

THE WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION RECORDS

The Oskar Diethelm Library
DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry
Weill Cornell Medical College
525 East 68th Street
New York, New York 10065

Arranged and described by:
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Provenance

Dr. Eric T. Carlson was the first chairman of the Section on the History of Psychiatry of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA). Although the Section's constitution was officially approved in 1971, Dr. Carlson and others were involved in its formation starting in 1967. The records of this Section during Dr. Carlson's tenure have been maintained in the Archives of Psychiatry, New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center (now the Oskar Diethelm Library). This library is not an official depository of the World Psychiatric Association. Most of the other material was obtained during Dr. Carlson's chairmanship of the Section on the History of Psychiatry.

The collection is comprised of 2 cubic ft. housed in five .4 cubic ft. boxes.

There are no restrictions regarding use of the collection.

History

The World Psychiatric Association was founded in 1961 to form an association of National Societies of Psychiatry. According to the World Psychiatric Association website, "The WPA is an association of national psychiatric societies aimed to increase knowledge and skills necessary for work in the field of mental health and the care for the mentally ill. Its member societies are presently 135, spanning 117 different countries and representing more than 200,000 psychiatrists."

The purpose of the Association is to coordinate on a worldwide scale the activities of the member psychiatric societies and to advance inquiry into the etiology, pathology and treatment of mental illness.

Scope and Content

The World Psychiatric Association Records span the years 1968-1988. The collection is arranged into four series. The series and the years they encompass are as follows:

	Name	Years
I	World Psychiatric Association Headquarters	1968-1986
II	Section on the History of Psychiatry of the World Psychiatric Association	1967-1977
III	Newsletters	1968-1988
IV	Publications	1968-1989

Series I – World Psychiatric Association Headquarters, 1968-1986, 1 box

The World Psychiatric Association headquarters were located in Geneva, London and Copenhagen at different times. The official records in this collection include statutes and bylaws, minutes of the Executive Committee (incomplete), some reports and related material.

Series II – Section on the History of Psychiatry of the WPA, 1967-1977, 1 box

The bulk of the correspondence in the WPA collection pertains to the Section on the History of Psychiatry. Dr. Eric Carlson began his relationship with the Section in 1967 as its first chairman. The constitution of the Section was officially adopted in 1971.

Dr. Denis Leigh, Secretary General of the WPA in the late 1960's and 1970's, was responsible for the organization of the symposia on different topics to members. According to Dr. Leigh's specific instructions, the purpose of this Section was to further the study of the history of psychiatry through the meetings of expert committees, symposia, arrangement of lectures and other educational events. The Section is self-supporting financially. Although this collection does not contain records after 1977, the Section continues to function under a different chairman.

The records of the Section consist of the Constitution, list of members, and correspondence pertaining to the planning of the Session on the History of Anxiety held at the V World Congress of Psychiatry in Mexico City.

Series III – Newsletters, 1968-1985, 1 box

Newsletters are published by the Secretariat and contain information about upcoming congresses and symposia, committees, individual and organizational members of the WPA, and related matters. A special issue (1986) is devoted to WPA history from 1961-1986, and contains the statutes and bylaws, as well as the Declaration of Hawaii, regarding ethical standards in psychiatry.

Series IV – Publications, 1968-1988, 2 boxes

This series consists of *The Bulletin*, a publication containing newsworthy items and brief articles on WPA members; both individuals and organizations. The series also contains programs abstracts from some of the World Congresses and symposia.

Inventory

Box 1

Series I WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS

Folder 1	Statutes	1972
2	Extract from statutes of WPA bylaws	n.d.
3	Organization and Statutes	1974
4	Individual membership flyer	1969
5	Minutes of Executive Committee	1968-1969
6	Minutes of Executive Committee	1970-1971
7	Minutes of Executive Committee	1974
8	Minutes of Executive Committee	1975-1977
9	Draft of Declaration of Hawaii and cover letter	1976-1977
10	List of officers	1977
11	Report of the Secretary General	1971
12	Program of the 8th European Conference on Psychosomatic Research	1970
13	International Child Mental Health Newsletter of the Child and Adolescent Section	1986
14	Christmas greetings	1971-1975

Box 2

Series II SECTION ON THE HISTORY OF PSYCHIATRY OF THE WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

Folder 1	Constitution of the Section on the History of Psychiatry	1971
2	Memoranda on the Constitution of the Section	1971-1974
3	List of psychiatrists being considered for membership in the Section, compiled by Eric Carlson	ca. 1971

4	Members of the Section Committee on the History of Psychiatry	1975
5	Correspondence of the Section on the History of Psychiatry	1967-1968
6	Correspondence of the Section on the History of Psychiatry	1969-1970
7	Correspondence of the Section on the History of Psychiatry	1969-1974
8	Correspondence of the Section on the History of Psychiatry	1970
9	Notes of Dr. Carlson, Chairman of the Section	ca. 1970-1971
10	Correspondence of the Section on the History of Psychiatry, session on the History of Anxiety at 1971 WPA Congress	1968-1970

Box 2

**Series II SECTION ON THE HISTORY OF PSYCHIATRY OF THE WORLD
PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION**

Folder 11	Correspondence of the Section on the History of Psychiatry, session on the History of Anxiety at 1971 WPA Congress	1970
12	Correspondence of the Section on the History of Psychiatry, session on the History of Anxiety at 1971 WPA Congress	1971-1972
13	Correspondence of the Section on the History of Psychiatry, session on the History of Anxiety at 1971 WPA Congress	1971
14	Correspondence re: Section on the History of Psychiatry	1975-1976
15	Correspondence re: Section on the History of Psychiatry	1977

Box 3

Series III NEWSLETTERS

Folder 1	Newsletters	1968
2	Newsletters	1969
3	Newsletters	1970-1971
4	Newsletters	1972
5	Newsletters	1973
6	Newsletters	1974
7	Newsletters	1975
8	Newsletters	1976
9	Newsletters	1977
10	Newsletters	1978-1979
11	Newsletters	1981-1984
12	Newsletters	1985
13	Newsletters	1986-1987
14	Newsletter – Special issue WPA 1961-86, Statutes and Bylaws Declaration of Hawaii/II	1986

15 Newsletters 1988-1989

Box 4

Series IV PUBLICATIONS

Folder 1	Bulletin	1968
2	Bulletin - written in Spanish	1968
3	Bulletin	1969
4	Bulletin	1970
5	Bulletin	1970
6	Bulletin	1971
7	Bulletin	1972
8	Bulletin	1973
9	Bulletin	1974
10	Bulletin	1975
10A	Bulletin	1989
11	Program for Symposium on Anxiety	1969
12	Provisional programme for symposium on Aspects of Anxiety	1969
13	Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry Studies of Anxiety II, Special Supplement, WPA meeting, Melbourne, May 1969	11/1969
14	Transactions of the Symposium on Schizophrenia written in Russian	1970

Box 5

Series IV PUBLICATIONS

Folder 1	World Congress of Psychiatry, abstracts	1971
2	General Program of World Congress of Psychiatry	1971
3	Inserts and related material for General Program for World Congress of Psychiatry	1971
4	World Congress of Psychiatry Program of Social and Cultural Activities	1971
5	WPA Regional Symposium – Symposium and Congress information and registration brochure, related papers	1977-1978
6	Psychopathology – “Physiological Basis of Anxiety” Symposium of the NPA. Section Clinical Psychopathology Vienna, July 11, 1983	1/1984