



Special Collections and University Archives

---

**Manuscript Group 149  
Oral History Interview Project of the Women at IUP**

**For Scholarly Use Only  
Last Modified February 22, 2017**

---

**Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
302 Stapleton Library  
Indiana, PA 15705-1096  
Voice: (724) 357-3039  
Fax: (724) 357-4891**

**Oral History Interview Project of the Women at IUP; Manuscript Group 149  
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives  
2 boxes, 2 linear feet**

**Historical Note**

This collection of oral history interviews of women at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) was started as an University Senate Grant project in 2008 when Dr. Theresa McDevitt, the Government Documents Librarian at IUP Libraries, and Valetta Keene-Shuppe, a History graduate student in the History Department, interviewed former and current IUP faculty and administrators to document the development at IUP of the Women's Advisory Council ([Record Group 15](#)), the Women's Studies Program, the Women's Judicial Board ([Record Group 58](#)), and the President's Commission on the Status of Women at IUP ([Record Group 82](#)). In 2009, Dr. Theresa McDevitt carried out additional oral history interviews as a part of her sabbatical project.

**Scope and Content**

The Oral History Interviews of the Women of IUP collection is housed in two archival boxes. The collection consists of audio cassette tapes, audio CDs and video DVDs, consent forms, and transcriptions (in digital and paper formats).

Interviews date from 1978 to 2010. Earlier interviews with female faculty, students, and administrators were also converted to digital format and included in this collection. For additional oral history interviews please see [Manuscript Group 30: Local History Project: A Collection of Oral Histories](#). The oral histories consist of interviews with administrators, alumni, and faculty at Indiana State Normal School (ISNS, 1875-1927), Indiana State Teachers College (ISTC, 1927-1959), Indiana State College (ISC, 1959-1965), and Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP, 1965-1966 to the present). The collection now contains interviews that document women's experiences on campus from Indiana State Normal School (1875-1927) to the present day.

**Provenance**

IUP and the Stapleton Library

**Restrictions**

None, this collection is open for research. Property rights reside with Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), and the IUP Special Collections and University Archives. Literary rights are retained by the creators of the records and their heirs. For permissions to reproduce or publish, please contact the [Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist](#).

**Processor**

2008-2011: records copied, arranged, and inventoried by Valetta Keener-Shuppe, Dr. Theresa McDevitt, and Vickie Respet from the Library Technical Services Department and IUP Special Collections Department. The collection was arranged and the collection finding aid was organized by Hilary Lewis Walczak in 2011. In 2015, Valetta Keener-Shuppe continued to transcribe oral history interviews in this collection. The collection was organized and the finding aid was updated by Harrison Wick on February 22, 2017.

## Content List

### Box 1 (16 folders)

1. Background on Women's Advisory Council
2. Questions for Development of Women's Advisory Council, Women's Studies, and Women's Commission interviews and blank consent and release forms.
3. Resources about Women's Studies Program
4. Online Collection Finding aids (IUP Special Collections & University Archives) :
  - a. [Record Group 48: Center for Student Life, Student Leadership, and Greek Life \(Student Activities and Organization\)](#)
  - b. [Manuscript Group 1: Effie L. Shields Collection](#)
  - c. [Manuscript Group 30: Local History Project: A Collection of Oral Histories](#)
  - d. [Manuscript Group 149: IUP's Women's Advisory Council Oral History Project \(this document\)](#)
5. Affirmative Action
6. Women Studies: Forum for higher education
7. Home Economics Department Cookbook

### Interviews (Box 1 Folders 8-16 and Box 2)

8. Gwen Griffith Brechin, Clark Marshall, and Sylvia Mitchell, Audio CD #21 (1 CD)
  - a. Gwen Griffith Brechin, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 34 minutes, Audio CD #21, November 22, 2009. Ms. Brechin was born in 1919, in Irwin, Pennsylvania. She attended the ISTC and her mother had attended Indiana State Normal School (ISNS). She described her experiences in Indiana and her recollections of her time here. She retired from teaching in 1977, and lived in Los Altos, California for over 30 years.
  - b. Clark Marshall, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 7 minutes, Audio CD #21, 2009. Mr. Marshall graduated from ITSC in 1957. He was a Math and Physical Science Education major. He described his work experience in the bake shop and dining hall in Sutton Hall as well as his time spent working with Ma Folger.
  - c. Sylvia Camp Mitchell, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 39 minutes, Audio CD #21, July 27, 2007. Ms. Mitchell was a Home Economics major, and she graduated from ITSC in 1954. Although Sylvia was from Indiana she lived in the dormitories while she attended college. She recalls her college experience and her experiences while she searched for a teaching position after graduation.
9. Carol Connell, Trevor Hadley, Patricia Hawxhurst, Kay Snyder, Audio CD #22 (1 CD and consent form)
  - a. Carol Connell, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 7 minutes, Audio CD #22, December 9, 2009. Carol Connell has been a library faculty member at IUP since 1970. She attended Whittenburg University and Penn State University. She was a teacher until she returned to school for her Master of Library Science degree at the University of Pittsburgh. She explains her experiences as a female working in the IUP Libraries as well as experience as a female working in higher education.
  - b. Dr. S. Trevor Hadley, interviewed by Dale Landon, 54 minutes, Audio CD #22, July 17, 1978. Dr. Samuel Trevor Hadley (1916-1996) attended ISTC from 1933-1937, and he describes his experiences and activities as a student. He graduated from ISTC with

- the Class of 1937, and attended the University of Pittsburgh where he earned his Master's degree in 1941 and Doctorate in Education in 1952. Hadley worked at ISTC and IUP from 1946 until his retirement in 1978 as an administrator, faculty member, counseling director, dean of students, and the first vice president for student affairs. Through his leadership and commitment the graduate program in student personnel services was initiated. He was impressed with the dedication and commitment of all people associated with the school. He discussed the quality of education at ISTC and IUP, and the various problems he was aware of through the years. Overall, he was very pleased with the college and later university. Hadley lived in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In 1985, the Union Building at IUP was renovated, and it was dedicated as the S. Trevor Hadley Union Building (HUB). The HUB is the home of the Student Cooperative Association, which was organized in 1933.
- c. Patricia Hawxhurst, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 24 minutes, Audio CD #22, December, 29, 2009. Ms. Hawxhurst was born in Indiana, Pennsylvania in 1925. She explained student activities, and going to the chicken and waffle dinners at her great grandmother's farm. She attended ISTC and graduated in 1941, the first class to graduate from Keith Hall. She explains her educational experiences as a woman at IUP.
  - d. Dr. Kay Snyder, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 2 hours 31 minutes, Audio CD #22, September 4, 2009. Dr. Snyder was born in Lansing, Michigan in 1944. She attended Michigan State University, and she did her doctorate work in Sociology at Cornell University. In 1974, she began teaching at Michigan State University. She discusses her experiences as a female teaching in higher education during the women's movement. She was very instrumental in the development of the women's programs at IUP. She currently is a professor in the Administrative Leadership Studies program at IUP.
10. Dr. Martin Fausold, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 42 minutes 51 seconds, Audio CD #19, March 3, 2006 (1 CD). Dr. Fausold describes his recollections of being the son of a former president and first lady of ITSC. The Fausold family moved to Indiana, Pennsylvania in 1936. In this interview, he discusses the interesting politics behind being the President of a college and several diary accounts left behind by his parents from their time at ITSC.
  11. Olive Fornear, interviewed by Dr. Carl Rahkonen and Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 32 minutes, Audio CD #4 (audio only), July 3, 2008 (2 CDs only). Ms. Fornear studied Music Education at ISTC, graduating in 1933 with a major in Music Education and a minor in English. She began teaching in Windber, Pennsylvania, where she taught high school English and supervised the Elementary Music Program for 13 years. In 1958, she accepted an offer to teach music, chorus, and band at ISTC. In this interview she discusses student life at ISTC while she studied here including social activities, student behavior on and off campus, the penalties for misbehavior, and the intentional instruction of proper manners for young men and women during school hours. She discusses students and faculty in the Music Department both when she was a student and when she served as a faculty member.
  12. Peggy Fulton, Rosaly Roffman, Marian Stapleton, and Isabel Vogel, Audio CD #16 (1 CD)
    - a. Peggy Fulton, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 17 minutes, Audio CD #16, November 23, 2009. Peggy Fulton was a nursing cadet at ISTC in 1944. She decided she wanted to be a nurse during WWII. She enlisted and the government paid for her to attend the nursing program at ISTC. She lived in Sutton Hall for 3 years,

- graduated with a RN degree, but did not serve overseas due to the end of the war. She witnessed the many stages of IUP from the model school as a child from kindergarten to high school to ISTC as a nursing student.
- b. Rosaly Roffman, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 2 hours 20 minutes, Audio CD #16, November 11, 2009. Rosaly Roffman was born in the Bronx, New York. She attended an all-girl junior high school in New York City. In this interview, she discusses her diverse childhood as a minority. She also describes her experiences and difficulties of her extensive teaching career as a female faculty member at IUP, from 1967 to 2003. She was a professor of creative writing English and founded the Myth/folklore studies center.
  - c. Marian Geraldine Burns Stapleton, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 4 minutes, Audio CD #16, October 2009. Marian Stapleton was born in Indiana County in 1936. Her family moved to Indiana so she could attend ISTC to have a better education. She went to college to study Home Economics Education and was a member of the Delta Zeta sorority. She describes her many memories while she attended ISTC.
  - d. Isabel Vogel, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 44 minutes, Audio CD #16, September 26, 2009. Isabel Vogel (Rose Isabel Cost Vogel, 1902-2009) was 107 years old when she was interviewed in 2009 at St. Andrew's Village in Indiana, Pennsylvania. She recollects her teaching career in Indiana and her experience at IUP. As a student, she attended Indiana State Normal School (ISNS) and lived in John Sutton Hall. She graduated from Indiana State Normal School with the Class of 1923.
13. Mrs. Joann Ganley, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 40 minutes, Audio CD #15, August 26, 2008 (1 CD and consent form) Joann Ganley was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She came to ISTC just as World War II was ending. While at ISTC she met fellow student Bernard Ganley who had served in the U.S. Navy during the WWII. The two married after graduation. Mrs. Ganley graduated with a degree in Home Economics and taught in local schools and as an adjunct at ISTC (and later ISC and IUP) in the Home Economics Department. Bernard Ganley taught and served as a principal in local schools. He joined the administration of ISC as Dean of Men and then became President Pratt's Assistant. Ganley later served as acting President in 1979. In this interview, Mrs. Ganley recalls her childhood and why she was drawn to ISTC to attend college. She discusses traveling to school, student life, regulations and social activities, and life in the Richards Home Economics House. She also discusses her experience as spouse of the Dean of Men, living on campus with her own small son, attending official functions, the demands and amusements of the position.
  14. Dr. Florence Haug, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 30 minutes, Audio CD #6, March 20, 2007 (2 CDs and consent form). Ms. Haug was the Secretary to ISTC/ISC and IUP presidents from Pratt to Welty. In this interview, she recollects her years as secretary to presidents Pratt, Hassler, Worthen, Wilburn, and Welty. She reflected on the personalities, achievements, working styles, and roles of the various presidents and their wives.
  15. Dr. Sherrill Kuckuck, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 15 minutes, Audio CD #22, Video DVD #1, and Transcript, May 27, 2008 (1 CD and 1 DVD, 2 audio cassette tapes, consent form, and transcription). Dr. Kuckuck held administrative positions at IUP between 1971 and 2005, including Assistant Dean of Women. In this interview, she discusses changes

in the University's administration that accompanied the development of a more gender neutral campus including the elimination of the position of Dean of Women and the shift from separate male and female dorms to co-ed housing. Kuckuck was instrumental in the development of the WAC, a committee that gave birth to significant initiatives in women's health issues, sexual harassment prevention, leadership skill and career development, and the Women's Studies Academic Program. Dr. Kuckuck also discussed differences in student life between 1971 and 2005 using many interesting comparisons and examples.

16. Ms. Frederica F. Litsey, interviewed by Dale Landon, 40 minutes, Audio CD # 11, June 13, 1978 (2 CDs). Ms. Litsey graduated from Indiana State Normal School (ISNS) in 1916. In this interview, she recalls many of the experiences she had during her years at the school and as a resident of Indiana County, Pennsylvania.

### **Box 2 (16 folders)**

1. Dr. Irwin Marcus, IUP History Department (4 CDs and Video DVDs, audio cassette tape, consent form, notes, and biographical information)
  - a. Dr. Irwin Marcus, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 45 minutes, Audio CD and Cassette Tape, November 15, 2007. Dr. Marcus taught in the History Department from 1965 to 2002. He was supportive of the development of the Women's Studies Program and involved in its many programs and activities. In this interview, Dr. Marcus reflects on the early years of his teaching at IUP, the impact of the Civil Rights Movement on the teaching of History, the significance of the work of Dr. Dorothy Vogel (see Manuscript Group 222) in the development of Women's History Courses, the development of the Women's Studies Program, and the speakers, conferences, and programs that came about as a result of it.
  - b. Dr. Irwin Marcus, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 60 minutes, Video DVD and Audio CD, July 18, 2008. In this interview, Dr. Marcus speaks broadly about the background of the Women's Rights Movement and the impact of that movement on campus and academic life at IUP. He spoke of the role of three women (Provost Hilda Richards, Dr. Dorothy Vogel, and Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts) in developing Women's Studies, improving conditions for women on campus, and recent participation in Women's Studies on campus.
2. Ms. Veida McHenry-Dahlin, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 50 minutes, Audio CD #7 and Cassette Tape, September 1, 2006 (1 CD, 2 audio cassette tapes, consent form, and photocopy of photograph). Ms. McHenry and her twin sister attended the ISTC Model School and later ISTC during WWII. In this interview, she gives some family history and then discusses her experiences as a student at the Model School and then at ISTC including employment at a war-time munitions plant.
3. Dr. Maureen McHugh, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 35 minutes, Video DVD #10 and Audio CD #10, July 31, 2008 (5 CDs). Dr. McHugh was the first director of Women's Studies at IUP. She was hired in 1986 to teach classes in Psychology and to direct the Women's Studies Program and teach Women's Studies classes. In this interview, Dr. McHugh describes how she became interested in Women's Studies, her first academic study and appointments, and the challenges and successes she faced as she began the Women's Studies Program at IUP. She also discusses how the President's Commission on the Status of Women began.

4. Dr. Brenda Mitchell, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 43 minutes, Audio CD #3 (requested only audio recording), June 19, 2008 (3 CDs, consent form, 2008 information about IUP's new Women's Center opening, and University Museum exhibit catalog "Woman to Woman" curated by Brenda Mitchell with Rosaly Roffman and Theresa Smith). Dr. Mitchell was the third director of Women's Studies at IUP. In this interview, she discusses what led to her interest in Women's Studies and her involvement in Women's Studies on this campus, particularly her service as Director.
5. Dr. Nancy Newkerk, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 47 minutes, Audio cassette tape and Audio CD #5 (audio only), August 23, 2006 (1 CD, 2 audio cassette tapes, and notes). Dr. Newkerk served as the Dean of Women at ISTC from 1957-1967. In this capacity she had far ranging responsibilities for female students. In this interview, she recalls the joys, successes, and a few problems associated with this important position.
6. Ruth Podbeileski, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 2 minutes, Audio CD #16 & 22, December 10, 2009 (1 CD). Ruth Podbeileski was born in Beaver Falls on September 20, 1926. She was involved in sports throughout childhood and high school and continued in athletic programs in college and professional life. She attended Slippery Rock University. She then played softball and basketball in Albert, Ohio. In 1955, Ms. Podbeileski came to ISTC. She ran the intramural sports program for students. She worked to help promote women's athletic programs at IUP throughout the 1980s, and she was instrumental in the growth of women's involvement at IUP.
7. Mary "Babe" Robinson Rainforth, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, DVD #18, 2009 (1 DVD). Mary Rainforth was born in 1912 in Duquesne, Pennsylvania. She attended ISTC and recalled her experiences at IUP and described the difficulties she faced while trying to find a teaching job during the Great Depression.
8. Dr. Ruth Riesenman, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 51 minutes, Video DVD and Audio CD #22, June 2, 2008 (1 CD, 3 Video DVDs, 1 Digital Video Cassette, consent form, background information and correspondence). Dr. Riesenman is a graduate of ISTC and served as Associate Dean of Students at Washington and Jefferson College while it was making its transition to a co-ed institution. She served as Associate Director and then later Director of Career Services and Assistant to three of IUP's Presidents. In this interview, she discussed her involvement in the pivotal events at universities in Pennsylvania and Ohio, including work in housing and residence life at Kent State University in the spring of 1970 when the shootings took place. She talked about her work in integrating female students at Washington and Jefferson College when it became co-ed, and her role in the development of the IUP's WAC, Women's Studies Program, and President's Commission on the Status of Women. Dr. Riesenman comments on improvements in female student life during the presidency of Lawrence Pettit.
9. Ms. Flossie Sanford, interviewed by Dale Landon, 1 hour 30 minutes, Audio CD #13, July 3, 1978 (6 CDs). Ms. Sanford graduated from Indiana State Normal School in 1917, and she later became a faculty member. She shares experiences of her motivations in coming to the Normal School, the journey there, life on campus, amusements, rules and regulations, the influences of Miss Jane Leonard on students and the development of the college.
10. Mrs. Beryl L. Seanor, interviewed by Dale Landon, 30 minutes, Audio CD #14, April 11, 1979 (1 CD). Beryl Seanor grew up in Clymer, Pennsylvania, and she graduated from Indiana State Normal School (ISNS) in 1915. She describes her experience at the Normal School about attending classes and residing in John Sutton Hall.

11. Ms. Evelyn J. Still, interviewed by Dale Landon, 32 minutes, Audio CD #12, June 13, 1978 (2 CDs). Ms. Still, a graduate of the Model School and a 1928 graduate of ISTC, talks about the early days of the college, and the town of Indiana from the 1920s to the 1970s. She discusses life on campus, amusements, and regulations students had to follow.
12. Ms. Carolyn Thompson, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 7 minutes, Audio CD #20, February 25, 2007 (1 CD). Ms. Carolyn Thompson was an IUP faculty member for 25 years. She did her undergraduate work at Slippery Rock University, and she earned a master's degree in Educational Psychology and Counseling at IUP in 1971. She taught for the Franklin Regional School District. In 1979, she returned to IUP for a Master in Sports Science. She coached women's basketball, and she explained the changes and struggles of women's athletics at IUP. As well as being a coach, Ms. Thompson also taught Health and Physical Science courses, and she describes her experience as a female faculty member.
13. Dr. Dorothy Vogel (also known as Dr. Dorothy C. Vogel Krupnik), interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 65 minutes, Audio CD, July 11, 2008 (1 CD and consent form). She was a professor in IUP's History Department from 1969 to 2002. She developed some of the first Women's Studies classes on the IUP campus and was instrumental in the creation of the Women's Studies Program. In this interview, she discusses her experience as one of the few women in the History Department when she was first hired, her early interest in Women's History, how she developed her courses in Women's Studies, the atmosphere on campus for women faculty in the 1970s and 1980s, her participation in WAC, her co-authorship of the proposal to begin the Women's Studies Program, and her participation in the Advisory Board for a Gender Balanced Curriculum in 1986-1988. See also Manuscript Group 222: Dr. Dorothy Vogel Collection, she was married to English Professor Joseph Krupnik (1943-2011).
14. Dr. Edwina Vold, interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 1 hour 14 minutes, Audio CD, November 4, 2009 (1 CD). Dr. Vold was born in Kingston, North Carolina in 1935. She begins the interview by describing her life and experiences with segregation in the south. She initially went to Virginia State College studying Elementary Education and minored in Music. Dr. Vold started as an Educator in Norfolk, Virginia. Edwina was involved in the Civil Rights Movement as well as being an African American woman. She wrote her dissertation on the Menominee Native American Women in Wisconsin. Dr. Vold served as a faculty member at IUP for 19 years and faculty Emerita for eight. She served as chair of the Professional Studies department for 13 years, and she played a key role in hiring minority and female faculty.
15. Transcript CD: Sherrill Kuckuck, Maureen McHugh, Ruth Riesenman, and Isabel Vogel (1 CD)
  - a. Dr. Sherrill Kuckuck held administrative positions at IUP between 1971 and 2005, including Assistant Dean of Women. In this interview, she discusses changes in the University's administration that accompanied the development of a more gender neutral campus including the elimination of the position of Dean of Women and the shift from separate male and female dorms to co-ed housing. Kuckuck was instrumental in the development of the WAC, a committee that gave birth to significant initiatives in women's health issues, sexual harassment prevention, leadership skill and career development, and the Women's Studies Academic Program. Dr. Kuckuck also discussed differences in student life between 1971 and 2005 using many interesting comparisons and examples. (See Folder 15)
  - b. Dr. Maureen McHugh was the first director of Women's Studies at IUP. She was hired in 1986 to teach classes in Psychology and to direct the Women's Studies Program and teach Women's Studies classes. In this interview, Dr. McHugh



describes how she became interested in Women's Studies, her first academic study and appointments, and the challenges and successes she faced as she began the Women's Studies Program at IUP. She also discusses how the President's Commission on the Status of Women began. (See Folder 19)

- c. Dr. Ruth Riesenman is a graduate of ISTC and served as Associate Dean of Students at Washington and Jefferson College while it was making its transition to a co-ed institution. She served as Associate Director and then later Director of Career Services and Assistant to three of IUP's Presidents. In this interview, she discussed her involvement in the pivotal events at universities in Pennsylvania and Ohio, including work in housing and residence life at Kent State University in the spring of 1970 when the shootings took place. She talked about her work in integrating female students at Washington and Jefferson College when it became co-ed, and her role in the development of the IUP's WAC, Women's Studies Program, and President's Commission on the Status of Women. Dr. Riesenman comments on improvements in female student life during the presidency of Lawrence Pettit. (See Folder 24)
  - d. Isabel Vogel (Rose Isabel Cost Vogel, 1902-2009) was 107 years old when she was interviewed in 2009 at St. Andrew's Village in Indiana, Pennsylvania. She talked about her teaching career in Indiana and her experiences at school in the 1920s. As a student, she attended Indiana State Normal School (ISNS) and lived in John Sutton Hall. She graduated from Indiana State Normal School with the Class of 1923. (See Box 1 Folder 12)
16. Helen Jean Terchila Sirb Tomko (1919-2014), ISTC Class of 1941, and her daughter Linda Sirb, phone interviewed by Dr. Theresa McDevitt in 2009-2010. Helen Jean Terchila attended Indiana State Teachers College between 1937 and 1941, and earned her degree in business. She was a graduate of Sharon High School. In her senior year she participated in government financed flight training through participation in the College Pilots Club of Indiana, Pennsylvania. She was the only woman to participate in the first year of the program and the first to successfully complete the training. She was pictured in the yearbook in the cockpit of a plane. The photo is included on this disk. She was asked to enlist as a Women Airforce Service Pilot (WASP) during World War Two. In this interview she discusses her training and life on campus while she was a student including living in the residence halls and rules regulating the life of students, including the treatment of a female student who became pregnant while attending college. She discusses female faculty including Olive "Ma" Folger and the Dean of Women at the time.



Helen Jean Terchila Sirb Tomko (1919-2009) Women Airforce Service Pilot in the 1941 Oak Yearbook