



Population Council records, Board of Trustees Meetings, Accession 2, RG 2, Series 9

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	5
Administrative Information	5
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator:	Population Council
Creator - ctb:	Rockefeller, John D., III (John Davison), 1906-1978
Title:	Population Council records, Board of Trustees Meetings, Accession 2, RG 2, Series 9
ID:	FA1429
Date [inclusive]:	1952-1989
Physical Description:	14.06 Cubic Feet 37 letter document boxes.
Language of the Material:	English

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

The Population Council was founded by John D. Rockefeller 3rd in 1952 to undertake "significant activities in the broad field of population." Its goal has been to bring about a reduction in the number of births that occur in the world. In its early years, the business of the Population Council was conducted by a Demographic Division and a Biomedical Division. Through its Demographic Division, the Council sought to document what it conceived to be an overpopulation problem threatening many areas of the world. To accomplish this purpose, the Division facilitated research on the economic, social, and psychological factors which affect the growth and decline of human population. This Council-assisted research effort was conducted not only by staff of the Demographic Division but also by other institutions and scholars, some of whom received Council grants and fellowships and some of whom received informal advice and consultation on how to design and execute studies.

The Biomedical Division, which, beginning in 1959, occupied a laboratory at The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research (now The Rockefeller University), has conducted pure and applied research on plant, animal, and human reproductive physiology and on the development, the physiological action, and the safety and effectiveness of contraceptive methods. The Council facilitated similar types of medical research by non-Council scientists at other institutions by giving grants and fellowships for such research. The Council's biomedical research and its support for research by non-Council scientists were instrumental in the development of the modern intrauterine coil and the birth control pill.

In about 1960, the scope of Population Council activities expanded. The Council began to render practical and technical aid to foreign nations. Beginning in that year, the Demographic Division, in

addition to supervising research, became involved in Pakistan's family planning program, extending practical and technical aid in organizing and running a national family planning program. By 1964 the Council's Demographic Division had assisted in organizing family planning programs in South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, and Turkey. In that year, the Council created the Technical Assistance Division. This division, in ensuing years, continued the assistance of the Council in the countries where it had already become involved and also helped start and run programs in India, Morocco, the Philippines, and Puerto Rico.

An underlying aim of the Council's grant programs has been to encourage the development and growth of institutions that would promote family planning programs. To this end, the Council has given grants and advice to various universities and research centers for starting and upgrading programs for demographic and biomedical training and research programs; has assisted the United Nations to set up and expand regional Demographic Training and Research Centres in Bombay, India, Santiago, Chile, and Cairo, Egypt; has worked with the Ford Foundation on family planning programs in Pakistan, India, and North Africa.

In addition to rendering technical aid and sponsoring research, the Council has undertaken several complementary public relations efforts. To reach the general populations of the United States and of foreign nations, Council officers have worked to inform the mass media about population issues and to encourage magazine articles, movies, and books dealing with population matters. Council officers and representatives have also made trips and prepared reports to convince various foreign government leaders of the importance and the desirability of promulgating family planning programs. In addition, Council officers participated in and helped organize and finance conferences for demographers and medical scientists active in population work.

The Population Council has obtained its financial support through large contributions. The Ford and Rockefeller Foundations and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund have been the principal institutional supporters of the Council. John D. Rockefeller 3rd has been the single most significant individual backer of the Council.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

Meetings of the Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, Annual Meeting of the Members, and select Officer's meetings. Files often contain dockets, agendas, minutes, financial reports, and associated background information for each meeting.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Primarily arranged chronologically.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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archive@rockarch.org

URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

Conditions Governing Access

Open for research with select materials restricted as noted. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC.

Processing Information

Minimal processing, 2018.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection is open for scholarly research. If accessing the records of the Population Council, I understand that I am given access to these records on condition that I will not identify by name, either in my research notes or in publication or recording, the names of individuals who received or apparently received medical diagnoses and/or treatments, whose case(s), may be documented or mentioned by personal name in the Population Council records.

Conditions Governing Use

The Population Council retains title, copyright and literary rights in the collection, in so far as it holds them.

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[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1952 November 17-1954 October 6	box 1	folder 1-3
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1955 January 24-1956 October 30	box 1	folder 4
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1955 January 24-1956 October 30	box 2	folder 5-6
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1957 January 10-1958 May 16	box 2	folder 7
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1957 January 10-1958 November 13	box 2	folder 8
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1958 November 13-1960 January 6	box 3	folder 9
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1959 January 21-May 13	box 3	folder 10
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1960 January 6-October 19	box 3	folder 11
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1960 April 5-October 19	box 3	folder 12
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1961 January 11-December 20	box 4	folder 13-14
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1962 March 14-October 10	box 4	folder 15-16
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1963 January 7-April 17	box 5	folder 17-18
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1963 October 9	box 5	folder 19
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1973 February	box 5	folder 20
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1964 May 20-October 14	box 5	folder 21
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1965 January 13-April 21	box 6	folder 22
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1965 October 20-December 15	box 6	folder 23
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1966 April 20-October 19	box 6	folder 24
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1966 December 21-1967 April 19	box 6	folder 25
Annual Meeting and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1967 April 19	box 7	folder 26
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1967 October 11		

	box 7	folder 27
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1967 October 11-December 13	box 7	folder 28
Executive Committee Meeting, 1967 December 13	box 7	folder 29
Annual Meeting and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1968 April 2	box 7	folder 30-31
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1968 October 16	box 8	folder 32-33
Executive Committee Meeting, 1968 December 11	box 8	folder 34-35
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1969 March 5	box 8	folder 36-37
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1969 June 4	box 8	folder 38
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1969 June 4	box 9	folder 39
Executive Committee Meeting, 1969 September 17	box 9	folder 40-41
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1969 December 10	box 9	folder 42
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1970 March 4	box 9	folder 43
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1970 June 3	box 9	folder 44
Executive Committee Meeting, 1970 September 9	box 9	folder 45
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1970 December 9	box 10	folder 46
Executive Committee Meeting, 1971 March 3	box 10	folder 47
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1971 June 2	box 10	folder 48
Executive Committee Meeting, 1971 September 15	box 10	folder 49
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1971 December 7	box 10	folder 50
Executive Committee Meeting, 1972 March 8	box 11	folder 51
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1972 June 6	box 11	folder 52
Executive Committee Meeting, 1972 September 13	box 11	folder 53
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1972 December 13	box 11	folder 54
Executive Committee Meeting, 1973 March 7	box 11	folder 55
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1973 June 6	box 36	folder 118
Executive Committee Meeting, 1973 September 5	box 11	folder 56
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1973 December 12	box 12	folder 57
Executive Committee Meeting, 1974 March 6	box 12	folder 58

Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1974 June 5	box 12	folder 59
Executive Committee Meeting, 1974 September 11	box 12	folder 60
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1974 October 7-December 3 1974	box 12	folder 61
Executive Committee Meeting, 1975 March 25	box 12	folder 62
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1975 June 4	box 13	folder 63
Executive Committee Meeting, 1975 September 8	box 13	folder 64
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1975 December 10	box 13	folder 65
Board of Trustees Meeting (George Zeidenstein Copy), 1976 April 5	box 13	folder 66-67
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting (George Zeidenstein Copy), 1976 June 8-9	box 13	folder 68
Executive Committee Meeting (George Zeidenstein Copy), 1976 September 8	box 13	folder 69
Board of Trustees Meeting (George Zeidenstein Copy), 1976 December 7-8	box 14	folder 70
Executive Committee Meeting (George Zeidenstein Copy), 1977 March 2	box 14	folder 71
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1977 June 14-15	box 14	folder 72-73
Executive Committee Meeting, 1978 April 21	box 14	folder 74
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1978 June 23-24	box 15	folder 75
Executive Committee, 1978 September 15	box 15	folder 76
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1956-1959	box 15	folder 77
Board of Trustees Meetings, 1960	box 15	folder 78
Senior Staff Meetings, 1974-1976	box 36	folder 119
Family Planning Programs and Official Policy Decisions in Southern Africa, John C. Caldwell, 1970s	box 36	folder 120
Officers Meetings, 1976 July-1977 March	box 15	folder 79
Officers Meetings, 1977 April-November	box 16	folder 80
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting (Hugo Hoogenboom Copy), 1976 June 8-9	box 16	folder 81
Executive Committee Meeting (Hugo Hoogenboom Copy), 1976 September 8	box 16	folder 82
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1976 December 7-8	box 16	folder 83
Executive Committee Meeting, 1977 March 2	box 16	folder 84

Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1977 June 4-5	box 16	folder 85
Executive Committee Meeting (Hugo Hoogenboom Copy), 1977 September 8	box 17	folder 86
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1977 December 6-7	box 17	folder 87
Executive Committee Meeting (Hugo Hoogenboom Copy), 1978 April 21	box 17	folder 88
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting (Hugo Hoogenboom Copy), 1978 June 23-24	box 17	folder 89
Executive Committee Meeting, 1978 September 15	box 17	folder 90
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1978 December 1-2	box 17	folder 91
1979 Program Budget, 1978	box 36	folder 121
Officers Meetings, 1979 January-February	box 18	folder 92
Officers Meetings, 1979 March-June	box 18	folder 93
Officers Meetings, 1979 July-December	box 18	folder 94
Officers Meetings, 1979 January-December	box 18	folder 95
1980 Program Plan and Budget, 1979	box 36	folder 122
Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting (Hugo Hoogenboom Copy), 1979 June 15-16	box 18	folder 96
Executive Committee Meeting (Hugo Hoogenboom Copy), 1979 March 2	box 19	folder 97
Executive Committee Meeting, 1979 September 14	box 19	folder 98
Board of Trustees Meeting (Hugo Hoogenboom Copy), 1979 December 7-8	box 19	folder 99
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1980 June 12-14	box 19	folder 100
Executive Committee Meeting, 1980 September 23	box 19	folder 101
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1980 December 5-6	box 19	folder 102
Officers Meetings, 1980 January-February	box 19	folder 103
Officers Meetings, 1980 March-May	box 20	folder 104
Officers Meetings, 1980 June-September	box 20	folder 105
Officers Meetings, 1980 October-December	box 20	folder 106
Officers Meetings, 1980 January-December	box 20	folder 107
Officers Meetings, 1981 January-July	box 20	folder 108
Officers Meetings, 1981 August-December	box 21	folder 109
Executive Committee Meeting, 1981 March 24	box 21	folder 110

Annual Meeting of Members and Board of Trustees Meeting, 1981 June 5-6	box 21	folder 111
Executive Committee Meeting, 1981 September 22	box 21	folder 112
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1981 December 4-5	box 21	folder 113
Officers Meetings, 1982 January-December	box 37	folder 131
Officers Meetings, 1983 January-June	box 21	folder 114
Officers Meetings, 1983 July-December	box 21	folder 115
Officers Meetings, 1984 January-June	box 22	folder 116
Officers Meetings, 1984 July-December	box 22	folder 117
Board of Trustees - Correspondence, Reports, Studies, 1967-1969	box 36	folder 123
Board of Trustees - Members - Miscellaneous, 1967	box 37	folder 124
Board of Trustees - Members - Black, Eugene, 1967-1971	box 37	folder 125
Board of Trustees - Members - Rockefeller, John D., 3rd, 1967-1971	box 37	folder 126
Board of Trustees - Members - Rockefeller, John D., 3rd - Travel - Taiwan, 1971	box 37	folder 127
Board of Trustees - Members - Rockefeller, John D., 3rd - Travel - Philippines and Japan, 1970-1972	box 37	folder 128
Executive Committee, 1969-1974	box 37	folder 129
Annual Meeting, 1969-1974	box 37	folder 130
Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1952 November 17-1961 December 20	box 22	

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

Brittle or damaged items may be restricted at the discretion of
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1962 May 23-1969 June 4	box 23
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1970 March 4-1976 June 8-9	box 24
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1976 September-December	box 25
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1977 MarchJuneSeptember	box 26
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1977 December-1978 September	box 27
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1978 December-1979 December	box 28
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1979 December-1980 September	box 29
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1980 December-1981 March	box 30
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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1981
December-1982 December box 31

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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1983-1984 June box 32

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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1984
December-1985 September box 33

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1985
December-1986 December box 34

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

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Board of Trustees Meetings - Bound Volumes, 1987
December-1989 December box 35

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