

MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER
Nita Barrow Collection

Ref N° 2008-25

PART A – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

1 SUMMARY

The Nita Barrow Collection is an extensive collection that documents the life and times of one of the most distinguished women of the 20th century – the late Ruth Nita Barrow, Dame of St. Andrew (1980) and Dame Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George (1990). Born in the Caribbean island of Barbados, her life spans 1916-1995 – an era of significant world changing events and global happenings such as the empowerment of women, the Cuban Revolution, the oppressive Apartheid system in South Africa and its cessation and several redefining political changes in Eastern Europe such as the fall of the Berlin Wall. Dame Nita, as an international citizen, gender activist, diplomat, healthcare professional and trainer was either directly or indirectly associated with a number of these world events.

She was president of three major international bodies, namely the World Council of Churches (WCC) – 1983-91; the Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA) – 1975-83; and, the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE) – 1989-90. Her leadership of these international bodies at those particular junctures enabled her to make significant contributions on the world stage as a champion of several causes such as gender equality and empowerment, healthcare improvement and education, poverty alleviation and racism. These positions also helped to nurture her views and approaches to the various areas for which she became an international figure. These presidencies were all the more significant because prior to her holding these posts women, and particularly Black women, were excluded from such positions of power.

As convener of the 1985 Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) Forum for the Decade of Women in Nairobi, Kenya she earned international acclaim for her management of more than 16,000 delegates representing approximately 157 organisations.

http://www.5wwc.org/conference_background/1985_WCW.html. The conference which brought together participants of diverse cultures was later declared “the largest gathering of women in the history of the United Nations.” <http://www.iisd.org/women/about2.htm>. In 1986, she was the only woman in the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons to South Africa to negotiate the end of the Apartheid system in that country and the release of Nelson Mandela, who became the first head of state of a democratic South Africa.

Dame Nita’s life was an outstanding example of dedication, commitment and selfless international service to women, men and children, especially the poor, dispossessed and disadvantaged. www.oise.utoronto.ca/cwse/lecture.html.

2 DETAILS OF THE NOMINATOR

2.1 Name (person or organisation)

Main Library
The University of the West Indies,
Cave Hill Campus, P.O. Box 1334,
Bridgetown BB11000,
St. Michael, Barbados, West Indies

2.2 Relationship to the documentary heritage nominated

The Main Library, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados of The University of the West Indies is responsible for the preservation and conservation of this collection which is of historical

importance and value to Barbados and to international researchers on the topics of gender equality and empowerment, racism and healthcare.

2.3 Contact person (s)

1. Miss Elizabeth Watson
Campus Librarian
2. Dr. Cheryl King
Special Collections Librarian

2.4 Contact details (include address, phone, fax, email)

Main Library
The University of the West Indies,
Cave Hill Campus, P.O. Box 1334,
Bridgetown BB11000,
St. Michael,
Barbados, West Indies

1. Email: elizabeth.watson@cavehill.uwi.edu
Telephone: (246) 417 4444
Fax: (246) 417 4460
2. Email: cheryl.king@cavehill.uwi.edu
Telephone: (246) 417 4448

3 *IDENTITY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE*

3.1 Name and identification details of the items being nominated:

The documentary heritage being nominated is known as the Nita Barrow Collection.

3.2 Provenance:

Dame Nita, in the latter years of her life, commenced the donation of a number of her documents and personal papers to The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus. Originally donated to the Centre for Gender and Development Studies of The University of the West Indies, the material was, immediately, deposited in the campus' Main Library. On Dame Nita's demise, Miss Sybil Barrow donated the remainder of the materials which constitute this nomination to the Main Library.

3.3 Description of the documentary heritage:

The Nita Barrow Collection documents career of Dame Nita Barrow as an international advocate for gender equality and empowerment, anti-racism, poverty alleviation, healthcare education and improvement.

Location:

The collection is housed in a dedicated space in the Main Library of The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus in Barbados.

The Nita Barrow Collection
Main Library
The University of the West Indies
Cave Hill
P.O. Box 1334
Barbados BB11000

This collection forms part of a drive by the Cave Hill Campus to acquire the papers and accompanying documents of Caribbean leaders. This particular collection reflects intent by the Centre for Gender and Development Studies to acquire the papers and other documents of women leaders from the Eastern Caribbean.

Contents:

1. Manuscripts: 1973-1993
2. Correspondence: 1982-1995
3. Monographs: 1952-1995

Language of Material:

English

Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information:

The University of the West Indies holds the copyright to the materials in the collection.

Restrictions:

Issues of confidentiality, damage, injury, embarrassment or the harassment of living individuals prohibit access to and the reproduction of some material in the collection.

Access:

The collection is open to bona fide researchers. Items in the collection which are confidential in nature, have the potential to embarrass, damage, injure or harass living individuals are not open to the public.

Materials in the Nita Barrow Collection may not be reproduced without the permission of the Campus Librarian. Application for such permission shall specify the context in which the reproduction will appear. Permission, if granted, extends only to reproduction in that particular context. To ensure accuracy of reference, any caption or description, which the applicant proposes to attach to such a reproduction, must also be submitted for approval. Persons using materials reproduced from the collection are required to sign a declaration form.

Bibliography:

A full bibliography of Dame Nita's manuscripts, correspondence and monographs is available from the Main Library, The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados. A select list is attached as Appendix I. The document "Overview of the Nita Barrow Collection" by Carmen Hutchinson Miller, a feminist scholar from Costa Rica, is attached as Appendix II. Published in Issue 2 – 2008 of the *Caribbean Review of Gender Studies: A Journal of Caribbean Perspectives on Gender and Feminism* it is also available at <http://sta.uwi.edu/crgs/september2008/journals/CarmenMiller.pdf>

4 JUSTIFICATION FOR INCLUSION/ ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

4.1 Authenticity:

Dame Nita began the process of transferring her collection to the University during her lifetime. After her demise, the transfer was concluded by her sister, Miss Sybil Barrow, executrix of Dame Nita's estate. The papers have never been in the possession of anyone outside of the Barrow family. Thus, the authenticity of the collection was first established by its owner and continued by the executrix of the estate.

4.2 World Significance, Uniqueness and Irreplaceability:

The Nita Barrow Collection represents the life and times of a Caribbean woman whose work transcended national and regional borders.³ Hers was a stature of international dimensions. Of

great significance is the fact that Dame Nita as a Black female from a small island developing state occupied leadership positions on the world's stage (for instance, she was President, at various times, of three major international bodies and served as leader/convenor of several prestigious international delegations). Through her work and advocacy she served/s as a role model for all women, particularly Black women. Her sterling efforts against racism led her to be named a member, and the only female, of the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons to South Africa whose efforts led to the cessation of Apartheid, the release of Nelson Mandela and the introduction of democratic rule in South Africa¹.

In 1978, she was appointed leader of the World Health Organization delegation to the Primary Healthcare conference held in Alma Ata, Russia. Under the theme "Healthcare for All by the Year 2000" among the declarations of this conference was the need to redress the unacceptable inequality in health standards between developed and developing countries.

http://www.who.int/hpr/NPH/docs/declaration_almaata.pdf.

In 1990, during her lifetime, in recognition of her international stature, the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE) created the prestigious *Dame Nita Barrow Award* at the ICAE World Bank Assembly in Bangkok, Thailand. The award recognises and supports regional or national adult education organisations that have made a significant contribution towards the empowerment of women.

In 1997, the University of Toronto's OISE (Ontario School for Education) Centre for Women's Studies in Education, established in her honour the *Dame Nita Barrow Distinguished Visitorship in Women in Development and Community Transformation*. In addition to delivering a public lecture, recipients of this Visitorship are required to teach for a semester at the Centre. Feminist scholars who have received this award have come from a diverse array of countries such as Algeria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Nigeria, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines.

According to Kathleen Drayton, "Nita Barrow's feminist consciousness . . . shaped world affairs in the second half of the twentieth century at the highest political and diplomatic levels."² Dame Nita was also the fourth founding member and served on the board of the San Francisco-based Global Fund for Women³.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Fund_for_Women>

In 1989, she was awarded the *Christiane Reimann Prize* by the International Council of Nurses. This award is considered the Nobel Prize of Nursing. She was also awarded *Nurse of the Century, 1900-2000* by the Barbados Registered Nurses' Association.

This unique collection consists of Dame Nita's unpublished papers and speeches (many of which are handwritten) as well as her personal correspondence with world leaders and international organisations documents. The collection provides, from the perspective of a Black woman, several dimensions of the considerable global changes that occurred during the mid 1970s to the mid 1990s. It also provides evidence of how she contributed to world affairs in an array of areas. If lost or damaged, then an important component of the world's valuable heritage as it relates to female leadership would be lost to posterity.

Criteria of (a) time, (b) place, (c) people, (d) subject and themes (e) form and style

(a) Time:

The mid 1970s to the mid 1990s was a period of significant change in gender relations (equal pay for equal work), healthcare issues (substantial improvements in public health), diplomatic relations (e.g. ending of the Cold War and the cessation of Apartheid), adult education (expanding access and curriculum reform in health education) and strengthening the United Nation's role on the global stage (e.g. recognising the need to support Small Island Developing

States). Dame Nita's collection reflects her thoughts, actions, reactions and contributions to these significant changes at the international level.

(b) Place:

The Dame Nita collection documents her work and the impact she had on several fronts internationally. During her life she travelled to more than 80 countries, many of which were in the developing world where her work had considerable impact. In Africa, she was particularly involved in public health, nursing education, poverty alleviation and the anti-Apartheid movement.

In 1986, Dame Nita visited South Africa as a member of the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons. The mandate of that delegation was to dismantle Apartheid; arrange for the freedom of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners; facilitate the termination of the state of emergency in South Africa; and, to set in train the establishment of democratic rule in South Africa.⁴ The result of the work of this international group of Commonwealth citizens occasioned unprecedented changes in the lives of millions of South Africans, enabled South Africa to be welcomed back into the Commonwealth and become a member of good standing the international community.

In 1994, on behalf of the Commonwealth, Dame Nita served as the convenor of the Group of Eminent Persons invited to make recommendations on a wide range of issues of concern to SIDS (Small Island Developing States). The recommendations of this group were presented to first United Nations Global Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Barbados, 25 April - 6 May of that year. The Barbados Plan of Action (BPoA), a principal document of this global conference, sets forth specific actions and measures to be taken at the national, regional and international levels in support of the sustainable development of SIDS. The BPoA remains a the key strategic document which guides the work of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development and other institutions involved in the sustainable development of SIDS.

(c) People:

Dame Nita, a nurse by profession, was born in St. Lucy on November 15th 1916. She attended the Universities of Toronto and Edinburgh at a time when few Black women were able to pursue tertiary education. During her distinguished career she headed several international, regional and national organisations. Her impact on people was therefore far reaching. In addition to heading three international organisations, Dame Nita was invited by several international organisations to serve as either the leader of a contingent or as a consultant in many countries and on several continents. Thus, she was able to impact on the lives of many – regardless of their station or condition.

In recognition of her contribution to humanity, her influence on world affairs and her international stature she was appointed by Queen Elizabeth II, Governor General of Barbados in 1990.

As Convenor of the Forum on Women Dame Nita was able to influence the crucial *Forward Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women* the key recommendations of which are: Sexual equality; Women's autonomy and power; Recognition of women's unpaid work; and, Advances in Women's paid work. Many of these recommendations have influenced the modernization of the legal framework that applies to women in many countries. <http://www.iisd.org/women.nairobi.htm>.

On Dame Nita's contribution to the 1992 World Congress for Education and Communication on Environment and Development, Charles "Chuck" Hopkins (Chair) and Nola Kate Seymour (Executive Director) wrote:

Your warmth and skill in moderating the Opening and Closing Sessions and your candidness in speaking on the Plenary Session on North-South Issues added greatly to the spirit of the Congress. You are a great role model. We are convinced that the overall positive tone of the meetings, that of real dialogue and debate within a context of shared respect, was the result of the obvious commitment and concern demonstrated by yourself

We also wish to express our gratitude for . . . championing our cause. Your own commitment to these issues was an inspiration to us. Your support from the very beginning gave us legitimacy and served to attract support from others.⁵

At the bottom of this letter is a penned note by “Chuck” Harris which reads: “You are a real inspiration – Thank you.”

In a request from the University of Minnesota’s Center for Advanced Feminist Studies that invites Dame Nita to be the keynote speaker at the First International Conference on Women in Africa and the African Diaspora, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, July 1992, Obioma Nnaemeka advances the following as the reasons for their invitation:

In view of your extraordinary contributions to the advancement of the Black race in general and the Black woman in particular, we see our invitation to you as a fitting tribute to an extraordinary woman.⁶

As a humanitarian she helped to shape Caribbean unity through her diplomacy and involvement in several organisations. For her contribution to the region, in 1994, she was the first woman of Caribbean origin to receive the Order of the Caribbean Community from the leading regional organisation in the Caribbean, CARICOM.

(3) Subject and Theme:

The principal thrusts of Dame Nita’s work which enabled her to impact on international affairs were adult education, anti-racism, gender relations, health care and poverty alleviation. These diverse disciplines and interests served as the crucible which Dame Nita’s philosophies, philanthropy and spiritual formation were shaped.

As a Caribbean woman at the forefront of the development of women in developing countries she was able to bring about the confluence of better health, better education and adult education leading to the betterment of life for people in African countries.

On her role in transforming the YWCA, Barriteau and Copley opine:

As president of the World YWCA (1975-83), Nita Barrow is credited with having played a critical role in transforming that organization from an association perceived by many as being dominated by wealthy white women of the North – whose charity determined its priorities – into an institution alert to the implications of Christian equality, and able to respond realistically to the varied and complex challenges of a membership comprising women from ninety countries, both North and South, black and white, rich and poor.⁷

She served as the Chairperson for the Executive Committee of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE), 1983 to 1989 and chaired meetings in countries such as the former USSR, China, Canada and Iraq. In 1983, she and a team from the ICAE visited six provinces of the Peoples Republic of China in order to evaluate the Chinese approaches to workers’ education. During the visit to China she co-chaired, with Chinese officials, a series of seminars on adult education.

Her life-long commitment against racial discrimination culminated when she was named as the sole female of a seven-member team of Commonwealth dignitaries assigned to take a first-

hand look at the system of Apartheid. Known as the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons, constituted under the Accord on Southern Africa or the “Nassau Accord” on October 20, 1985 the team was mandated to dismantle the system of Apartheid, negotiate the release of Nelson Mandela and initiate fruitful dialogue between the Botha government and leaders of the African majority.

On her advocacy for women’s rights and empowerment, Joycelin Massiah, a former Regional Program Director of UNIFEM Caribbean, writes:

Dame Nita was an ardent supporter of the advancement of women, which she described as ‘the most political of all issues.’ She saw clearly that all of the major social, political, and economic issues facing the internationally community could be more effectively understood and addressed if seen through the lens of women and gender.⁸

Peggy Antrobus,⁹ the Dame Nita Barrow Distinguished Visitor for the 1998 conference, in her presentation “Women Leadership: Catalysts for Change” opened by paying tribute to Dame Nita as:

. . . a woman whose values and style illustrate the kind of leadership that will move us toward ‘A world where inequality based on class, gender, and race is absent from every country, and from the relationships among countries. . . a world where basic needs become basic rights and where poverty and all forms of violence are eliminated.’ (Sen & Grown 1987, p.80¹⁰).

Ms. Antrobus further added that Dame Nita “ . . . left an indelible mark on the International Women’s Movement, setting the standard of leadership by which we are guided today.”¹¹

In 1964, she became a public health advisor to the World Health Organization (WHO) and later to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). As a woman from a small Third World country, Barrow held these two critical public posts at a time when leadership in the health professions was the preserve of white male expatriates. She also served in this capacity as the principal adviser to sixteen Caribbean governments.

She continued to impact on healthcare on the regional level when she initiated and coordinated an extensive research program on nursing education which culminated in a comprehensive revision of nursing education in the Caribbean.

(e) Form and Style:

This documentary heritage consists of various formats such as handwritten and typed documents, monographs and personal documents (such as photographs, correspondence, invitations, diplomas and degrees).

4.4 Issues of rarity, integrity, threat and management:

Rarity

This collection represents the personal papers/speeches and correspondence that Dame Nita penned and/or acquired during her life. Consequently, these documents are unique and irreplaceable. To the best of our knowledge this is the only extant collection of Dame Nita’s papers/speeches and correspondence. Dame Nita’s significant international contribution to gender empowerment, healthcare, poverty alleviation and adult education, to date, has not been fully interrogated. This primary resource of her life and work is therefore the archival collection that is central to any investigation, examination and/or reportage on the life and work of Dame Nita.

Integrity

The collection is a complete collection of Dame Nita's personal working manuscripts, speeches, correspondence and her personal collection of monographs. The collection forms a cohesive grouping.

Threat and Management

Housed in a dedicated space, the collection is stored in acid free boxes on shelving and in cabinets and arranged according to the Library of Congress system. The collection is being catalogued according to the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR2)¹², using Library of Congress (LC) Subject Headings¹³, LC Classification Schedules¹⁴ and the Thesaurus of ERIC Descriptors¹⁵. To date, there are approximately 6, 000 records in the WINISIS database.

The room is secure and the collection is monitored by the security services deployed by the Campus against theft and fire. Hurricane shutters have been installed as a protective device against this natural disaster.

The Main Library is in the process of establishing a conservation policy for its special collections.

5 LEGAL INFORMATION

5.1. Owner of the documentary heritage:

The University of the West Indies,
Cave Hill Campus, P.O. Box 1334,
Bridgetown BB11000, St. Michael,
Barbados, West Indies

5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage:

The Campus Librarian

5.3 Legal status:

The collection was officially donated to The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus by Dame Nita and Miss Sybil Barrow.

(a) Category of ownership:

Gift/Donation

(b) Accessibility:

The Nita Barrow Collection is available to bona fide researchers who are investigating the life and work of Dame Nita as well as the times in which she lived. Consultation is by appointment only, during the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Materials of a confidential nature are closed to the public. All persons using the search room record their names in the Attendance Book and sign a user agreement which governs their use of materials in this collection in their work.

(d) Copyright status:

The University of the West Indies is the copyright owner of this material.

(e) Responsible administration:

Main Library
The University of the West Indies
Cave Hill Campus
P.O. Box 1334
Bridgetown BB1100 Barbados

Three (3) Referees who know about the collection:

Professor Eudine Barriteau
Deputy Principal
The University of the West Indies
Cave Hill Campus, P.O. Box 64
Bridgetown, BB11000
Barbados

Tel.: (246) 417 4034; Fax: (246) 424 3822
Email: deputyprincipal@cavehill.uwi.edu
(Formerly Head, Centre for Gender and Development Studies: Nita Barrow Unit)

Professor Joycelin Massiah
14 Prior Park Terrace, St. James
Barbados

Tel.: (246) 4242 3169
Email: massiah@sunbeach.net

(Formerly Regional Program Director UNIFEM)

Professor Hilbourne Watson
Department of International Relations
Bucknell University, Rm. 105 Coleman Hall
701 Moore Avenue, Lewisburg
PA 17837 USA

Tel: (507) 577 3568
Email: hawatson@bucknell.edu

6 *MANAGEMENT PLAN*

The collection is stored in acid-free boxes on shelves and in cabinets. Temperature and humidity controls are installed. In addition to security grills there is an electronic surveillance system to guard against theft and warn if a fire occurs.

7 *CONSULTATION*

The Main Library collaborated with the Memory of the World Committee of Barbados and the Memory of the World Australian Committee, on this nomination.

PART B – SUBSIDIARY INFORMATION

8 *ASSESSMENT OF RISK*

The Collection is subject to the vicissitudes of degeneration over time.

9 *ASSESSMENT OF PRESERVATION* 9

9.1 Assessment of physical state and condition:

The material in the Nita Barrow Collection is in a good physical state. Environmental and conservation conditions, building and storage are satisfactory. Precious works and memorabilia are either displayed in locked cases or stored in secure cabinets.

PART C - LODGEMENT

This nomination is lodged by:

(Please print name)

Cheryl King

(Signature).....

(Date)...Originally submitted March 29, 2008

Revised Nomination submitted February 15, 2009.

ENDNOTES

¹ Biographic details of the persons who comprised the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons to South Africa are available at <http://www.anc.org.za/ancdocs/history/commonwealth/eminent.html#Members>.

² Kathleen Drayton, “A West Indian Feminist Consciousness.” *Stronger, Surer, Bolder: Ruth Nita Barrow – Social Change and International Development*. Ed. Eudine Barriteau and Alan Cobley. (Mona: U of the West Indies P, 2001) 24.

³ Global Fund for Women is an international network of women and men committed to a world of equality and social justice. <http://www.globalfundforwomen.org/cms/about-gfw/who-we-are/>.

⁴ The Commonwealth Accord to Southern Africa (The Nassau Accord’). <http://www.anc.org.za/ancdocs/history/commonwealth/nassau/html>.

⁵ Hopkins, Charles and Nola Kate Seymour. Letter to Dame Nita re: World Congress for Education and Communication on Environment and Development, October 17-21, 1992. Toronto. November 23, 1992.

⁶ Nnaemeka, Obioma. Letter re: Invitation to be the keynote speaker at the First International Conference on Women in Africa and the African Diaspora, Nigeria, 1992. Minneapolis. May 26, 1992.

⁷ Barriteau, Eudine and Alan Cobley, eds. *Stronger, Surer, Bolder: Ruth Nita Barrow – Social Change and International Development*. Mona: U of the West Indies P, 2001, 143.

⁸ Barriteau & Cobley xiv.

⁹ Peggy Antrobus, a mentee of Dame Nita, was the founder of the Women and Development Unit of The University of the West Indies (WAND), and the Co-Founder of the Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN) and organisation developed to the betterment of women from the economic South.

¹⁰ Sen, G. and C. Grown. *Development, Crises and Alternative Visions: Third World Women's Perspectives*. G. Sen and C. Grown for Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN). London: Earthscan Publications Ltd, 1987.

¹¹ Peggy Antrobus, “Women’s Leadership: Catalysts for Change,” Dame Nita Barrow Lecture (Toronto, Canada, 1998). Also available at <http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/cwse/Peggy%20Lecture%202.pdf>.

Appendix I

Memory of the World Programme 2008

Nita Barrow Collection Nomination A Select Listing of Items in the Nita Barrow Collection

► **MANUSCRIPTS**

The manuscripts in this collection include personal papers and speeches, both typed and handwritten by Dame Nita. The collection demonstrates Dame Nita's advocacy of and involvement in a range of world affairs, principally – gender equity and empowerment, healthcare, anti-Apartheid work and adult education.

SPEECHES

The following is a select list of speeches presented in a number of international venues as well as correspondence from and to Dame Nita which are representative of her formal work in a diversity of global issues. A full listing is available from the Main Library at The University of the West Indies in Barbados.

Adult Education: 1982-1991

“The University of the West Indies into the 21st Century.” UWI Graduation. Mona, Jamaica. 1991.

Address. Graduating Class of 1990. Baccalaureate service, Columbia University, New York, USA. 13 May 1990.

50th Anniversary of the Canadian Adult Education Association. Montreal, Canada. June 1985.

“Adult Education: An International Perspective.” International Seminar on Adult Education. Moscow, USSR. 17-22 September 1984.

“Social Action and Development.” Address. Conference of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE). UNESCO House, Paris. 25 October 1982.

“Adult Education and Primary Health Care.” Lecture. International Education Organization. Kenya. N.d.

Anti-Apartheid: 1987

Statement to the UN Security Council on the Question of Namibia. N.p. 6 April 1987.

Child Welfare: 1989

“The State of the Caribbean Child: Beyond Survival.” The Caribbean Parliamentary Symposium on the Rights of the Child. N.p. 13 October 1989.

Diplomatic: 1988-1990

Speech. Installation Ceremony of Dame Nita Barrow, G.C.M.G., D.A. as Governor General of Barbados. Barbados. 6 June 1990.

“Preventive Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution: Techniques and Problems.” United Nations/Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organisations (UN/DPI/NGO) Annual Conference on the Role of the UN in Conflict Resolution, Peace-Keeping and Global Security. N.p. 15 September 1988.

Healthcare: 1982-1992

Address. 20th Anniversary Celebration of the International Service Association for Health Inc. (INSA). N.p. 9 October 1992.

“Nursing – A New Tomorrow.” Speech delivered in acceptance of the Reimann Prize. 19th Congress of the International Council of Nurses. Seoul. 31 May 1989.

“Health for All By the Year 2000: Overview.” Commemoration of the Tenth Anniversary of the Declaration of Alma Ata. N.p. May 1988. (The Declaration of Alma Ata came out of the International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata, USSR, 6 – 12 September 1978. The declaration expressed the need for urgent action by all governments, all health and development workers, and the world community to protect and promote the health of all the people of the world.)

“Primary Health Care: To Assist in Achieving a Goal of Health for all in Developing Nations. N.p. 15 May 1986.

“Global Perspectives on Health.” Graduation Address. School of Public Health, University of Texas. Houston, Texas. 8 June 1984.

Speech. The Family Planning Association. Barbados. 23 September 1982.

Speech. The Conferment of Fellowships of the Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom. (Dame Nita was conferred with an Honorary Fellowship at this meeting). Royal College of Nursing, London, UK. 30 October 1980.

“Women in the Front Line of Health Care.” 6th Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting. Tanzania. 1980.

“Emerging Challenges in Health Education.” 9th International Conference on Health Education. Ottawa, Canada. 29 August-3 September 1976.

Population: 1983

“Non-Governmental Organizations Contribution to the Implementation of the World Population Plan of Action – Population and Development.” International Consultation of NGOs on Population Issues. China. 13-15 September 1983.

Religion: 1973-1985

Sermon. Ecumenical Worship of NGO Forum’85. Railway Club, Uhuru Highway, Nairobi, Kenya. 17 July 1985.

“Call to Courage.” Church Women United 1984 Ecumenical Assembly. Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. 23 July 1984.

Address. YWCA Meeting. Singapore. 13 October 1983.

“Introduction to Bible Study.” 29th General Council of the United Church of Canada. 10 August 1982.

Induction Speech. Elected Vice President of the Methodist Conference of Churches. Methodist Church Conference. Nassau, Bahamas. June 1973.

Social Welfare: 1984-1989

“Some Issues on the Global Agenda of the 1990s. Institute of International Relations. St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. 1989.

Keynote Address. “Social Welfare in a World in Crisis: Perceptions and Responsibilities.” 22nd International Conference on Social Welfare (A World in Crisis). N.p. 5-11 August 1984.

Women and Development: 1982-1993

Address. Women’s Leadership Conference. Mills College, San Francisco, California. 10-14 June 1993.

Address. Women’s Coalition of St. Croix. N.p. 25 March 1993.

Introductory Remarks. “Women and Health.” Women and Development Studies/Faculty of Medicine Seminar. Barbados. 13-16 October 1992.

“The Dawn of a New Day for Women and their Health.” N.p. [October 1992].

Statement. International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women in South Africa and Namibia. N.p. 9 August 1989.

“Development with Justice, Development as if People Matter.” World YWCA Council Meeting. Phoenix, Arizona. 29 August-5 September 1987.

Speech. United Nations/Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organisations (UN/DPI/NGO) Meeting. N.p. 4 September 1985.

Address. Opening Plenary Forum. Kenyatta International Conference Centre. Nairobi, Kenya. 10 July 1985.

Opening Remarks. Pre-Conference Consultation. Nairobi Forum 1985. Vienna, Austria. 22-25 October 1984.

Statement on behalf of the Non-Governmental Planning Committee for the UN Decade Forum 1985. Arusha, Tanzania. 8-12 October 1984.

“Women: Their Major Role in Development.” National Organisation of Women (NOW). [Barbados]. 13 November 1982.

“The Changing Role of Women.” Family Life Conference. N.p. N.d.

“Reflections on the Women’s Decade 1976-85.” N.p. N.d.

“Women and Work.” N.p. N.d.

► CORRESPONDENCE: 1982-1995

The following selection of correspondence is indicative of the range of institutions and diversity of individuals who sought Dame Nita's counsel and support. It is also representative of the array of people and institutions who recognised and understood the importance of her international work and standing:

The Anti-Apartheid Movement: President Most Revd. Trevor Huddleston re: information on the “Nelson Mandela: Freedom at 70 Campaign” and the Celebration for Mandela’s 70th Birthday. N.d.

Canadian International Developmental Agency (CIDA) re: Women in Development. August 1991

Commonwealth Caribbean Medical Research Council (CCMRC) re: Healthcare issues. July 1995

The Gamaliel Chair re: Gamaliel Chair in Peace and Justice, Metropolitan Milwaukee, Wisconsin Lutheran Campus Ministry, January 1982.

Marquis Who’s Who, New Jersey re: Her Biography being included in the 13th edition of Marquis Who’s Who in the World. August 1995.

The Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee for the Release of all Political Prisoners & Detainees, UK re: Nelson Mandela Release and Reception. N.d.

South African Government and the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons (COMGEP) re: Release of Nelson Mandela and the end of Apartheid. March 1990

The Synagogue Restoration Project, Barbados. July 1992.

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development re: Global Environment and Developmental Issues. N.d.

The University of Wisconsin re: Adult Education Programmes. N.d.

West Indies School of Public Health, Jamaica re: an Awards Ceremony to be held in her honour. February 1986

The Women’s Coalition of St. Croix re: Confirmation of her Speaking at their Annual Meeting, October 1993.

► **DAME NITA’S PERSONAL LIBRARY: 1952-1995**

Included here are some notable works that would have helped to shape Dame Nita’s philosophies, philanthropy and spiritual formation.

Blackman, Francis (Woodie). *Methodism: 200 Years in Barbados*. Bridgetown: Caribbean Contact, 1988.

Catwell, Sylvan R. *The Brethren in Barbados: Gospel Hall Assemblies 1889-1994*. Michigan: McNaughton & Gunn, 1995.

- Disciple: Becoming Disciples through Bible Study Handbook.* Tennessee: Abingdon, 1993.
- Eaton, George E. *Alexander Bustamante and Modern Jamaica.* Kingston: Kingston, 1975.
- Forte, Charles. *The Autobiography of Charles Forte.* London: Sidgwick and Jackson, 1987.
- Harrison, Nancy. *Winnie Mandela: Mother of a Nation.* London: Victor Gollancz, 1985.
- Kidd, Roby. *An Adult Educator 1915-1982: The Autobiography of a Canadian Pioneer.* Toronto: OISE, 1995.
- Lanker, Brian. *I Dream a World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America.* New York: Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 1989.
- Lefanu, Sarah & Stephen Hayward. *Colors of a New Day: Writing for South Africa.* New York: Pantheon, 1990.
- Levi, Darrell E. *Michael Manley: The Making of a Leader.* Kingston: Heinemann (Caribbean), 1989.
- Manley, Rachel. *Edna Manley: The Diaries.* Kingston: Heinemann (Caribbean), 1989.
- Meer, Fatima. *Higher Than Hope: The Biography of Nelson Mandela.* Durban: Madiba, [1988].
- Morgan, Peter. *A High Tide in the Caribbean.* St. Michael: Caribbean Communications, n.d.
- Morgan, Robin. *Sisterhood is Global: The International Women's Movement Anthology.* New York: Anchor/Doubleday, 1984.
- Peplau, Hildegard. *Interpersonal Relations in Nursing: A Conceptual Frame of Reference for Psychodynamic Nursing.* New York: Putnam's Sons, 1952.
- Thatcher, Margaret. *The Downing Street Years.* New York: HarperCollins, 1993,
- Von Krockow, Christian. *Hour of the Women: A Young Mother's Fight to Survive at the Close of World War II.* New York: HarperCollins, 1991.

Appendix II

Memory of the World Programme 2008

Nita Barrow Collection Nomination

Captured from <http://sta.uwi.edu/crgs/september2008/journals/CarmenMiller.pdf>



Issue 2 – 2008

Overview of the Nita Barrow Collection *Carmen Hutchinson Miller*

Abstract

The information in this article is an overview of the vision, coordinating, planning, negotiating, and final establishment of the Nita Barrow Collection in the Cave Hill library at the University of the West Indies, under the leadership of Head of the Centre, Dr. Eudine Barriteau.¹ All the information was gathered from the Centre for Gender and Development Studies: Nita Barrow Unit² and includes internal documents such as letters, departmental reports, project proposals, and other relevant documents.

Introduction

Since as a historian I recognize the importance of documenting the events and activities of a people for posterity, it is my heartfelt desire that the general history of the Centre for Gender and Development (CGDS) should be documented and published as another contribution not only to academia but to the future men and women who will be leading Caribbean society. Academic interactions such as these, it is my hope, will create necessary motivation for such scholarly undertaking.

¹ Dr. Eudine Barriteau is head of the Centre since its establishment in 1993. She subsequently received her professorship in 2004.

² The Centre for Gender and Development Studies, Cave Hill Unit, was renamed The Centre for Gender and Development Studies: Nita Barrow Unit on November 15, 2006.

Overview

The Nita Barrow Specialist Collection is part of the Research Project, Caribbean Women Catalysts for Change (CWCC), which was conceptualized in 1993/1994. The other two aspects of the CWCC research project is the distinguished lecture series which was inaugurated in 1995 and a continuous documentation work that researches, documents, and disseminates information on the public life and contributions of outstanding Caribbean women in six selected areas which represent six phases.

Caribbean Women Catalysts for Change Lecture Series

The lecture series was inaugurated in 1995 by Dame Eugenia Charles of Dominica, and in 1996 was dedicated to honouring the memory of Dame Nita Barrow, Governor General of Barbados, 1990–1995. The lecture series is now in its thirteenth year. Twelve of the thirteen lectures planned were delivered (see lecture no. 3 in table). Several of the lectures have been published in the Working Paper Series³.

Research project on outstanding Caribbean women

The CWCC has six research phases and one continuous documentation phase. These research phases are as follows:

- Regional and international development
- Politics and political participation
- Women organizing and the women's movement
- Trade unionism
- Education
- Agricultural and food production

So far, phases one and two have been successfully completed. Phase one documented and analyzed the contributions of Ruth Nita Barrow to regional and international development. CGDS published the book, *Stronger, Surer, Bolder: Ruth Nita Barrow — Social Change and International Development*, edited by Eudine Barriteau and Alan Copley and published by the University of the West Indies Press in 2001.

Phase two, which began in December of 2001, was devoted to —Women, Power and Politics. During this phase, the contributions made by Dame Eugenia Charles⁴ to Dominica and to the Commonwealth Caribbean were documented and analyzed. CGDS published the book, *Enjoying Power: Eugenia Charles and Political Leadership in the Commonwealth Caribbean*, edited by Eudine Barriteau, and Alan Copley, and published by the University of the West Indies Press in 2006. Madame Justice Desiree Bernard of the Caribbean Court of Justice has been selected and agrees to be the subject of phase three of the Caribbean Women Catalysts for Change Project.

³ Lectures Nos. 5, 6, 8, 9 and 13 have been published in the Centre's Working Paper Series, as Working Papers No. 3, 7, 12, 13, and 14.

⁴ Dame Eugenia Charles, sadly, died on September 6, 2005, before the book was published.

Establishing of The Dame Nita Barrow Women in Development Specialist Collection

After the CWCC project had begun, the other goal of the project was to implement the establishment of the specialist collection with one of its main objectives being as follows:

To have the Cave Hill Campus as a repository for the papers and documents of outstanding Caribbean Women so that wherever researchers are in the world, if they want to study the lives of these women, they would have to come here (Barriteau September 9, 2002).⁵

What follows are the nine objectives that the CGDS, Cave Hill unit, set out to achieve.

- To document and analyze the national, regional and international contributions of outstanding Caribbean women who have acted as catalysts for social and economic change in the Caribbean
- To conserve, preserve and make available for future generations the papers of outstanding Caribbean women, beginning with the documents of Dame Nita Barrow

- To ensure the preservation of the private, public and documentary records of outstanding Caribbean women as a means of contributing to the preservation of the documentary heritage of Caribbean peoples
- To provide enduring access to these records for regional and international scholars and people
- To contribute to the body of material available for teaching in the areas of Gender and Development Studies, Management Studies and other related disciplines
- To strengthen, enhance and build the institutional capacity of the Centre for Gender and Development Studies to undertake ongoing research on or about women, to benefit all women in particular and Caribbean society in general
- To continue to make an impact on teaching, policy formulation, research and outreach in the region
- To continue to develop the Cave Hill library as a regional repository for important papers of outstanding Caribbean women
- To continue to develop the University of the West Indies as the primary centre of excellence for research on outstanding Caribbean women.

The process

In January 1996, CGDS, at Cave Hill, submitted to the Academic Board a number of proposals to honour the memory and public life of Dame Nita Barrow. One of these

5 Overview by Dr. Eudine Barriteau on the Official Handing over of the Nita Barrow Papers. Cave Hill campus, Barbados, September 19, 2002:2.

proposals was that the University should establish a Dame Nita Barrow Women in the Caribbean Collection. The Academic Board accepted the proposals.⁶

The handing over

Based on correspondence reviewed, the official handing over of the Dame Nita Papers took place on September 19, 2002 at 11 a.m. on the Cave Hill campus. It is of significance that the culmination of this part of the process happened on the tenth anniversary of the Centre. On that same date, as part of the official handing over, Dame Eugenia Charles presented to the Principal of the Cave Hill Campus, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles,⁷ a Deed of Gift donating her papers to the University.

“Dame Eugenia is honouring a commitment she made in 1997 when she agreed to be the woman whose public contributions we would analyse in Phase II” (Barriteau September 19, 2002:3).

CGDS and Main Library, Cave Hill Campus, open collection

From the acceptance by the Academic Board in 1996, to the official handing over of the papers of Dame Nita, and the Gift of Deed by Dame Eugenia Charles in 2002, it took ten years to achieve the goal of having the Cave Hill campus as a repository for the papers and documents of outstanding Caribbean Women. The process was successfully completed on November 15, 2006, with the official opening of the Specialist Collection, the Nita Barrow Collection, by Dr. Jeannine Comma, niece of Dame Nita Barrow. On this same occasion, CGDS, Cave Hill Unit, was renamed The Centre for Gender and Development Studies: Nita Barrow Unit (CGDS: NBU). The papers of Dame Nita Barrow, Governor General of Barbados, 1990–1995, form the core of the Collection, which includes the papers of Dame Eugenia Charles, Prime Minister of Dominica, 1980–1995.

The collection includes monographs, periodicals and newspapers, minutes of meetings, correspondence, memoranda, conference papers, reports, press releases, interviews, programs, journal articles, memorabilia, newspaper and other clippings, speeches, photographs, video and sound tapes.

A searchable database of the items in the collection is available in the Nita Barrow Reading Room. Documents are made available only to fulfill specific research needs. The Collection also includes some documents to which access is restricted.

6 Overview by Dr. Eudine Barriteau on the Official Handing over of the Nita Barrow Papers. Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, September 19, 2002:2.

7 He received an honorary knighthood in 2007.

Users

The collection is open to local, regional, national, and international researchers, historians, and students interested in early post-Independence Commonwealth Caribbean political history and American foreign policy in the region around the time of the Grenada invasion.

To conclude, I will join the librarian, Mrs. Jenipher Carnegie, responsible at the time for the managing of the collection in saying —”This is really a tremendous resource” (Barbados Advocate 2005, 15).⁸

8 *The Barbados Advocate*. —Two Dames' papers in special collection. Wednesday February 2, 2005, 15.

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