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Guide to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Corvallis Branch Records, 1971-1974

Title

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Corvallis Branch Records (MSS NAACPCorvallis)

Dates

1971-1974 (inclusive)

Creator

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Corvallis Branch.

Summary

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Corvallis Branch Records document the early years of the Corvallis Branch and its activities and programs to address racial discrimination in education, employment, and housing. The records include annual reports, correspondence, resolutions, press releases, petitions, and resolutions. The Corvallis Branch was chartered in 1971.

Quantity

0.45 cubic foot (1 box)

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research.

Oregon State University Libraries, University Archives
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Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Nielsen, 2010.

Historical Note

The Corvallis, Oregon, Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was chartered by the national organization on January 11, 1971 with the mission to improve the "political, educational, social, and economic status of minority groups within the Corvallis area". Calvin O.L. Henry was elected the first Corvallis Branch president.

Content Description

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Corvallis Branch Records consist of a volume of annual reports for 1971-1973 and 4 volumes of correspondence for 1971-1974. The annual reports includes summaries of the activities and programs of the branch, lists of committee members and officers, financial reports and budgets, and committee reports. Reports of the following committees are included: Political Action, Community Coordination, Labor and Industry, Economic Advancement, Housing, Church Work, Press and Publicity, Education, Voter Registration, Freedom Fund, Christmas Seals, Membership, Affirmative Action Conference, Consumer Protection, Prison Affairs, and Youth Work.

The correspondence volumes consist of photocopies of correspondence sent and received, much of it with Branch president Calvin O.L., Henry, as well as photocopies of newspaper clippings, press releases, petitions, resolutions, and related materials. The annual volumes for 1971-1974 were compiled by the Branch Secretary, Adriana Huyer (1971-1972) and Mary Ellen Arnold (1973-1974). The introduction in each volume indicates that the correspondence volumes do not include "correspondence arising from complaints of discrimination received by the Branch"; however, materials documenting, reporting, or investigating incidents of harassment or discrimination are included. The contents of each volume are arranged based on major activities of that year. The 1971 volume includes general correspondence and correspondence pertaining to political action, the Branch's efforts to obtain a special bulk mailing permit, the Northwest Area Conference, and labor and industry. The 1972 correspondence includes general correspondence as well as materials pertaining to labor and industry, Black History Week, fundraising, the Benton-Linn Economic Opportunity Council, the Human Resources Center, and political action. In addition to general correspondence, the 1973 and 1974 volumes include correspondence pertaining to political action, education, labor and industry, local branch affairs and concerns, national and regional affairs, and awards.

Topics addressed in the records include "whites only" policies of local social clubs and objections regarding the site of the Corvallis High School all-night senior graduation party at the Elks Club; affirmative action and the employment policies of local businesses; federal civil rights legislation; and responses to the location of a Hewlett-Packard production and development facility in Corvallis. The records document race relations and the climate for minority students, faculty, and staff at Oregon State University (OSU). The materials include correspondence with President Robert W. MacVicar; reports and investigations of harassment or discrimination involving OSU students; and documents pertaining to employment practices, the branch's cooperative relationship with the OSU Black Student Union, and interactions between minority students and the OSU Athletic Department. Several OSU faculty and staff were active members of the Corvallis Branch during this time period.

Preferred Citation

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Corvallis Branch Records, Oregon State University Archives, Corvallis, Oregon.

Acquisition Information

The records were donated to the Oregon State University Libraries annually in the early 1970s and were placed in the Kerr Library Vault Collection (E185.5 N21 and E185.5 N22). In 2010, the records were transferred from the Libraries' Special Collections to the University Archives.

Related Material

The NAACP Corvallis Branch Records are considered a component of the [Oregon Multicultural Archives](#). The [Urban League of Portland Records](#) include substantial materials pertaining to African Americans in Oregon. Other collections documenting minorities and race relations in Corvallis and at Oregon State University include the [Office of Multicultural Affairs \(RG 225\)](#), [Diversity Development Office \(RG 228\)](#), [Educational Opportunities Program \(RG 230\)](#), [Minority Education Office \(RG 229\)](#), and [Student Involvement \(RG 232\)](#) Records. The records of NAACP Branches in [Portland](#), [Seattle](#), and [Vancouver, Washington](#), are available at the University of Oregon and University of Washington.

Subjects

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the OSU Libraries Catalog. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons, or places should search the catalog (<http://oasis.oregonstate.edu>) using these headings.

Organizations

Oregon State University--Faculty.
Oregon State University--Sports.
Oregon State University--Students.
Oregon State University. Athletic Dept.

Topics

African Americans--Education--Oregon.
African Americans--Employment--Oregon.
African Americans--Housing--Oregon--Corvallis.
African Americans--Oregon--Corvallis.
African Americans--Civil Rights--Oregon.
Discrimination in education--Oregon--Corvallis.
Discrimination in housing--Oregon--Corvallis.
Minorities--Oregon--Corvallis.
Minority college students--Oregon--Corvallis.

Geographical Names

Corvallis (Or.)--Race relations.

Other Creators

Henry, Calvin Oscar Leon
MacVicar, Robert William, 1918-
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.