

Association for Women in Communications records, 1907-2009

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Association for Women in Communications
Title	Association for Women in Communications records
Dates	1907-2009 1907 2009
Quantity	43.2 cubic feet (45 boxes and 2 vertical files)
Collection Number	4521
Summary	Records of the Association for Women in Communications (AWC), Women in Communications, inc., and Theta Sigma Phi
Repository	University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections Special Collections University of Washington Libraries Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Telephone: 206-543-1929 Fax: 206-543-1931 speccoll@uw.edu
Access Restrictions	Open to all users. Some material stored offsite; advance notice required for use.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for encoding this finding aid was partially provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Historical Note

The Association for Women In Communications (AWC) began as Theta Sigma Phi, a journalism honorary society. Theta Sigma Phi was established on April 8, 1909 by female students, notably Georgina Davis, née MacDougall, in the Journalism program at the University of Washington. The purpose of Theta Sigma Phi was to bring together women in journalism, honor women who distinguished themselves in journalism, and raise standards and improve working conditions for women in the profession. The society soon grew into a national organization with strong roots in the Seattle and Washington State, where chapter officers served as national officers until 1934.

Theta Sigma Psi supported the Hospitalized Veterans Project, which began in the 1940's, through 1970. Veterans' writings were published in the periodical Veterans' Voice. Theta Sigma Psi also began publishing The Matrix, a periodical for Women Journalists, in 1915. The Matrix was replaced by PRO/COMM (later the Professional Communicator) in 1981.

In October 1972, the national society's name was officially changed to Women In Communications, Inc. (WICI), which reflected its changing role as less honorary society and more professional organization; in 1996, the name again changed to Association for Women in Communications. Originally focused

on print and broadcast journalism, the AWC's scope has expanded to other media of communication, including graphic design, photography, public relations, advertising, marketing, and online media. The AWC is also known for granting Clarion and Headliner awards to professionals across these varied disciplines.

The Matrix Foundation was established as the educational affiliate of AWC circa 1998; it too grants several annual awards.

Content Description

Consult the scope and content information for each accession listed below.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

The creators' literary rights have been transferred to the University of Washington Libraries.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Organized into 4 accessions.

Accession No. 4521-001, Women in Communications, inc. records, 1911-1981

Accession No. 4521-002, Women in Communications, inc. records, 1915-1996

Accession No. 4521-003, Association for Women in Communications records, 1907-2009

Accession No. 4521-004, Association for Women in Communications records, 1960-2009

Processing Note

Minimally processed.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Accession No. 4521-001: Women in Communications, inc. records, 1911-1981

26 cubic feet (26 boxes, including 53 microfilm reels)

Scope and Content: Correspondence, minutes, bylaws and ritual, annual meetings, chapter manuals, directories, lists, reports, financial records, project files, publicity, *Matrix* magazines, newsletters, records on 16mm negative microfilm.

[View inventory/container list for this accession](#)

Restrictions on Access: Open to all users.

Acquisition Info: Source: Anne Hecker, September 2005

Accession No. 4521-002: Women in Communications, inc. records, 1915-1996

8 cubic feet (8 boxes, including 117 audio cassette tapes and 11 video cassette tapes)

Scope and Content: Historical features, bylaws and other organizational features, manual, handbook, minutes, financial records, reports, publications and newsletters, membership directories, Board rosters, committee lists, list of presidents, project files, surveys, clippings, audiotapes and videotapes.

[View inventory/container list for this accession](#)

Acquisition Info: Source: Anne Hecker, December 1996

Restrictions on Access: Open to all users.

Accession No. 4521-003: Association for Women in Communications records, 1907-2009

7.06 cubic feet (7 boxes and 2 vertical files)

Arrangement: Arranged as received.

Scope and Content: Board meeting minutes, photographs, biographical features, membership directories, conference programs, reports, bylaws, planning files, card files, historical features, correspondence, publications, clippings, scrapbooks and artifacts; 1909-2009.

The two scrapbooks (including clippings, photographs, correspondence and poems) in this accession were created by AWC founder Georgina MacDougall Davis. Seven issues of the paper she created for her lab in Journalism while attending UW are also included: issues 1-2 (December 1909) are titled *Weekly Reporter* and issues 3-7 (December-January 1909-1910) are titled *Second Ward Reporter*.

Restrictions on Access: Open to all users.

Records stored offsite; advance notice required for use.

Acquisition Info: Nancy Wright, April 2010

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Accession	
1	4521-003 National Board meeting minutes <u>Scope and Content:</u> In addition to meeting minutes, these files contain annual and financial reports, conference proceedings, correspondence, handbooks and related documents.	1926-1964
2	4521-003 National Board meeting minutes and related materials Association for Women in Communications records, 1907-2009 http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv44717	1964-1989

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	<p><u>Scope and Content:</u> In addition to meeting minutes, these files contain annual and financial reports, conference proceedings, correspondence, handbooks and related documents.</p>	
3	<p>4521-003 National Board meeting minutes and other materials</p> <p><u>General Notes:</u> The box contains empty folders for board meeting minutes for years 2000-2002.</p> <p><u>Scope and Content:</u> In addition to meeting minutes, these files contain annual and financial reports, conference proceedings, correspondence, handbooks and related documents (1990-1999). Also included in this box are historical mementos and information, reports, planning files, and career surveys (1927-1997).</p>	1927-1999
4	<p>4521-003 Journalism career surveys and studies, member statistics, award files</p> <p><u>Scope and Content:</u> This box contains lists of winners of Headliner awards and portrait files of winners by name (A-S).</p>	
5	<p>4521-003 Award files, membership pamphlets and directories</p> <p><u>Scope and Content:</u> This box contains Headliner award winner portrait files and biography files by name (T-Z for portrait files and A-Z for biographies). Membership directories span 1920-1991, but do not represent a complete run.</p>	
6	<p>4521-003 Membership directories, conference programs and historical items</p> <p><u>Scope and Content:</u> Membership directories in this box span 1994-1997; conference programs date circa 1980-2009. The file for AWC's centennial anniversary conference in 2009 contains a CD-ROM. Also included in this box are a handbook with CD-ROM for the Matrix Foundation, two scrapbooks created by Georgina MacDougall Davis and dating circa 1907-1975, card files on members and chapters, and lapel pins showing the Matrix logo and the WICI logo.</p>	1907-2009
7	<p>4521-003 Historical correspondence and photographs from conferences</p> <p><u>Scope and Content:</u> Historical correspondence labeled "Founders letters" can be found in this box, but the bulk of these files contain photographs, contact sheets, and negatives documenting AWC conferences from 1970-2003 (there is an empty folder for 2004). Some of these photos</p>	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	were taken by professional photographers. The files include six CD-ROMs of digital photographs as well.	
Vertical file	4521-003 Conference photographs <u>Scope and Content:</u>	1984
Vertical file	4521-003 Newspapers: <i>Weekly Reporter/ Second Ward Reporter</i> <u>Scope and Content:</u> This paper was produced by Georgina MacDougall Davis for a Journalism lab when she attended the University of Washington. Issues 1-7 are included.	1909 December - 1910 January

Accession No. 4521-004: Association for Women in Communications records, 1960-2009

2.14 cubic feet (4 boxes)

Scope and Content: Materials relating primarily to the 100th Anniversary of the Association for Women in Communications (AWC) in 2009 and, in particular, the DVD "100 Years: 1909-2009" that was created in celebration of this anniversary. Included are photographs, publications, newspaper clippings, articles, release forms, correspondence, video scripts (drafts and final copies), financial/expense records, interview log sheets, interviewee biographical material and contact information, and CDs and videos of photographs and interviews that were used to create the DVD, as well as 4 copies of the DVD "100 Years: 1909-2009." Also included are AWC and Women in Communications, Inc. (WICI) newsletters, a membership directory, letterheads, logos, and a list of Matrix Table honorees.

Restrictions on Access: Open to all users.

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Acquisition Info: Nancy L. Wright, 2014-05-23

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/ Folder	Accession	
1	4521-004 Association for Women in Communications (AWC) photographs, publications, and organization information	1920s-1990s
1	4521-004 Organization and founder photographs	1910s-1970s
1	4521-004 Chapter charter pages	undated

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1	4521-004 100th Anniversary video project interview log sheets; interviewee information and contact information	2009
1	4521-004 Membership brochures	various years
1	4521-004 100th Anniversary video project papers, including release forms, correspondence, scripts (drafts and final copies), financial and expense information	2009
1	4521-004 2009 National Conference materials	2009
1	4521-004 Photographs and information of the AWC's first male members	1972-1995
1	4521-004 Georgina Davis photographs, biographical information, correspondence, articles, and exhibit materials	1960s-1980s
2	4521-004 CDs and videocassettes of photographs and interviews for the 100th Anniversary DVD	2009
2	4521-004 100 Years, 1909-2009 DVD	2009
3	4521-004 Inventory of interviews and photographs for 100th Anniversary video project	2009
3	4521-004 Matrix Table Honorees, 1937-1987	1987
3	4521-004 Seattle Professional Chapter letterheads	undated
3	4521-004 Theta Sigma Phi logos	undated
3	4521-004 WICI newsletters	1988-1992
3	4521-004 WICI newsletters	1993-1999
4	4521-004 Photocopy of the University of Washington Daily	12/13/1909

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Journalists--Washington (State)

Women journalists--Washington (State)

Personal Names :

Association for Women in Communications records, 1907-2009

<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv44717>

Davis, Georgina

Corporate Names :

Association for Women in Communications. Seattle Professional Chapter--Archives

Association for Women in Communications. Seattle Professional Chapter--By-laws

Association for Women in Communications. Seattle Professional Chapter--Membership

Theta Sigma Phi--Archives

Women in Communications, inc.--Archives

Form or Genre Terms :

Business correspondence

By-laws

Ephemera

Minutes (Records)

Newsletters

Records (Documents)

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Personal Papers/Corporate Records (University of Washington)

2010 (Last modified: 4/11/2018)



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