Guide to the University of Chicago, Committee on African Studies Records 1960-1995
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Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.AFRICANSTUDIES

Title  University of Chicago. Committee on African Studies. Records

Date  1960-1995

Size  8.5 linear feet (17 boxes)

Repository  Special Collections Research Center
             University of Chicago Library
             1100 East 57th Street
             Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract  Administrative records of the Committee on African Studies, including correspondence, curriculum syllabi, information on internal and external fellowship applications, and financial information.

Information on Use

Access

Series VI contains material restricted for 30 or 50 years. The remainder of the collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: University of Chicago. Committee on African Studies. Records, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Historical Note

Following the Second World War there was a consistent interest in Africa at the University of Chicago exemplified by faculty exchanges with African Institutions and a bourgeoning of students engaging in research concerning Africa at the Doctoral level. In 1960, a formal committee on Near Eastern and African studies was formed to meet the growing needs of the school. Following a rapid expansion of interest in African studies, including the hiring of seven new faculty members with African research experience, a separate committee on African Studies was established in 1964. The committee on African studies later was expanded to also incorporate African American Studies. It is an interdepartmental, interdivisional body concerned with promoting the study of African and African-American culture and society from prehistoric until contemporary times. The committee used funds provided by the University and grant organizations to expand fellowship programs, augment library holdings, finance visiting lectures and to support the hiring of new appointments, as well as providing funds to aid students and faculty members as they engaged in field work. Currently, the main activities of the Committee
on African and African-American Studies are the coordination of graduate studies programs and the management of workshops and conferences.

**Scope Note**

The collection contains the administrative records of the committee on African Studies. One can find therein correspondence from the committee, including general correspondence, as well as the correspondence of its various chairs. The collection also includes various materials related to the courses sponsored by the African Studies Committee, articles by professors who are members of the committee as well as information related to the activities sponsored by the committee. Also included in the collection is information related to the fellowships offered by the committee as well as information and applications related to external fellowships, applied for by students or the committee itself. Furthermore, the collection contains financial documents related to the committee’s operations.

**Related Resources**

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

**Subject Headings**

- Long, Charles H.
- Austen, Ralph A.
- Levine, Donald Nathan, 1931-
- Comaroff, Jean
- University of Chicago. Committee on African Studies
- African Studies Association
- 
- Africa -- Study and Teaching

**INVENTORY**

**Series I: Correspondence**

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