



Ford Foundation records, Education, Media, Arts and Culture (EMAC) - Education, Knowledge, and Religion Unit (EKR), Office Files of Toby Alice Volkman

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English

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical note	4
Scope and Contents	5
Arrangement	5
Administrative Information	6
Collection Inventory	7
Crossing Borders Initiative	7
African Studies Initiative	9
Other Grants and Subjects	10

Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator - aut:	Volkman, Toby Alice
Creator:	Ford Foundation
Title:	Ford Foundation records, Education, Media, Arts and Culture (EMAC) - Education, Knowledge, and Religion Unit (EKR), Office Files of Toby Alice Volkman
ID:	FA712
Date [inclusive]:	1982-2001
Physical Description:	10.8 Cubic Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Office Files of Toby Alice Volkman, Program Officer in the Ford Foundation's Education, Knowledge and Religion unit from 1995-2001, document her oversight of grants to support teaching, scholarship and publications in the field of international and area studies. The collection spans 1982-2001 and consists of correspondence, memoranda, reports, grant proposals, meeting materials and publications. Of particular interest are records pertaining to the Crossing Borders initiative, launched in 1997 under Volkman's leadership, and files from the Foundation's African Studies initiative. The files were transferred to the Ford Foundation Archives in September 2005. The arrangement of the collection follows the original order established by Volkman, though a few unfolded and stray items have been interfiled by the processing archivist. A significant number of duplicate reports and memos were removed and discarded.

Preferred Citation

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[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical note

Toby Alice Volkman joined the Ford Foundation in 1994 as a consultant to the Education and Culture division. She was appointed Program Officer in the same area in 1995, and under a 1996 reorganization was assigned to the Education, Knowledge and Religion unit of the Education, Media, Arts and Culture program. Volkman was responsible for grantmaking to support teaching, scholarship and publications in the field of international and area studies.

In 1997, the Ford Foundation launched a major initiative under Volkman's leadership. "Crossing Borders: Revitalizing Area Studies" provided \$25 million over six years to enhance research and teaching about particular regions of the world and global processes that impact them. In the first phase of this initiative, Volkman oversaw 30 grants to U.S. academic institutions. In addition, a new Worldwide Fund for Area Studies supported collaborations between American colleges, universities, and institutional counterparts in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Russia.

Volkman also worked extensively on a Ford Foundation African Studies initiative, which supported scholarship and research in this field during the late 1990s. Her grantmaking also included support for numerous academic programs related to Southeast Asia studies. Volkman completed her assignment at the Ford Foundation in 2001. She was later a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Anthropology at New York University, and became deputy provost of New School University in 2004.

Volkman holds a B.A. degree from the University of Chicago (1969) and a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Cornell University (1980). Her dissertation focused on the cultural anthropology of the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. From 1980-1985, Volkman was Staff Anthropologist at Documentary Educational Resources. Her book *Feasts of Honor: Ritual and Change in Tana Toraja* was published by the University of Illinois in 1985. She was Director, South and Southeast Asia Programs of the Social Science Research Council from 1986-1994.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Organizational history

Ford Foundation grants to academic and research institutions working to broaden and organize knowledge about specific world regions dates from the 1950s. The Foundation was a primary force behind the establishment of area studies programs in the United States, and granted hundreds of millions of dollars to support graduate scholarship through its International Training and Research Program. In later years, the Ford Foundation maintained its commitment to the field by funding the Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies, which in turn supported area studies scholars and programs.

"Crossing Borders: Revitalizing Area Studies" was a special initiative launched by the Ford Foundation in 1997. Drawing upon the Foundation's deep experience with support of scholarship focused on

world regions, this initiative sought to reinvigorate the field, to stimulate a critical rethinking of its parameters, and to encourage broader funding by government, universities and philanthropies. This effort was, in part, a response to intellectual critiques of area studies motivated by demographic shifts, the internationalization of scholarship and the popularity of multiculturalism and post-colonial theory. At the same time, dwindling institutional support for language study, travel and other components of area studies weakened programs and underscored the need for fresh philanthropic commitment to the field.

Crossing Borders began with thirty grants of \$50,000 each to support area studies programs in a wide range of institutions. Eventually, more than fifty Crossing Borders grants were made, running through 2005. Funded projects included Duke University's "Oceans Connect," which fostered research on cultural and economic linkages across maritime basins, a faculty-student research group at Colby College charged with restructuring the institution's junior year abroad program, and research collaborations between Hunter College students and faculty and the staff of several New York-based human rights NGOs. From 1997-2001, Crossing Borders was headed by Ford Foundation Program Officer Toby Alice Volkman. It was a special initiative of the Education, Knowledge and Religion unit of the Foundation's Education, Media, Arts and Culture division.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

The Office Files of Toby Alice Volkman document grantmaking to support international and area studies programs at academic and research institutions during the period 1982-2001. A substantial portion of the collection relates to the Crossing Borders initiative, 1997-2001. Also included are records pertaining to a Foundation initiative to support African Studies, and files on dozens of additional grants for international and area studies. Several files include documents created by Sheila Biddle, a Program Officer in Education and Culture from 1982-1996. The files contain correspondence, memoranda, reports, grant proposals and related documentation, meeting materials and publications. The collection measures 9 linear feet and is contained in 9 record cartons.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

The Office Files of Toby Alice Volkman are arranged in three series:

I. Crossing Borders Initiative, 1997-2000 II. African Studies Initiative, 1995-1998 III. Other Grants and Subjects, 1982-2001

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rockefeller Archive Center

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Conditions Governing Use

Completion of a use agreement is required prior to providing scholarly access. See RAC Head of Reference (or applicable designee) for details.

Ford Foundation holds title, copyright and literary rights in the collection, in so far as it holds them.

The Rockefeller Archive Center has authority to grant permission to cite and publish material from the collection for scholarly purposes. Permission to publish extensive excerpts, or material in its entirety, will be referred to the Ford Foundation.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Ford Foundation archive was deposited at RAC in 2011. Ford Foundation records, correspondence, reports, program files and officers papers were transferred to, and accessioned by, RAC beginning in 2011. Accessions continue as necessary.

Conditions Governing Access

Records more than 10 years old are open for research with select materials restricted as noted. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC. Researchers interested in accessing digital media (floppy disks, CDs, DVDs, etc.) or audiovisual material (audio cassettes, VHS, etc.) in this collection must use an access surrogate. The original items may not be accessed because of preservation concerns. To request an access surrogate be made, or if you are unsure if there is an access surrogate, please contact an archivist.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Crossing Borders Initiative, 1997-2000

Scope and Contents

Series I includes grant proposals, applicant and grantee correspondence, proposal review notes, recommendations for grant action (RGAs), grantee narrative reports and internal memoranda. Two rounds of funding are documented: Round 1 grants made in 1997, and Round 2 grants from 1999. For a list of individual institutions/proposals contained in the "Rejected Proposals" folders (box 1, folders 41-44 and box 2, folders 24-26) see the grant RGAs.

Title/Description	Instances	
Assessment, 1997-2000	box 1	folder 1
Conference, 1998	box 1	folder 2
Conference transcripts, 1998	box 1	folder 3-4
Initiative Announcement, 1997	box 1	folder 5
Lists of Proposals, 1997	box 1	folder 6
Memoranda, 1997-1999	box 1	folder 7
Publicity, 1997-2000	box 1	folder 8
Round 1 – Grants – California State University, Dominguez Hills	box 1	folder 9
Round 1 – Grants – California State University, Los Angeles	box 1	folder 10
Round 1 – Grants – Colby College	box 1	folder 11
Round 1 – Grants – Dartmouth College	box 1	folder 12
Round 1 – Grants – Duke University	box 1	folder 13
Round 1 – Grants – Emory University	box 1	folder 14
Round 1 – Grants – Five Colleges, Inc.	box 1	folder 15
Round 1 – Grants – Hamline University	box 1	folder 16
Round 1 – Grants – Hunter College	box 1	folder 17
Round 1 – Grants – Lewis & Clark College	box 1	folder 18
Round 1 – Grants – Middlebury College	box 1	folder 19
Round 1 – Grants – New Mexico State University	box 1	folder 20
Round 1 – Grants – New York University	box 1	folder 21
Round 1 – Grants – Northern Arizona University	box 1	folder 22
Round 1 – Grants – Oberlin College	box 1	folder 23
Round 1 – Grants – St. Lawrence University	box 1	folder 24

Round 1 – Grants – Trinity College	box 1	folder 25
Round 1 – Grants – University of California, Berkeley	box 1	folder 26
Round 1 – Grants – University of California, Humanities Research Institute	box 1	folder 27
Round 1 – Grants – University of California, Santa Cruz	box 1	folder 28
Round 1 – Grants – University of Hawaii, Manoa	box 1	folder 29
Round 1 – Grants – University of Illinois	box 1	folder 30
Round 1 – Grants – University of Iowa	box 1	folder 31
Round 1 – Grants – University of Michigan	box 1	folder 32
Round 1 – Grants – University of Nebraska, Lincoln	box 1	folder 33
Round 1 – Grants – University of Pennsylvania	box 1	folder 34
Round 1 – Grants – University of Texas, El Paso	box 1	folder 35
Round 1 – Grants – University of Virginia	box 1	folder 36
Round 1 – Grants – University of Washington	box 1	folder 37
Round 1 – Grants – University of Wisconsin, Madison	box 1	folder 38
Round 1 – Grants – Yale University	box 1	folder 39
Round 1 – Recommendation for Grant Action, 1997	box 1	folder 40
Round 1 – Rejected Proposals, A-C	box 1	folder 41
Round 1 – Rejected Proposals, E-K	box 1	folder 42
Round 1 – Rejected Proposals, L-N	box 1	folder 43
Round 1 – Rejected Proposals, O-S	box 1	folder 44
Round 1 – Rejected Proposals, T-W	box 2	folder 1
Round 1 – Request for Proposals, 1997	box 2	folder 2
Round 1 – Reviews, 1997	box 2	folder 3
Round 2 – Grants – California State University, Dominguez Hills	box 2	folder 4
Round 2 – Grants – Duke University	box 2	folder 5
Round 2 – Grants – Emory University	box 2	folder 6
Round 2 – Grants – Five Colleges, Inc.	box 2	folder 7
Round 2 – Grants – Hamline University	box 2	folder 8
Round 2 – Grants – Middlebury College	box 2	folder 9
Round 2 – Grants – New York University	box 2	folder 10
Round 2 – Grants – St. Lawrence University	box 2	folder 11
Round 2 – Grants – University of California, Berkeley		

	box 2	folder 12
Round 2 – Grants – University of California, Humanities Research Institute	box 2	folder 13
Round 2 – Grants – University of California, Santa Cruz	box 2	folder 14
Round 2 – Grants – University of Hawaii, Manoa	box 2	folder 15
Round 2 – Grants – University of Illinois	box 2	folder 16
Round 2 – Grants – University of Iowa	box 2	folder 17
Round 2 – Grants – University of Michigan	box 2	folder 18
Round 2 – Grants – University of Nebraska, Lincoln	box 2	folder 19
Round 2 – Grants – University of Texas, El Paso	box 2	folder 20
Round 2 – Grants – University of Wisconsin	box 2	folder 21
Round 2 – Grants – Yale University	box 2	folder 22
Round 2 – Recommendation for Grant Action, 1999	box 2	folder 23
Round 2 – Rejected Proposals, C-H	box 2	folder 24
Round 2 – Rejected Proposals, N-O	box 2	folder 25
Round 2 – Rejected Proposals, T-U	box 2	folder 26
Round 2 – Request for Proposals, 1998	box 2	folder 27
Round 2 – Reviews, 1999	box 2	folder 28
Web Site, 2000	box 2	folder 29

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

African Studies Initiative, 1995-1998

Scope and Contents

Series II includes grant proposals, applicant and grantee correspondence, proposal review notes, recommendations for grant action (RGAs), grantee narrative reports and internal memoranda. Two rounds of funding are documented: Round 1 grants made in 1995-1996, and Round 2 grants from 1998. For a list of individual institutions/proposals contained in the "Rejected Proposals" folders (box 3, folders 22-24) see the grant RGAs.

Title/Description	Instances	
African Studies Diversity Meeting, 1997	box 2	folder 30
African Studies In Africa, 1999	box 2	folder 31
Round 1 – Grant Review, 1997	box 2	folder 32
Round 1 – Grants - Boston University	box 2	folder 33
Round 1 – Grants - Columbia University	box 2	folder 34

Round 1 – Grants - Emory University	box 2	folder 35
Round 1 – Grants - Howard University	box 3	folder 1
Round 1 – Grants - Indiana University	box 3	folder 2
Round 1 – Grants - Ohio University	box 3	folder 3
Round 1 – Grants - University of California, Berkeley	box 3	folder 4
Round 1 – Grants - University of Illinois	box 3	folder 5
Round 1 – Grants - University of Iowa	box 3	folder 6
Round 1 – Grants - University of Michigan	box 3	folder 7
Round 1 – Grants - University of Wisconsin	box 3	folder 8
Round 1 – Memoranda and Correspondence, 1995-1996	box 3	folder 9
Round 1 – Recommendations for Grant Action, 1995-1996	box 3	folder 10
Round 1 – Request for Proposals, 1994	box 3	folder 11
Round 1 – Selection Panel, 1995	box 3	folder 12
Round 2 – Grants – Clark Atlanta/Columbia/Howard Consortium	box 3	folder 13
Round 2 – Grants – Indiana University	box 3	folder 14
Round 2 – Grants – Michigan State University	box 3	folder 15
Round 2 – Grants – University of California, Berkeley	box 3	folder 16
Round 2 – Grants – University of Illinois	box 3	folder 17
Round 2 – Grants – University of Michigan	box 3	folder 18
Round 2 – Grants – University of Pennsylvania	box 3	folder 19
Round 2 – Memoranda and Correspondence, 1997	box 3	folder 20
Round 2 – Recommendation for Grant Action, 1998	box 3	folder 21
Round 2 – Rejected Proposals, C-E	box 3	folder 22
Round 2 – Rejected Proposals, H-I	box 3	folder 23
Round 2 – Rejected Proposals, O-Y	box 3	folder 24
Round 2 – Rejected Proposals, Reviewer Notes	box 3	folder 25
Round 2 – Request for Proposals, 1997	box 3	folder 26
Round 2 – Review Panel, 1998	box 3	folder 27

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Other Grants and Subjects, 1982-2001

Scope and Contents

Series III includes files on individual grants to support international and area studies programs that were not exclusively connected with the Crossing Borders or African Studies initiatives. Many are focused on Southeast Asian studies, a field of particular interest to Volkman. Also included are files on conferences, workshops and planning meetings where Volkman and her colleagues formulated their agenda to reinvigorate area studies. This material is complemented by copies of several of Volkman's "Reflection Memos."

Title/Description	Instances	
African Literature Association, 1999	box 3	folder 28
Ambrica Productions – "China Emerges", 1995	box 3	folder 29
American Council for Teachers of Russian, 1997	box 3	folder 30
American Council of Learned Societies, 1982-2000	box 3	folder 31-34
American Council on Education, 1999	box 3	folder 35
American Forum for Global Education, 1999-2000	box 3	folder 36
American Historical Association, 1998-2000	box 3	folder 37-38
American Museum of Natural History – Constructing Cultures, 1996	box 3	folder 39
American Museum of Natural History – National Center for Science Literacy, Education and Technology, 1996	box 4	folder 1
American Studies Research Centre, 1997	box 4	folder 2
Archives, Editing, Public History and Curriculum Development, 1996-1998	box 4	folder 3
Area Studies Librarianship, 1996-1998	box 4	folder 4
Asia Fellows Program, 1999	box 4	folder 5
Asia Society, 1993-1998	box 4	folder 6
Asia Studies in Asia, 1998	box 4	folder 7
Asia Studies, miscellaneous, 1996-1999	box 4	folder 8
Asian and Western States Initiative, 1999	box 4	folder 9
Asianetwork, 1995-1999	box 4	folder 10
Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs, 1995-1997	box 4	folder 11
Association for Asian Studies, 1998-1999	box 4	folder 12
Barnard College, 1998	box 4	folder 13
Bernstein, Alison R. – correspondence, 1997	box 4	folder 14
Board of Trustees – Education, Media, Arts and Culture Committee, 1996	box 4	folder 15
Board of Trustees – Meeting, 1997	box 4	folder 16

Brown University, 1994-1999	box 4	folder 17
Center for Arabic Study Abroad, 1999	box 4	folder 18
Center for Research Libraries, 1997	box 4	folder 19
Center for Transcultural Studies, 2000-2001	box 4	folder 20
City College – Latin American Studies, 1999	box 4	folder 21
City University of New York Graduate Center – Center for Place, Culture and Politics, 2000	box 4	folder 22
City University of New York Middle East Studies, 1999-2000	box 4	folder 23
Columbia University – Center for Comparative Literature and Society, 1999-2001	box 4	folder 24
Columbia University – Center for United States-China Arts Exchange, 1992-1999	box 4	folder 25-26
Columbia University – Council for European Studies, 1991-1998	box 4	folder 27
Columbia University – Institute of African Studies, 1999	box 4	folder 28
Columbia University – Oral History Research Institute, 1998	box 4	folder 29
Columbia University – Restructuring International Programs, 1998	box 4	folder 30
Community College Humanities Review, 1994-1997	box 4	folder 31
Cornell University, 1996	box 4	folder 32
Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa (CODESRIA) – Northwestern University – Transcending Boundaries, 1991-2000	box 4	folder 33-35
Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa (CODESRIA) – Yale University – African Agrarian Studies, 1999	box 5	folder 1
Cultural Studies, 1995-1996	box 5	folder 2
Culture and Natural Resource Management – General, 1994-2000	box 5	folder 3-7
Culture and Natural Resource Management – Mozambique National Dance Company, 1995	box 5	folder 8
Culture and Natural Resource Management – University of California, Berkeley, 1996-1998	box 5	folder 9
Culture and Natural Resource Management – University of Florida – Conservation and Development Forum, 1994-1996	box 5	folder 10
Culture and Resources – Recommendations for Grant Action, 1988-1995	box 5	folder 11-12
East-West Center, 1995	box 5	folder 13
Eastern Seaboard Association of Tertiary Institutions, 1998-2000	box 5	folder 14

Education and Culture Initiatives, 1994-1995	box 5	folder 15
Educations, Arts and Culture Consultative Group, 1996	box 5	folder 16
European Association for South-East Asian Studies (EUROSEAS), 1995	box 5	folder 17
European Science Foundation, 1995	box 5	folder 18
Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), 1996	box 5	folder 19
Five Colleges, Inc., 1997	box 5	folder 20
Florida International University – Cuban Research Institute, 1995-1998	box 5	folder 21
Fulbright Educational Exchange Program, 1997-1999	box 5	folder 22
Gallatin Institute – Writers on the Range, 1995	box 5	folder 23
Georgetown University, 1995-1996	box 5	folder 24
German Marshall Fund of the United States, 1998	box 5	folder 25
Grants as liaison, 1995-1997	box 5	folder 26
Gulbenkian Commission, 1995	box 5	folder 27
Harvard University – Asia Center, 1997-1999	box 5	folder 28
Harvard University – Center for Literacy and Cultural Studies, 1995-1996	box 5	folder 29
Inherited grants, 1996	box 5	folder 30
Institute for Advanced Study in Berlin – Literature and Culture in North Africa, 1995	box 5	folder 31
Institute for Intercultural Studies, 1996-1998	box 5	folder 32
Institute of International Education, 1993-2000	box 5	folder 33
Interdisciplinary Workshops/Seminars in Area Studies and Social Sciences, 1995	box 5	folder 34
International Center for Migration, Ethnicity and Citizenship, 1998	box 5	folder 35
Japan Foundation, 1996-1999	box 5	folder 36
Joint Fund for International/Area/Cultural Studies, 1995-1998	box 5	folder 37
Kazanjian, Miriam Alexis, 1996	box 5	folder 38
Latin American Studies Association, 1996-1999	box 6	folder 1
Laurasian Institute, 1998	box 6	folder 2
Leadership Alliance, 1995-1999	box 6	folder 3-5
Lewis & Clark College – Asian Studies, 1999-2000	box 6	folder 6
Linguistic Diversity, Access and Opportunity, 1998		

	box 6	folder 7
Michigan State University – South Africa collaborations, 1998-2000	box 6	folder 8
Modern Literatures of Southeast Asia, 1992-1995	box 6	folder 9
NAFSA Association of International Educators, 1997-1998	box 6	folder 10
National Centers for Tolerance Education, 1998	box 6	folder 11
National Council for Eurasian and East European Research, 1999-2000	box 6	folder 12
National Council for Research on Women, 1996	box 6	folder 13
National Council of Area Studies Associations, 1989-1996	box 6	folder 14
National Endowment for the Humanities, 1999	box 6	folder 15
National Foreign Language Center, 1986-1999	box 6	folder 16-21
National Foreign Language Center – National Organization of Less Commonly Taught Languages – University of Maryland, 2000	box 6	folder 22
National Resource Centers, 1994-1999	box 6	folder 23
National Security Education Program, 1996	box 6	folder 24
New Approaches to Area Studies, 1996-1997	box 6	folder 25
New School University, 1998-1999	box 6	folder 26
New York University – Asian/Pacific/American Studies Institute, 1998	box 6	folder 27
New York University – Center for Media, Culture and History, 1992-1999	box 6	folder 28
New York University – Hemispheric Institute on Performance and Politics, 1998-2000	box 7	folder 1-3
New York University – Internationalizing the Study of American History, 1996-1998	box 7	folder 4
New York University – School of Education, 2000	box 7	folder 5
New York University – Yari Yari Conference, 1997-2000	box 7	folder 6
Northwest Regional Consortium for Southeast Asian Studies, 1995-1997	box 7	folder 7
Northwestern University – Melville J. Herskovits Library, 1998-1999	box 7	folder 8
Nyae Nyae Development Foundation, 1988-1993	box 7	folder 9
Pacific Basin Institute, 1996-1997	box 7	folder 10
Peace, Equality and Governance, 1996	box 7	folder 11
Pennsylvania State University – Against All Odds, 1998-1999		

	box 7	folder 12
Program Officer Memo (POM), 1999	box 7	folder 13
Reflections and Exit Memoranda, 1997-2001	box 7	folder 14
Religion – Curriculum Vitae, 1990s	box 7	folder 15
Religion – Culture and Religion Consultative Subgroup, 1996	box 7	folder 16
Religion – Foundation grant making related to, 1996	box 7	folder 17
Religion – Planning notes and email, 1996	box 7	folder 18
Resignation announcement, 2000	box 7	folder 19
Resume, 1995	box 7	folder 20
Rethinking Area Studies conference, 1995-1997	box 7	folder 21
Rethinking Area Studies memoranda and drafts, 1995-1996	box 7	folder 22
Revitalizing Area Studies conference, 1998	box 7	folder 23
Rice University, 1997	box 7	folder 24
Rutgers University – African Studies Coordinating Committee, 1998-1999	box 7	folder 25
Rutgers University – Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture, 1996	box 7	folder 26
Rutgers University – Latin American Studies – Writers at the Border, 1997-1999	box 7	folder 27
Science, 1990s	box 7	folder 28
Social Science Research Council – Bangladesh Studies, 1990-1996	box 7	folder 29
Social Science Research Council – Collective Memories of Repression, 1997-1998	box 7	folder 30
Social Science Research Council – Core grant, 1991-1996	box 7	folder 31
Social Science Research Council – Core grant, 1997-2000	box 8	folder 1-3
Social Science Research Council - Cultural Agency in the Americas, 2000	box 8	folder 4
Social Science Research Council - International Dissertation Field Research Fellowship, 1997	box 8	folder 5
Social Science Research Council - International Predissertation Fellowship Program – General, 1990-2000	box 8	folder 6-8
Social Science Research Council - International Predissertation Fellowship Program – Committee meetings, 1996	box 8	folder 9-10
Social Science Research Council - International Predissertation Fellowship Program – Fellows conference, 1995	box 8	folder 11

Social Science Research Council - International Predissertation Fellowship Program – Fellows report, 1991-1996	box 8	folder 12
Social Science Research Council - International Predissertation Fellowship Program – Recommendations for Grants Action (RGAs), 1993-1997	box 8	folder 13
Social Science Research Council - New International Program, 2000	box 8	folder 14
Social Science Research Council - Regional Advisory Panels, 1997	box 8	folder 15
Social Science Research Council - Reports on Ford Foundation-funded projects, 1996	box 8	folder 16
Social Science Research Council - Southeast Asian Studies, 1999	box 8	folder 17
Social Science Research Council - Vietnamese Studies Fellowship Program, 1996-1998	box 8	folder 18
Social Sciences Research and Development Forum, 1996	box 8	folder 19
Southeast Asia Studies, 1996-1997	box 8	folder 20
Stanford University – Institute for International Studies, 1993-1996	box 8	folder 21
Stephens, Robert F., 1997	box 8	folder 22
Tufts College – Navajo Oral History and Photography, 1996	box 8	folder 23
United Negro College Fund – International Education Project, 1998	box 8	folder 24
United States-Indonesia Society, 1995-1996	box 8	folder 25
United States Information Agency, 1997	box 8	folder 26
University of California, Berkeley – Culture and Environment, 1998-2000	box 8	folder 27
University of California, Berkeley – Vietnam Studies, 1996	box 8	folder 28
University of California, Berkeley – Workshop on Environment and Politics, 1999-2000	box 8	folder 29-31
University of California, Davis – African and African-American Studies Program, 1996	box 9	folder 1
University of California, Davis – Pacific Bridges, 1995	box 9	folder 2
University of California, Humanities Research Institute, 1999	box 9	folder 3
University of California, Los Angeles – Interdisciplinary Workshop for Students of Developing Areas, 1996	box 9	folder 4
University of California, Los Angeles – Southeast Asian Studies Program, 1996-2000	box 9	folder 5
University of California, Los Angeles – Uongozi Institute, 1997-1998	box 9	folder 6

University of Chicago – Regional Worlds, 1995-1999	box 9	folder 7-8
University of Colorado – Center for the American West, 1998-1999	box 9	folder 9
University of Georgia, 1995-1999	box 9	folder 10
University of Ghana – International Centre for Music and Dance, 1993-1995	box 9	folder 11
University of Kentucky, 1999	box 9	folder 12
University of Massachusetts – Living Economy, 1996	box 9	folder 13
University of Michigan – Center for Southeast Asian Studies, 2000	box 9	folder 14
University of Minnesota – Breaking Boundaries, 1998-1999	box 9	folder 15
University of Pennsylvania – African Health Group, 1998-2000	box 9	folder 16
University of Pennsylvania – Center for the Advanced Study of India, 1998	box 9	folder 17
University of Pittsburgh, 1997-1999	box 9	folder 18
University of Texas, El Paso – National Immigration Memorial, 1998-1999	box 9	folder 19
University of Washington – Southeast Asian Area Studies, 2000	box 9	folder 20
University of Wisconsin – Philippine Environmental Photography, 1995-1998	box 9	folder 21-22
Vector Project, 1997-1998	box 9	folder 23
Volkman grant lists, 1995-2001	box 9	folder 24
Volunteers in Asia, 1999	box 9	folder 25
Wellesley College – China Photo Project, 1998-1999	box 9	folder 26
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, 1996	box 9	folder 27
Williams, Carolyn – "What is Cultural Studies?", 1995-1996	box 9	folder 28
Woodrow Wilson Center, 1997-1998	box 9	folder 29
World History Association, 1998	box 9	folder 30
Worldwide Fund for Area Studies, 1997-1999	box 9	folder 31
Worldwide Workshop for Media, Arts and Culture Programmers, 1998	box 9	folder 32
Worldwide Workshop on Culture, 1994-1995	box 9	folder 33
Worldwide Workshop on Education, 1997	box 9	folder 34
Yale University – Agrarian Studies, 1994-1997	box 9	folder 35
Yale University – Southeast Asian Studies, 1998	box 9	folder 36

Yayasan Asosiasi Tradisi Lisan, 1999

box 9

folder 37

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)