



Ford Foundation records, International Division, Population Program, Office Files of Robert S. Wickham

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on November 03, 2016.

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue
Sleepy Hollow 10591

archive@rockarch.org

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

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	4
Scope and Content Note	5
Arrangement	6
Administrative Information	6
Related Materials	7
Collection Inventory	7
Population and Family Planning Conferences	7

Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator:	Ford Foundation
Title:	Ford Foundation records, International Division, Population Program, Office Files of Robert S. Wickham
ID:	FA570
Date [inclusive]:	1964-1970
Physical Description:	1.2 Cubic Feet
Physical Description:	(3 Hollinger document boxes)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	<p>The Population Program was created in 1963 to better facilitate research and more efficiently handle grant proposals pertaining to the health and welfare of communities in the United States and abroad. The Population program became a sub-division of the Foundation's International Division in 1966. In 1981, it again gained independent program status. Due to subsequent reorganizations the Population Program now falls under the purview of the Sexuality and Reproductive Health and Rights division of the Education, Creativity and Free Expression program. Robert Saunderson Wickham joined the Ford Foundation in 1956 as a staff associate for the South and Southeast Asia program. During his tenure at the Foundation, he served as a regional representative and a program director, and by his retirement had been promoted to Program Officer of the International Division's Population Office. This small collection of his papers contains materials from two conferences, the Foundation's Population Conference held in Lake Como, Italy in April 1968 and the Family Planning Evaluation Conference held in Marino, Italy from April 20-24, 1970. The files include agendas, published and unpublished papers, and discussion topics and notes from one session of the Foundation's 1968 conference and materials from all twelve sessions of the 1970 conference.</p>

Preferred Citation note

Information regarding the Rockefeller Archive Center's preferred elements and forms of citation can be found at <http://www.rockarch.org/research/citations.php>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Robert Saunderson Wickham was born on May 11, 1925. Mr. Wickham joined the U.S. Army in 1943 and served until 1946. Following the end of World War II and his service in the Army, Mr. Wickham enrolled at Haverford College. In 1950, he graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and as a member of the national honor society, Phi Beta Kappa. From 1950 to 1952, Mr. Wickham worked for the U.S. Department of the Interior as a management trainee and a foreign affairs analyst for the Division of International Activities. From 1952 to 1953, the U.S. Technical Cooperation Administration employed him as chief of their training branch and as a program and budget officer for activities in Tehran, Iran. From 1954 through the spring of 1956, Mr. Wickham was involved in highly classified work for the U.S. government.

Mr. Wickham joined the Ford Foundation's Overseas Development Division as a staff associate for the South and Southeast Asia region in April 1956. In October 1957, he transitioned into the role of Program Assistant for the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region. From 1958 to 1959, Mr. Wickham attended Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government where he earned a Master of Public Administration in economic development and, in October 1960, received a promotion to Program Associate of LAC. He became the Foundation's representative to Colombia, Venezuela, and Peru in September 1962, and in May 1965 his responsibilities expanded when he became Representative of Mexico, all of Central America, and Venezuela. The following year, in October 1966, Mr. Wickham rose to Associate Director of Latin America and the Caribbean, and, in September 1968, became the Program Officer for the Latin American region. Mr. Wickham transferred to the International Division's Population Office as its Program Officer in August 1971.

Mr. Wickham retired from the Foundation on June 27, 1983 and moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Organizational History

The Ford Foundation's Population Program was created in 1963 to provide improved support for research and to more efficiently handle grant proposals pertaining to the health and welfare of communities in the United States and abroad. In 1966, the Population program became a sub-division of the Foundation's International Division and remained so until 1981 when it again gained independent program status. Following a reorganization of the Foundation in 1992, the newly formed Reproductive Health and Population program absorbed the existing Population program. The ASSETS program (Asset Building and Community Development Program) was introduced in 1997 and included a subdivision focused on Human Development and Reproductive Health. Though the Human Development and

Reproductive Health program was canceled in 2002, the Education, Creativity and Free Expression program restored the Foundation's work in population health in 2009 with the creation of a subdivision focused on Sexuality and Reproductive Health and Rights.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Segment One: International Activities of the Ford Foundation: An Overview

The Foundation's aspiration to become a national and international philanthropy for the advancement of human welfare was first formally expressed in the seminal 1949 report of the Gaither Study Committee, *Report of the Study for the Ford Foundation on Policy and Program* (RAC Library, call letters 361.7 GAI), which was commissioned by the Board of Trustees to chart the Foundation's future. Foundation Trustees launched Ford's international grantmaking activities in 1950 when they approved the committee's report and its embrace of peace, democracy, and freedom. Since then, the Foundation has tackled these goals using a variety of strategies and responding to changing contexts, from the Cold War to the 1989 fall of the Berlin Wall and beyond.

Toward the Foundation's aspiration goal, "the establishment of peace", its international activities have comprised a wide range of conceptual approaches and focus areas. These include international affairs, international studies, international understanding, arms control and disarmament, international law, international economic concerns, and overseas development in nearly every region of the world. Three distinct periods emerge for the international grantmaking defined by external contextual changes and internal changes in Foundation leadership and structures: the expansion era of 1950-1965; the transition and restructuring years of 1966-1988; and the post-1989 shift away from Cold War dichotomies. During each of the distinct historical periods the consistent objectives were: 1) to ensure freedom and democracy in developed countries; 2) to foster education and international understanding in all countries; and 3) to contribute to the social, economic, and political development of less developed countries.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Content Note

This small collection of office files of Robert Wickham consists of materials from two conferences, the Foundation's Population Conference in Lake Como, Italy from April 8-11, 1968 and the Family Planning Evaluation Conference in Marino, Italy from April 20-24, 1970. The collection contains files from one session of the Foundation's 1968 conference and from all twelve sessions of the 1970 conference.

Reports written by Ford Foundation employees on reproductive health and population control form the bulk of the collection. They address the demographic effects of family planning programs, the awareness

and use of contraceptives, the application of computer-generated surveys and software options for tabulating and monitoring family planning programs, and a myriad of fertility-related studies carried out in the United States and abroad.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

The collection contains one series.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue

Sleepy Hollow 10591

archive@rockarch.org

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

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

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 Use note

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.

Processing Information Note

The original volume of one cubic foot accessioned by the Ford Foundation in 2011 was transferred to three Hollinger document boxes during processing. The collection consists entirely of conference materials. All documents were retained.

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.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Separated Materials

Appendix A: Reports – Unpublished reports written by Ford Foundation staff and consultants were removed from their original folders, scanned and transferred to the Archives' collection of staff and consultant reports. See Appendix A for a list of these reports and their specific assigned number. The reports are listed in alphabetical order by author. The assigned number may be used to access reports in the online catalog.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Population and Family Planning Conferences, 1964-1970

Scope and Contents

The records of the two conferences comprise this series and contain agendas, a list of attendees, unpublished background and position papers, published articles, and discussion topics provided to participants of both the 1968 Population Conference and the 1970 Family Planning Evaluation Conference.

Title/Description	Instances	
1968 Family Planning Conference (1 of 2), 1964-1968	box 1	folder 1
1968 Family Planning Conference (2 of 2) (reports separated), 1964-1968	box 1	folder 2

Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Sessions 1, 2, 1969-1970	box 1	folder 3
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 3, 1967-1970	box 1	folder 4
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 4, 1967-1970	box 1	folder 5
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 5, 1967-1970	box 1	folder 6
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 6, 1968-1970	box 1	folder 7
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 7 (folder 1 of 4), 1965-1970	box 2	folder 1
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 7 (folder 2 of 4), 1965-1970	box 2	folder 2
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 7 (folder 3 of 4), 1965-1970	box 2	folder 3
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 7 (folder 4 of 4), 1965-1970	box 2	folder 4
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 8, 1965-1970	box 2	folder 5
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 9 (folder 1 of 2), 1967-1970	box 2	folder 6
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 9 (folder 2 of 2), 1967-1970	box 2	folder 7
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 10 (folder 1 of 2), 1968-1970	box 3	folder 1
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Session 10 (folder 2 of 2), 1968-1970	box 3	folder 2
Marino Family Planning Evaluation Conference (April 1970) -- Sessions 11, 12, 1966-1970	box 3	folder 3

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)