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Guide to the San José State University Campus Events Collection

Processed by Kimberly Koshiyama.

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Guide to the Guide to the San José State University Campus Events Collection

Collection number: MSS-2010-02-04

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library San José State University San José, California

Processed by:

Kimberly Koshiyama

Date Completed:

2010

Encoded by:

Kimberly Koshiyama

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Descriptive Summary

Title: San José State University Campus Events Collection

Dates: 1925-2007 Bulk Dates: 1950-1970

Collection number: MSS-2010-02-04
Creator: San José State University
Collection Size: 10 boxes, 5.92 linear feet
Repository: San José State University Library

San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The San José State University Campus Events Collection, 1925-2007 (bulk 1950-1970) documents university and student sponsored events, such as Spardi Gras, Homecoming, and the Centennial and Sesquicentennial celebrations of the university. The records consist of print materials such as scrapbooks, flyers, calendars, newspapers, and brochures. This collection is arranged into two series: Series I. Annual Campus Events and Special Events, 1944-2007 (bulk 1950-1970); and Series II. Miscellaneous Campus Events, 1925-2006 (bulk 1950-1960).

Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

San José State University Campus Events Collection, MSS-2010-02-04, San José State University Library Special Collections and Archives.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Kimberly Koshiyama. Finding aid EAD encoded by Kimberly Koshiyama. Reviewed by Danelle Moon and Erin Louthen.

Project Information

This finding aid was created as part of the Survey and Cataloging Project, a two-year San José State University Library grant project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project began in 2008. The Project Director is Danelle Moon. The Project Archivist is Erin Louthen.

Organizational History

In 1857 the San Francisco Board of Education established Minns' Evening Normal School for current and prospective teachers in the city. Named after its principal, George W. Minns, the institution was formally established as the first California State Normal School by the State Legislature in 1862. A decade later, the Legislature voted to move the Normal School to San José, and the school relocated to its new home on Washington Square prior to the fall term of 1872. After a fire destroyed the Normal School building in 1880, the Legislature authorized \$200,000 to construct a new building on the same site. Completed in 1881, the building was commonly referred to as the Second State Normal School. After several names and curriculum changes, Minns' Normal School is now San José State University, offering more than 134 bachelor's and master's degrees with 110 concentrations, and is recognized as one of the top public universities granting such degrees in the West.

San José State University yearbooks, student handbooks and other event-related materials document a range of campus celebrations and events that took place between 1925-2007. Noteworthy campus events at SJSU include the Spartan Revelries (1930s-1960s), Spardi Gras (1929-1950) and Homecoming Week (1948-present). Spartan Revelries was an all-student college musical event written, produced, and presented entirely by students, and all students on campus were eligible to participate in its production. Another longstanding event in SJSU's past was Spardi Gras. According to the 1926 campus yearbook *La Torre*, Spardi Gras (or Hobo Day on Washington's Birthday) was "a gala occasion of play, sport, and merrymaking, which met with unprecedented participation by the entire student body, and was later authorized by the Executive Board as an annual event because of its great success." Homecoming Week is still celebrated today on the SJSU campus, and includes events for students and alumni such as a movie festival and a bonfire, and culminates with the annual Homecoming football game in Spartan Stadium. Other significant events covered in this collection include the university's Centennial Celebration in 1957, and the Sesquicentennial Celebration (150th Anniversary) in 2007.

Bibliography

Gilbert, Benjamin F, and Charles Burdick. Washington Square, 1857-1979: The History of San José State University. San José: San José State University, 1980.

Nellen, Annette. "Traditions through the years at San José State University." 1999. http://www.cob.sjsu.edu/nellen_a/traditions.htm San José State University. About SJSU. http://www.sjsu.edu/nellen_a/traditions.htm (accessed 02/17/2010).

Walsh, James P. San José State University: An Interpretive History, 1950-2000. San José: San José State University, 2003.

Related Material

San José State University Office of University Relations Records, MSS-2009-03-06, San José State University Library Special Collections and Archives.

San José State University Archives Photograph Collection, MSS-2006-05-01, San José State University Library Special Collections and Archives.

San José State University Public Relations and Publications Records, MSS-2009-03-11, San José State University Library Special Collections and Archives.

Scope and Content of Collection

The San José State University Campus Events Collection, 1925-2007 (bulk 1950-1970) documents university and student sponsored events, such as Spardi Gras, Homecoming, and the Centennial and Sesquicentennial celebrations of the university. The records consist of print materials such as scrapbooks, flyers, calendars, newspapers, and brochures.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into two series: Series I. Annual Campus Events and Special Events, 1932-2007 (bulk 1950-1970); and Series II. Miscellaneous Campus Events, 1925-2007 (bulk 1950-1960).

Subject Headings

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

San José State University -- Anniversaries, etc.

San José State Teachers College -- History.

San José State College -- History.

California State University, San José -- History.

San José State University -- History.

Education, Higher -- California -- San José.

Series 1: Annual Campus Events and Special Events 1932-2007 (bulk 1950-1970)

Physical Description: 8 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

The materials in this series document sixty years of campus events and student life. The collection consists of San Jose State University's 150th Anniversary Celebration programs, Spardi Gras scrapbooks and brochures, Centennial publications and speeches, Bicentennial Celebration programs, 150th Celebration, Summer Festival of the Arts pamphlets and brochures, as well as handbooks, scripts and programs pertaining to the Spartan Revelries.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by chronologically by event.

Box 1	Centennial Celebration and 75th Birthday Celebration 1937-1957
Box 2	Spardi Gras and Centennial Celebration 1944-1957
Box 3	Spartan Revelries 1950-1960
Box 4	Summer Festival of the Arts 1955-1966
Box 5	Centennial Celebration 1957
Box 6	Centennial Celebration 1957
Box 7	Bicentennial Celebration 1974-1976
Box 8	SJSU 150th Anniversary Celebration 2007
	Series 2: Miscellaneous Campus Events 1925-2007 (bulk 1950-1960)
	Physical Description: 2 boxes
	Subseries Scope and Content Summary
	The materials in this series document various campus events at SJSU, sponsored by the university or outside organizations. The series includes items such as Student Union and Union Art Gallery art exhibition programs and photographs, a Taiwanese textile from the Youth Goodwill Mission of Taiwan, fraternity and sorority calendars, newspaper clippings documenting the dedication of the Morris Dailey Auditorium, and programs and photograph albums dedicated to the Smothers Brothers event on campus in 1981.
	Arrangement
	This series is arranged chronologically and alphabetically by event.
Box 1	Miscellaneous Campus Events - Chronological 1925-2007
Box 2	Miscellaneous Campus Events - Alphabetical 1975-1992

Miscellaneous Campus Events - Alphabetical 1975-1992