders)
- Box 4 Faculty travel, 1974-1989 (3 folders)
- Box 4 Faculty -- Bickerstaff, Joyce, undated
- Box 4 Faculty -- Cottingham, Clement, 1978-1979
- Box 4 Faculty -- Hill, Anthony, undated
- Box 4 Faculty -- Hodges, Norman, undated
- Box 4 Faculty -- Lynch, Hollis, undated
- Box 4 Faculty -- Mamiya, Lawrence, undated
- Box 4 Faculty -- Nkondo, Moses, undated
- Box 4 Faculty -- Paul-Emile, Barbara, undated (3 folders)
- Box 4 Fellowships, 1975-1990
- Box 4 Field trips, 1982-2003 (5 folders)
- Box 4 Field work, 1977-1989 (3 folders)
- Box 4 Final examinations, undated
- Box 4 Ford Foundation support material, undated
- Box 8 Ford Scholar program, circa 1989
- Box 4 Forms - miscellaneous, undated
- Box 4 Freshman advisees, 1985
- Box 4 Freshman courses, undated
- Box 4 Freshman seminar, undated
- Box 4 Gay Lesbian Bisexual Task Force report, 1989
- Box 4 Gospel choir, undated
- Box 4 Grants and fellowships, undated

- Box 4 Green Haven Prison, 1982-1983, undated (2 folders)
- Box 4 Harassment Committee, undated
- Box 4 History Department, 1975-1981 (2 folders)
- Box 4 Independent major, undated
- Box 4 Interdepartmental correspondence, 1977-1979 (2 folders)
- Box 4 International Studies, undated (2 folders)
- Box 5 Kendrick House matter, 1975-1975
- Box 5 Latin American Studies, undated
- Box 5 Library, 1973-1990 (17 folders)
- Box 5 Magazine articles and books, circa 1974-1982
- Box 5 Mellon grant, undated
- Box 5 Middles States report, 1988
- Box 5 Minorities in Higher Education, undated
- Box 5 Minority Freshman Orientation, 1985
- Box 5 Multidisciplinary Program, undated (6 folders)
- Box 5 National Congress of Black Faculty, undated (2 folders)
- Box 5 National Council of Black Studies, undated
- Box 5 National Endowment for the Humanities, undated
- Box 5 New England Afro-American Studies Directors, undated
- Box 5 New England (building), 1974-1987 (4 folders)
- Box 5 New York State American-Black Studies Resource Survey, circa 1985-1988
- Box 5 President, undated (3 folders)
- Box 5 President and Trustee Committee on Minority Affairs, undated
- Box 5 Publicity, undated
- Box 5 Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, undated
- Box 5 Secretary, undated (3 folders)
- Box 5 Senior theses, 1990, undated
- Box 6 Sickle Cell Anemia Testing Program materials, 1972
- Box 5 Sloan proposal, 1982
- Box 5 Student employment and financial aid, 1977-1986
- Box 5 Student forum, 1978
- Box 5 Student honors and prizes, 1978-1988, 2004
- Box 5 Student organizations, undated
- Box 5 Student organizations - Black Student Union, 1989-1990
- Box 5 Student organizations - Students' Afro-American Society, 1977-1988 (2 folders)
- Box 6 Study abroad, 1974-1991 (7 folders)
- Box 8 Study trip in Africa - Photographs, 1971 (2 albums and 2 packets)
- Box 8 Syllabi, 1975-1977
- Box 5 Syllabi, 1981-1982, 1985-1986, 1997 (3 folders)
- Box 6 Third World Festival, 1981-1993 (29 folders)
- Box 6 Third World Studies, undated
- Box 6 Urban Center, 1974-1981 (6 folders)
- Box 6 Urban Studies, 1980-1986 (2 folders)
- Box 6 Vacancies, 1985-1988 (3 folders)

Box 6	Venture Consortium, undated
Box 6	Women and the third world, 1988-1989
Box 6	Women's Health Initiative, 1987-1988
Box 6	Women's Studies, 1985-1989
Box 6	Work and Gender seminar, 1987-1989
Box 6	Zap Productions, 1986
Box 6	Zimand Fund, 1985
Box 6	Zimand Fund desegregation symposium, 1981

Series III. Lectures and Events

Box 7	General files, 1975-2004 (17 folders)
Box 7	Films, 1977-1987 (4 folders)
Box 8	Walter Rodney - Photographs, circa 1975
Box 7	Vinnie Burrows, 1978 Apr 12
Box 7	Ivan Van Sertima, 1978 Feb 16
Box 7	Michael Witter, 1982
Box 7	Micere Mugo, 1982
Box 7	Ronald Bailey, 1986 Feb 17
Box 7	John Callahan, 1986
Box 7	Black Jewish Relations panel, 1986 Feb 25
Box 7	Ebony Theatre Ensemble, 1987 Oct
Box 7	Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration, 1987
Box 7	June Jackson Christmas, 1988 Apr
Box 7	Leonard Jeffries, Jr., 1988
Box 7	Calvin Butts, 1988
Box 7	20th Anniversary, 1987-1989 (7 folders)
Box 7	Sylvia Boone, 1989
Box 7	Donald Bogle, 1989
Box 7	Muddathir Abdel Rahim, 1989 Apr 19
Box 7	President's Colloquium, 1989
Box 7	Leslie Collins, 1989
Box 7	Howard Dodson, 1989
Box 7	Eric Foner, 1989
Box 7	David L. Lewis, 1989
Box 7	Art Exhibition, 1989
Box 7	Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration, 1989
Box 7	Symposium: Africana Studies in the Academy, 1989 Apr (2 folders)
Box 7	Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration, 1989-1990
Box 7	ASE Drumming Circle, circa 1990-1999
Box 7	Sudan Studies Association, 1992 Apr
Box 7	Rex Nettleford, 1992
Box 7	25th Anniversary, 1995
Box 7	Andrew Hacker, 1995 Feb

Box 7	Margaret Walker, 1995
Box 7	Newark Boys Choir, 1995
Box 7	Louis Wilson, 1995
Box 7	Amistad event, 1996
Box 7	Michelle Wallace, 1997
Box 7	Proposed lecture series, 1997
Box 7	Hal Weaver, 1998
Box 7	A.J. Williams-Myers, 1998
Box 7	Retirement party for Norman Hodges, 1998
Box 7	Black History Month, 1999
Box 7	New York City Labor Chorus, 1999 Feb 6
Box 7	Paul Gilroy, 2001
Box 7	Alice Randall, 2001
Box 7	Taj Mahal, 2002
Box 7	Sudanic-Maghaaribi Studies Unit, 2002
Box 7	Michelle Cliff, 2002
Box 7	Sonia Sanchez, 2003
Box 7	Mohamed Ezroura, 2004
Box 7	Jazz festival, undated

Series IV. Student and Personnel Records [RESTRICTED]

Box 9	Student Files, undated
Box 9	Faculty Files, undated
Boxes 10-11	Candidate files (to be weeded), undated

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