
Guide to the Arlene Dorn Papers

Collection number: MS 192

The University Library
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University of California, Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Arlene Dorn Papers

Dates: 1970-2000

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1978-1985)

Collection number: MS 192

Creator: Dorn, Arlene

Collection Size: 7 half cartons

Repository: University of California, Santa Cruz. University Library. Special Collections and Archives
Santa Cruz, California 95064

Abstract: This collection contains materials relating to Arlene Dorn's work with migrant students, teachers and education officials in helping to develop the Binational Education Program. Dorn played a key role in developing a standardized student progress form that is recognized as an official transfer document by schools in both the U.S. and Mexico.

Physical location: Stored offsite at NRLF: Advance notice is required for access to the papers.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: EnglishSpanish; Castilian

Access

Collection open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Arlene Dorn Papers. MS 192. Special Collections and Archives, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Arlene Dorn.

Biography

When Arlene Dorn-Trowbridge transferred to UCSC from Cabrillo College in 1966, she was in her early 40's, which makes her one of UCSC's most senior alumni. She went on to teach in Watsonville's public schools, where many of her students were from migrant farm

worker families. She noticed that each year several students left for Mexico in November, not returning until the following spring. "They were at a great disadvantage," she says, "because they arrived in Mexico too late to enroll in schools there."

Working with education officials, teachers, and parents on both sides of the border, Dorn soon occupied a key role in developing a standardized student progress form that is recognized as an official transfer document by schools in the U.S. and Mexico. In 1975, concerned with the impact on her students that the annual moves between Mexico and California were having during the school year, she initiated a needs study of the parents of international migrant children. She then took a sabbatical leave the following year to pursue her Masters degree in Intercultural Education in Mexico, where she met Señora Irene Anzaldúa, principal of the American School in Mexico City. Anzaldúa put her in touch with officials in the centralized educational system of Mexico. Together, they brought to the California State Migrant Education Department a commitment made by the Mexican Ministry of Education to aid international migrant children jointly with California schools.

This commitment became the basis for the Gómez-Farías Project, a pilot project (designed for replication) that Dorn originated, developed, organized, and promoted. The project was funded for a two-year initial period (fiscal years 1978-79 and 1979-80) by the Department of Education. A process to communicate academic data for the students was jointly developed by the Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP) of Mexico, and California. Irene Anzaldúa became the coordinator in Mexico, working directly with Dorn.

In January 1980, Dorn solicited aid from various private foundations. The David and Lucille Packard Foundation in Los Altos, California offered a grant toward phase two of the project, now to be referred to as Project MEDIR [Spanish = to measure], for Migrant Education Data International Record. Identification of migrant children took place through the use of a Migrant Student Record Transfer System (MSRTS) among other agencies. In November, 1980, Dorn became full-time coordinator for the remainder of the school year, and the project was placed within the non-profit organization California Mini-Corps, part of the State Department of Migrant Education (in the County Office of Education in Butte County). This office was approved by the State Department of Education to be the fiscal agent for the M.E.D.I.R. project in January, 1981. The Packard Foundation again funded the second year. Districts in which Project MEDIR was implemented were Lodi (San Joaquin County), Planada (Merced County), Cutler-Orosi (Tulare County), Delano (Kern County), Greenfield (Monterey County), Gonzales (Monterey County), Cabrillo (San Mateo County), and Desert Sands (Riverside County). Sites were selected because groups of students were returning annually to the same village. During this time Dorn succeeded in changing the fall-only enrollment policy of Mexican schools, greatly enhancing the possibility of success for the program.

In 1997 Arlene Dorn-Trowbridge was honored by the Mexican government for her work. She lives in Santa Cruz and continues to be active in the community.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection contains correspondence, much of it in Spanish, between and among Dorn and other educators, administrators, and politicians involved in the effort to standardize information about binational migrant students. Also included are office files documenting some of the day to day activities, survey forms of school districts, newspaper clippings covering Dorn's activities, and some related writings and publications.

Arrangement

The original order has been maintained where ever possible. Please note that some correspondence remains with the project files. Both the correspondence files and project files have been sorted chronologically.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Dorn, Arlene--Archives
Children of migrant laborers--Education--United States
Children of migrant laborers--Education--California--Pajaro River Valley
Children of migrant laborers--Education--Mexico
Education--California--Pajaro River Valley--International Cooperation
Mexicans--Education--United States.
Mexican Americans--Education--United States

Index Terms Related to this Collection

California--Migrant Education Office

Box:Folder 1:1-2:9 **Correspondence, 1976-2000**

Physical Description: 21 folders

Series Scope and Content Summary

Contains correspondence both by and to Arlene Dorn, as well as third party letters concerning her efforts to establish a standardized student progress form as an official transfer document for use by schools in the U.S. and Mexico. Note: There is still correspondence filed in the other series when that correspondence was included in the original office files. Some duplication may still exist.

Box:Folder 1:1 **n.d.**
Box:Folder 1:2 **"Addresses Project" n.d.**
Box:Folder 1:3 **1976-1977**
Box:Folder 1:4 **1978**
Box:Folder 1:5 **1979**
Box:Folder 1:6 **Jan-Jun 1980**
Box:Folder 1:7 **Jul-Dec 1980**
Box:Folder 1:8 **Jan 1981**
Box:Folder 1:9 **Feb-Mar 1981**
Box:Folder 1:10 **Apr-Jun 1981**
Box:Folder 1:11 **Jul-Sep 1981**
Box:Folder 1:12 **Oct-Dec 1981**
Box:Folder 2:1 **Jan-Jun 1982**
Box:Folder 2:2 **Jul-Dec 1982**
Box:Folder 2:3 **1983**
Box:Folder 2:4 **1984**
Box:Folder 2:5 **1985-1987**
Box:Folder 2:6 **1988-1990**
Box:Folder 2:7 **1991-1995**
Box:Folder 2:8 **1996-2000**
Box:Folder 2:9 **Incomplete Letters n.d.**
Box:Folder 2:10 **Other Writings: Published ca. 1995**

Box:Folder 2:11-~~12~~ **Gómez-Farías - Pájaro Valley Project, 1975-1980**

3:1-4

Physical Description: 7 folders

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains material related to the first phase of Dorn's work, a pilot program in educational cooperation focused on the students from the village of Gómez-Farías, Michoacán, Mexico, who also each year attended the Pájaro Valley Unified School District in California.

Box:Folder 2:11 **Reports and Evaluations 1975-1980**

Box:Folder 2:12-13, **Project Files 1976-1979**

3:3

Box:Folder 2:12 **1976**

Box:Folder 2:13 **1977**

Box:Folder 3:3 **1978-1979**

Box:Folder 3:1 **"People Lists" ca. 1977-1978**

Box:Folder 3:2 **Project Brochures ca. 1978**

Box:Folder 3:4 **Report by P. Bess Kendall 1979**

Box:Folder 3:5-18 **Project MEDIR, 1975-1985**

4:1-36

Physical Description: 46 folders

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains material related to the second phase of Dorn's work indentifying migrant students and constructing an international transfer system for their educational information, over which she was the full-time coordinator.

Box:Folder 3:5 **Reports and Evaluations 1975-1981**
Box:Folder 3:6 **Annual Operational Summary, Migrant Family Housing Centers Feb 1978**
Box:Folder 3:7 **Process Model/Modelo de Proceso Jul 1979**
Box:Folder 3:8 **"Persons Interested and/or involved with Project" n.d.**
Box:Folder **Project Files 1978-1981**
3:9-10,12,15
Box:Folder 3:9 **1978**
Box:Folder 3:10 **1979**
Box:Folder 3:12 **1980**
Box:Folder 3:15 **1981**
Box:Folder 3:11 **Project Coordinator job descriptions - Arlene Dorn [ca. 1980]**
Box:Folder 3:13 **UNESCO Report and Recommendations 1981**
Box:Folder 3:14 **Fiscal Agent (California Mini-Corps); Project MEDIR Cover Letter 1981**
Box:Folder 4:1-33 **Survey Forms 1981**
Box:Folder 4:1 **Butte County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:2 **Colusa County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:3 **Contra Costa 1981**
Box:Folder 4:4 **Fresno County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:5 **Glenn County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:6 **Imperial County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:7 **Kern County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:8 **Kings County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:9 **Lake County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:10 **Madera County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:11 **Mendocino County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:12 **Merced County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:13 **Modoc County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:14 **Monterey County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:15 **Napa County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:16 **Orange County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:17 **Riverside County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:18 **San Benito County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:19 **San Diego County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:20 **San Joaquin County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:21 **San Luis Obispo County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:22 **San Mateo County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:23 **Santa Barbara County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:24 **Santa Clara County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:25 **Solano County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:26 **Sonoma County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:27 **Stanilaus County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:28 **Sutter County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:29 **Tehama County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:30 **Tulare County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:31 **Ventura County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:32 **Yolo County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:33 **Yuba County 1981**
Box:Folder 4:34 **Project Files 1982-1985**
Box:Folder 4:35 **La Cooperativa 1984-1985**

Box:Folder 4:36 **Miscellany n.d.**
Box:Folder 5:1-8 **Migrant Student Record Transfer System (MSRTS) 1979-1992**
Box:Folder 5:1 **Handbook and Related Documents 1979 1989 1991-1992**
Box:Folder 5:2 **Pájaro Valley Slide Presentation Script n.d.**
Box:Folder 5:3 **Labor Tally, ISEMS Tally, MEDIR Survey Tally n.d.**
Box:Folder 5:4 **Student List by Region n.d.**
Box:Folder 5:5 **Tracking Data n.d.**
Box:Folder 5:6-8 **Inter/Intra-state Student Enrollment Monitoring System (ISEMS) Depository Records Feb 12, 1977**
Box:Folder 5:6 **A-I Feb 12, 1977**
Box:Folder 5:7 **J-LL Feb 12, 1977**
Box:Folder 5:8 **M-Y Feb 12, 1977**
Box:Folder 5:9-6:3 **Project Proposals 1977-1989**
Box:Folder 5:9 **MEDIR 1977-1981**
Box:Folder 6:1 **Curriculum Center (Binder Contents), 1977-1983**
Box:Folder 6:2 **Prospectus for an International Migrant Family Mobile Learning Center, Feb 1979**
Box:Folder 6:3 **Rotary Project (Did not materialize because of timing and the Loma Prieta earthquake) 1981-1989**
Box:Folder 6:4-6 **Financial Files 1980-1988**
Box:Folder 6:4 **Rotary Request 1981-1988**
Box:Folder 6:5 **Foundation Funding Requests 1980-1984**
Box:Folder 6:6 **Includes Needs Statements 1980-1985**
Box:Folder 6:7-10, 7:1-3 **Trips and Conferences 1976-1997**
Box:Folder 6:7 **Photo Print-outs from the Albuquerque Convention Center, featuring Arlene Dorn n.d.**
Box:Folder 6:8 **International Migrant Education Conference at UCSC; UC-MEXUS Proposal 1982**
Box:Folder 6:9 **Trip Itineraries 1977-1985**
Box:Folder 6:10 **Maps n.d.**
Box:Folder 7:1 **Various Conferences 1976-1997, n.d.**
Box:Folder 7:2 **Commission of the Californias 1980-1982**
Box:Folder 7:3 **Patrick Rooney, Ventura Unified School District Superintendent 1982**
Box:Folder 7:4 **Fourth Migrant Parent State Conference Evaluations Mar 1983**

Box:Folder 7:7-1 **Related Writings and Publications, 1968-1981**

Physical Description: 13 folders

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains various articles either generally or specifically related to Dorn's efforts, as well as education publications and a student thesis from the same era.

- Box:Folder 7:5 **Clippings 1976-1997 n.d.**
- Box:Folder 7:6 **Pájaro Valley Unified School District press release n.d.**
- Box:Folder 7:7 **California Master Plan for Migrant Education 1976**
- Box:Folder 7:8 ***The Migrant Educator*, v.4:5; with article "Migrant Education Across the Border - A California-Mexico Breakthrough" May 1978**
- Box:Folder 7:9 ***Normas Fundamentales*, Secretaría de Educación Pública Oct 1978**
- Box:Folder 7:10 **"Covalidación: Del Trabajo Arlene Dorn," para Graciela Orozco, y "Visita de la Señora Arlene Dorn a los Estados de Guanajuato, Michocan [y] Nuevo Leon," para Carlos Rosas Rueda 1981**
- Box:Folder 7:11 **"The International Migrant Child - An Aspect of U.S./Mexico Relations," by Ralph Guzman ca. 1981**
- Box:Folder 7:12 **Migrant Education, Region I *Reporter*, v.1:1 Jul/Aug 1981**
- Box:Folder 7:13 ***Bibliography on Migrant and Migrant Education* ca. 1981**
- Box:Folder 7:14 **"The International Migrant Child: An Aspect of U.S./Mexico Relations," by Ralph Guzman, *Educational Research Quarterly*, v. 6:3, Fall 1981 Fall 1981**
- Box:Folder 7:15 **"The International Mexican Migrant Student - Their Educational Problems and Solutions," a senior thesis by Socorro Mata 1984**
- Box:Folder 7:16 ***The Bi-National Migrant Child: A Research Project*, Sponsored by the California State Dept. of Education and Migrant Education, Region IX 1986**
- Box:Folder 7:17 **"Keeping Up With Our Nation's Migrant Students: A Report On The Migrant Student Record Transfer System (MSRTS)," National Commission on Migrant Education Sep 1991**
- Box:Folder 7:18 ***ERIC/CRESS Bulletin*, v.8:2**
- Box:Folder 7:19 **Información Sobre Estudiantes Migrantes Binacional n.d.**
- Box:Folder 7:20 **UCSC Graduation Programs 1968-1969**