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Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Theology in the Americas records

1951-1988 [bulk 1970-1979]

Sc MG 369

Summary

Creator: Theology in the Americas (Organization)

Title: Theology in the Americas records

Date: 1951-1988 [bulk 1970-1979]

Size: 7.63 linear feet (9 boxes)

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Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: Theology in the Americas (TIA) was formed in 1974 to begin the process of exploring the meaning of liberation theology for North America. The Theology in the Americas records document the group's general organization, the two major conferences it sponsored, and its affinity groups.

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Language of the Material: English Some of the material is in Spanish.

Processing note: Accessioned by Janice Quinter, November 2007.

Separated Materials:

Transferred to the Moving Image and Recorded Sound Division: audio materials. For more information, please contact the division at schomburgaudiovisual@nypl.org or 212-491-2270.

Transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division: photographs.

Related Materials:

Black Theology Project records, Sc MG 286, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Creator History

Theology in the Americas (TIA) was formed in 1974 to begin the process of exploring the meaning of liberation theology for North America. It was initiated by Father Sergio Torres and others who brought together a multiracial coalition of approximately sixty action/reflection groups, comprised of both Catholics and Protestants, who were seeking qualitative social change in the United States and a new way of doing theology based on the grassroots experiences of people who are oppressed by racism, sexism, classism, and imperialism. The first set of conversations culminated in a conference in August 1975 in Detroit, sponsored by the Latin American Secretariat of the United States Catholic Conferences and the Latin American Working Group of the National Council of Churches. Two hundred North American and Latin American theologians met to explore the possibilities of utilizing the Latin American "theology of liberation" for its possible relevance to North America.

According to TIA's brochure, the 1975 conference, known as Detroit I, brought together social activists, theologians, and community and church leaders, who shared their experiences of oppression as Blacks, Hispanics and Hispanic-Americans, Pacific/Asian Americans, women, workers, or marginalized whites. The conference focused on the socioeconomic exploitation of minorities, human rights violations, and class struggle, and attempted to determine what role theology and the church might play to alleviate these injustices. The Detroit I Conference established a network of projects or affinity groups including the Black Theology Project, the Hispanic Project, the Women's Project, Quest for Liberation in the White Church, the Task Force of Professional Theologians, Labor and Church Dialogue, Asian Americans in the North American context, and Native Americans and Red Theology. From 1975 until the Detroit II Conference in August 1980, each project developed its own agenda out of its felt oppression, held its own conferences, made its own statements in line with the overall TIA direction, and at times, made some effort to establish inter-project dialogue. The Detroit II Conference either included or gave rise to the following projects: Asian American/Pacific Theology, Black Theology Project, Church and Labor Project, Hispanic Theology Project, Native American Project, Theologians Task Force, Women's Project, and the Alternative Theology Project, later called the White Affinity Group. The conference was attended by over 550 individuals and saw the emergence of the Inter-Ethnic-Indigenous Peoples' Caucus which represented a significant advance in inter-project dialogue between the Black, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American participants. The Labor and Church Projects also affirmed an inter-ethnic, multi-racial approach for supporting labor struggles in the 1980s. The Women's Project not only advanced the feminist perspective, but also inter-project work with women of the various projects.

In the 1980s the leadership of the Theology in the Americas Project was transferred to Chicago's Trinity United Church of Christ under Reverend Jeremiah Wright; since 2003, the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference has held annual conferences which focus on training ministers to become progressive and socially conscious activists.

Scope and Content Note

The Theology in the Americas records document the group's general organization, the two major conferences it sponsored, and its affinity groups.

Arrangement: Arranged into 4 series: I. Administrative records; II. Conferences; III. Projects; and IV. Printed matter.

Key Terms

Subjects

African Americans -- Religion
Black theology
Hispanic Americans -- Religion
Indians of North America -- Religion
Liberation theology
Women and religion

Names

Theology in the Americas (Organization)
Theology in the Americas (Organization). Alternative Theology Project
Theology in the Americas (Organization). Asian-American Project
Theology in the Americas (Organization). Black Theology Project
Theology in the Americas (Organization). Hispanic Project
Theology in the Americas (Organization). Labor and Religion Project
Theology in the Americas (Organization). Native American Project
Theology in the Americas (Organization). Task Force of Professional Theologians
Theology in the Americas (Organization). Women's Project

Container List

Administrative records 1975-1984

The Administrative records encompass minutes and agendas of the Executive Committee; correspondence from Executive Secretary Sergio Torres and David Kalke, head of the Coordinating Team; files of the Steering and National Committees which planned the Detroit II Conference in 1980; and financial documents.

- b. 1 f. 1 Budgets 1976-1977
- b. 1 f. 2 Meetings on finances 1977
- b. 1 f. 3 3 Financial Reports 1975-1977
- b. 1 f. 4 Resources ca. 1978
- b. 1 f. 5 Interim committee meetings 1975 October-1976 January
- b. 1 f. 6 Contracts and resumes 1975-1976
- b. 1 f. 7 Address lists 1975
- b. 1 f. 8 Suggested process 1976
- b. 1 f. 9 Planning 1976-1977
- b. 1 f. 10 Workshop/retreat for staff and executive community 1977
- b. 1 f. 11 National Committee Meeting, New York 1976 May
- b. 1 f. 12 Detroit follow-up reflection groups 1975-1976
- b. 1 f. 13 National Committee Meeting 1977 February
- Working papers
- b. 1 f. 14 "Goals and Criteria for Theology in the Americas" 1976
- b. 1 f. 15 "Goals and Process" 1976
- b. 1 f. 16 Proposals 1976
Includes "Christian Commitment in a Changing World" and "Contextualization of North American Theology: A Program for the U.S.A."
- b. 1 f. 17 Appendix I: Dialogue of North American and Latin American Theologians
- b. 1 f. 18 Appendix II: Ecumenical Dialogue of Third World Theologians
- b. 1 f. 19 Original draft of papers following conferences 1975-1976
- b. 1 f. 20-21 Contextualization of North American Theology 1976
Includes proposal, correspondence, and letters of support.
- b. 1 f. 22 Liberation Theology in the Americas process papers 1975
- b. 1 f. 23 Conference brochures and programs
- b. 1 f. 24 Promotional materials 1977-1978
- b. 1 f. 25 Memos to Regional Coordinators: check lists
- Theology in the Americas participants
- b. 1 f. 26 Boston 1975-1976
- b. 1 f. 27 Chicago 1976
- b. 1 f. 28 Detroit 1975
- b. 1 f. 29 Durham and Atlanta affinity groups 1976
- Community organizations
- b. 1 f. 30 Iowa
- b. 1 f. 31 Los Angeles 1976
- New York Regional Office

Administrative records (cont.)
New York Regional Office (cont.)

- b. 1 f. 33 San Antonio 1975-1976
- b. 1 f. 34 San Francisco
- b. 1 f. 35 Washington, D.C. meeting
- b. 1 f. 36 Newsletter subscribers 1975-1980
- b. 1 f. 37 Memos
- b. 1 f. 38 Financial coordination 1977-1978
- b. 1 f. 39 Projects proposals 1977
- b. 1 f. 40 Process coordination
- b. 1 f. 41 Fundraising 1977-1978
- b. 1 f. 42 General correspondence 1977
- b. 1 f. 43-44 Torres, Sergio, Director, correspondence 1978-1979
- b. 1 f. 45 Kalke, David, Coordinating Team, correspondence 1980
- Meetings
 - Minutes of staff meetings
 - b. 1 f. 46 1976-1977
 - b. 1 f. 47 1978
 - b. 1 f. 48 Secretariat minutes 1976-1980
 - b. 1 f. 49 Interim Planning Committee 1976-1977
 - Executive Committee
 - b. 1 f. 50 1977
 - b. 1 f. 51 1978
 - b. 1 f. 52 1979
 - b. 1 f. 53 Interns
 - b. 1 f. 54 Press list for Latin American Bishops Conference 1978
 - b. 1 f. 55 Coordinating Team minutes 1979-1980
 - b. 1 f. 56 Secretariat 1979
 - b. 1 f. 57 Tasks and functions
 - b. 1 f. 58 Detroit staff
 - Secretariat meetings
 - b. 1 f. 59 1976-1977
 - b. 1 f. 60 1978
 - b. 1 f. 61 Framework and Future Perspectives paper 1978 February
 - b. 1 f. 62 Secretariat meetings, David Kalke 1977-1978
 - Executive Committee Meetings
 - b. 1 f. 63 1976 December-1977 December
 - b. 1 f. 64 1978
 - b. 1 f. 65 Correspondence and working papers 1977
 - b. 1 f. 66 Mandate and background materials
- Steering Committee for 1980 Conference
 - b. 1 f. 67 1979 May 7
 - b. 1 f. 68 1979 September 19

Administrative records (cont.)

Steering Committee for 1980 Conference (cont.)

- b. 1 f. 69 1979 November 14
- b. 1 f. 70 1979 December 11
- b. 1 f. 71 1980 February 1
- b. 1 f. 72 1980 March 11
- b. 1 f. 73 1980 April 14
- b. 1 f. 74 1980 May 6
- b. 1 f. 75 1980 June 11
- b. 1 f. 76 1980 July 1
- b. 2 f. 1-2 Proposals 1978
Includes budgets.
- Funding
- b. 2 f. 3 Funding requests 1975-1977
- b. 2 f. 4 West Coast fundraising 1978
- b. 2 f. 5 1981-1982
- b. 2 f. 6 Rejections from funding agencies 1983
- b. 2 f. 7 Project correspondence 1976-1978
- b. 2 f. 8 Passover, Allocation Committee 1979-1983
- b. 2 f. 9 Datebook project
- b. 2 f. 10-11 Fundraising 1977
Includes meetings with churches.
- b. 2 f. 12 General requests for information and publications 1982-1984
- b. 2 f. 13 Orbis Books contracts and royalties 1975-1981
- b. 2 f. 14 Orders for publications
- b. 2 f. 15 Financial and progress reports 1976-1977
- b. 2 f. 16 Lilly Foundation 1976-1977
- Overseas Division
- b. 2 f. 17 Participation and funds 1975
- b. 2 f. 18 Responses from Overseas Ministries 1976
- Homeland Ministries
- b. 2 f. 19 Financial support, Jorge Lara-Braud 1976
- b. 2 f. 20 Responses
- Theological Education
- b. 2 f. 21 Responses 1975
- b. 2 f. 22 Responses to Jorge Lara-Braud's letter 1976
- b. 2 f. 23 Contacts
- b. 2 f. 24 Social scientists 1976-1977
- b. 2 f. 25-26 Sponsors 1977
Includes responses to invitation, letter for support, and mailing list.
- b. 2 f. 27-28 Invitations and activities 1976-1978
Includes Maryknoll Consultation on Human Rights, April 6-9, 1978 (folder 28).
Torres, Sergio and John Eagleson. Theology in the Americas
- b. 2 f. 29 Publicity for reviewers 1976

Administrative records (cont.)

Torres, Sergio and John Eagleson. Theology in the Americas (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 30 Announcements and reviews 1975-1978
- b. 2 f. 31 Publication rights 1975
- b. 2 f. 32 Correspondence regarding publications 1975-1976
- b. 2 f. 33 Related publications 1975-1976

National Committee

- b. 2 f. 34 Incorporation process 1978
- b. 2 f. 35-40 Meetings 1979
Includes one new executive committee meeting.

- b. 2 f. 41 Executive Committee 1979

Finance Committee

- b. 2 f. 42 1980
- b. 2 f. 43 Correspondence
- b. 2 f. 44 1981
- b. 2 f. 45 1982
- b. 2 f. 46 Reports 1983
- b. 2 f. 47 Budget 1982
- b. 2 f. 48 Funding requests 1981-1983
- b. 2 f. 49 United Methodist Church funding 1981-1983
- b. 2 f. 50 Computer work orders

Conferences 1974-1982

The Conferences series consists of records which pertain to the Detroit I Conference held in 1975. These records include planning documents, invitation lists, publicity and press reports, personal data sheets filled out by the participants, files concerning the reflection groups, and transcripts of talks by many of the participants. The Detroit II files provide a history of the projects, applications from the participants of the various affinity groups as well as international guests, press articles, and an interview with black theologian James Cone who was a proponent of Black Theology. There are also transcripts of the papers presented at the conference and a manuscript of these same papers that were published in book form (*Theology in the Americas*, 1976).

Arranged into two subseries: (1) Detroit I Conference and (2) Detroit II Conference.

Detroit I Conference

- b. 2 f. 51 Suggestions and acknowledgements 1975
- b. 2 f. 52 Copies of proposed schedule 1975
- b. 2 f. 53 Planning 1975
- b. 2 f. 54 Papers distributed 1975
- b. 2 f. 55 Executive Committee 1975
Includes memoranda, agendas, and minutes.
- b. 2 f. 56 Regional coordinators 1975
- b. 2 f. 57 Communities
- b. 2 f. 58 Evaluation and follow-up 1975
- b. 2 f. 59 Funding and finances 1975
- b. 2 f. 60 Logistics 1975
- b. 2 f. 61 Research team reports and correspondence 1975
- b. 2 f. 62 Secretariat personnel

Conferences (cont.)

Detroit I Conference (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 63 Steering Committee 1975
- b. 2 f. 64-66 Invitations 1974-1975
Includes lists of suggested names.
- b. 3 f. 1 Planning Committee 1975
Includes memoranda, agendas, and minutes.
- b. 3 f. 2 Preparatory reading
- b. 3 f. 3 Program development 1975
- b. 3 f. 4 Proposal drafts and suggestions 1974-1975
- b. 3 f. 5 Media, press, and publicity
- b. 3 f. 6-7 Press reports 1975
- b. 3 f. 8 Participation (personal data sheets)
- b. 3 f. 9 Registration procedures and papers 1975
Reflection groups
- b. 3 f. 10 Canadian group 1975
- b. 3 f. 11 Memoranda and reports 1975
Participants
- b. 3 f. 12 California
- b. 3 f. 13 Chicago
- b. 3 f. 14 Dayton, Ohio
- b. 3 f. 15 Detroit
- b. 3 f. 16 Massachusetts
- b. 3 f. 17 New York
- b. 3 f. 18 Notre Dame, Indiana
- b. 3 f. 19 Southeast
- b. 3 f. 20 Southwest
- b. 3 f. 21 Washington, D.C
Transcripts
- b. 3 f. 22 Black Theology
- b. 3 f. 23 Feminist Theology
- b. 3 f. 24 Latin Americans
- b. 3 f. 25 Social Scientists
- b. 3 f. 26 Theology and Society
- Detroit II Conference
- b. 3 f. 27-28 Proposals 1980
- b. 3 f. 29 Projects
- b. 3 f. 30 Finances
- b. 3 f. 31 Coordinating Team 1980
- b. 3 f. 32 Detroit tour 1980
- b. 3 f. 33 Project histories
- b. 3 f. 34 Facilitators
- b. 3 f. 35 Ecumenical Dialogue Project
- b. 3 f. 36-37 International participants and guests 1980

Conferences (cont.)

Detroit II Conference (cont.)

- b. 3 f. 38 National organization
- b. 3 f. 39 Master list of applicants
- b. 3 f. 40 Detroit application process
- b. 3 f. 41 Speakers
- b. 3 f. 42 United Methodist Church Intern Program
- b. 3 f. 43 Applications of press people
- b. 3 f. 44 Objectives
- b. 3 f. 45 Working document
- b. 3 f. 46 Interproject dialogue members and information
- Conference applicants
- b. 4 f. 1 Master sheet of National Committee delegates and international and national groups 1980
- b. 4 f. 2 Hispanic Project press
- b. 4 f. 3 Theologians Project, Women's Project, and Native American Project
- b. 4 f. 4 Black Theology Project and Asian American Project
- b. 4 f. 5 Labor and Church and Ecumenical Dialogue
- b. 4 f. 6 Alternative Theology Project
- b. 4 f. 7 Correspondence 1981
- b. 4 f. 8-11 Articles about conference
Includes Plumline (folder 9).
- b. 4 f. 12 James Cone's reflection
- b. 4 f. 13 Resolutions 1980 August
- Book
- b. 4 f. 14 Correspondence
- b. 4 f. 15 Follow-up
- b. 4 f. 16 Funding
- b. 4 f. 17 Chinchilla, Norma Stoltz. "Ideologies of Feminism: Liberal, Radical, Marxist" 1981-1982
- b. 4 f. 18 Conference papers transcriptions
- b. 4 f. 19-21 Manuscripts 1980
- b. 4 f. 22 Publication 1982

Projects

The Projects series includes material related to the various affinity groups sponsored by TIA.

Arranged into 8 subseries: (1) Asian American Project; (2) Black Theology Project; (3) Native American Project; (4) Women's Project; (5) Hispanic Project; (6) Alternative Theology Project; (7) Labor and Religion Project; and (8) Task Force of Professional Theologians.

Asian American Project 1976-1984

The Asian American Project includes Pacific and Asian American Center for Theology and Strategies (PACTS), the Pacific/Asian American Women for Peace and Justice, and TIA's Third Inter-ethnic/Indigenous Dialogue, which concerned Asian Americans (1983).

- b. 5 f. 1 1980
- b. 5 f. 2 1981-1982

Projects (cont.)

Asian American Project (cont.)

Pacific and Asian American Center for Theology and Strategies (PACTS)

- b. 5 f. 3 1979
- b. 5 f. 4 1980
- b. 5 f. 5 Third Inter-Ethnic Dialogue information packet 1983
- b. 5 f. 6 Yao, Richard, coordinator 1979-1980
- b. 5 f. 7 Response to questionnaire, first mailing
- b. 5 f. 8 Materials for mailings
- b. 5 f. 9 PACTS correspondence and papers 1976-1978
- b. 5 f. 10 Advisory Committee 1979-1980
- b. 5 f. 11 Mailing list 1978-1979
- b. 5 f. 12 Ecumenical Institute for the Development of Peoples national and international contacts 1982
- Pacific/Asian American Women for Peace and Justice
- b. 5 f. 13 Funding 1983-1984
- b. 5 f. 14 Correspondence 1983-1984
- b. 5 f. 15 Forums 1984

Black Theology Project 1976-1985

The Black Theology Project files contain information about one of the conferences it sponsored, "Black Church and Black Community: Unity and Action for Education" (Atlanta, August 1977); a draft of a paper by Jualynne Dodson about the Fourth Inter-ethnic/Indigenous Dialogue (1984); and minutes of Executive Committee meetings and the board of directors, chaired by Howard Dodson. While Theology in the Americas did not survive beyond the late 1980s, the Black Theology Project had the strongest infrastructure, and in about 2003, the organization Samuel DeWitt Proctor Pastor Conference was formed to advance social justice, holding annual conferences.

- b. 5 f. 16 1976-1977
- b. 5 f. 17 1978-1980
- b. 5 f. 18 1980-1984
- b. 5 f. 19 1984-1985

Native American Project 1978-1983

The Native American Project files consist of administrative records and material on the 1979 conference, which articulated the situation of Native Americans nationally, the relationship to other groups struggling for liberation, and the relationship to the Church.

- b. 5 f. 20 1978
- b. 5 f. 22 Conference 1979
- b. 5 f. 23 1979-1983
- b. 5 f. 24 1981

Women's Project 1977-1984

The Women's Project files contain administrative material as well as information related to the project's theme of "Women, Work and the Economy". In addition, there are files pertaining to the reorganization which included a racial and ethnic women's coalition that embarked on a series of cross-cultural dialogues. The Women's Project continued until at least 1984 as the Coalition of Third World Women/Racial, Ethnic Women's Coalition.

- b. 5 f. 25-26 1977-1979
- b. 5 f. 27 1980-1984
- b. 5 f. 28 Coalition – Women of Color 1982-1983

Projects (cont.)

Women's Project (cont.)

b. 5 f. 29 1982-1983

Hispanic Project

The Hispanic Theology Project concerns problems of immigration, migrant workers, bilingual education, and related in the economic, social, political and cultural issues; files pertain to several conferences and organizations, among them the Joint Strategy and Action Committee-Hispanic American Ministries (JSAC/HAM), a Hispanic Ecumenical gathering held in San Antonio, Texas in 1978, the Detroit II Conference in 1980, and Padres Asociados para Derechos Religiosos Educativos y Sociales (PADRES). Planning documents, conference evaluations, minutes of meetings, papers re liberation theology, and files discussing cooperation with Protestant organizations are also to be found in the Hispanic Theology Project Records. Approximately 20% of the Hispanic Project files are written in Spanish.

- b. 6 f. 1 Bilingual education
- b. 6 f. 2 Centro Evangelico Latinamerican de Estudios Pastorales (CELEP) 1978
- b. 6 f. 3 Reunion de los Jueves Comite Interino de Consejeros 1977
- b. 6 f. 4 Chicanos – estudios 1973-1976
- b. 6 f. 5 CHILE (Coalition of Grass Roots Women) 1978
- b. 6 f. 6 Cuba 1978
- b. 6 f. 7 Dallas, reunion of Perkins School of Theology 1977
- b. 6 f. 8 Discipulos de Cristo, N. East Iglesias Christianas
- b. 6 f. 9 Documentos, originales, formation of project
- b. 6 f. 10 Documentos Primera Reunion de Patrocinadores 1976-1977
- b. 6 f. 11 Theology in the Americas
- b. 6 f. 12 Documentos generales 1976
- b. 6 f. 13 El Salvador
- b. 6 f. 14 Episcopal Church 1976-1977
- b. 6 f. 15 Farm workers 1979
- b. 6 f. 16 Florida Cubanos 1977
- b. 6 f. 17 Internship program 1979
- b. 6 f. 18 Conferences
- b. 6 f. 19-20 Hispanic consultation, official correspondence and documents 1976-1979
- b. 6 f. 21 Minutes 1979-1980
- Joint Strategy and Action Committee, Hispanic American Ministries
- b. 6 f. 22 1977
- b. 6 f. 23 1979-1980
- b. 6 f. 24 Mexican American Cultural Center, Sister Mario Barron 1977
- b. 6 f. 25 Mailing list
- b. 6 f. 26 Midwest region 1977
- b. 6 f. 27 Presbyterianos 1977
- b. 6 f. 28 Proceso 1978
- b. 6 f. 29 Detroit II conference proposals 1979
- b. 6 f. 30 McCormick, Theological Seminary National Executive Committee Meeting 1977
- b. 6 f. 31 United Methodist Church (National Council of Churches) 1977-1978
- b. 6 f. 32 Obispos Catol 1977
- b. 6 f. 33 Proyecto Hispano, Puerto Rico 1976-1977

Projects (cont.)

Hispanic Project (cont.)

- b. 6 f. 34 Padres Asociados para Derechos Religiosos Educativos y Sociales (PADRES) 1977
- b. 6 f. 35 Patrocinadores 1977
- b. 6 f. 36 Presbiterianos 1978
- b. 6 f. 37 Revaluacion del Proyecto Hispano 1977 May-June
- b. 6 f. 38 Staff meetings 1977
- b. 6 f. 39 Synod Southern California Reunion West Coast 1977
- b. 6 f. 40 Spanish Secretariat, United States Catholic Conference, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D. C 1978-1979
- b. 6 f. 41 Teologia documentos 1975
- b. 6 f. 42 Comité de Accion Afirmativa 1978
- b. 6 f. 43 Minutes and correspondence 1976-1980
- b. 6 f. 44 Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS), San Antonio 1977
- b. 6 f. 45 Hispanic resources 1975-1978
- b. 6 f. 46 Joint Strategy and Action Committee, Hispanic Theological Conference, San Antonio 1978
- b. 6 f. 47 Sao Paulo Conference 1980
- b. 6 f. 48 Newark Encuentro 1983
- b. 6 f. 49 Projects 1982
- b. 6 f. 50 Hispanic constituency 1978-1981
- b. 6 f. 51 Hispanic dialogue meetings 1981-1985
- b. 6 f. 52 Finances 1979-1980
- b. 6 f. 53 1979-1980
Detroit II Conference
- b. 6 f. 54 Participation 1980
- b. 6 f. 55 Working document
- b. 6 f. 56 Correspondence 1979-1980
- b. 6 f. 57 May synthesizing meeting 1980
- b. 6 f. 58 Joint Strategy and Action Committee, Hispanic American Ministries 1980
- b. 6 f. 59 Committee meetings 1979
- b. 6 f. 60 Catala, Rafael. "Education, Liberation Theology, and Literature"

Alternative Theology Project

The Alternative Theology Project (ATP), also known as the White Affinity Group, was comprised of marginalized white middle class Americans who objected to being identified with the poor and oppressed yet who themselves experienced its powerlessness in the political and socio-economic system. Files relate to the planning of various conferences and workshops held between 1978 and 1984. A major theme was whether liberation theology could be applied to North America.

- b. 7 f. 1 Appalachia Project 1975-1976
- b. 7 f. 2 1976
- b. 7 f. 3 Enclosures for responses to general inquiries
- b. 7 f. 4 1978
- b. 7 f. 5 Workshop 1978 June
- b. 7 f. 6 Peace and Justice Workshop, New York City 1978 December 9

Projects (cont.)

Alternative Theology Project (cont.)

- b. 7 f. 7 Media project 1978
- b. 7 f. 8 Workshop, Washington, D.C 1978 November 30
- b. 7 f. 9-10 Old lists and mailing list
- b. 7 f. 11 1977
- Summer workshop on social analysis and theological reflection
- b. 7 f. 12 Correspondence on planning 1979
- b. 7 f. 13 Mailing lists 1979
- b. 7 f. 14 Pre-registration 1979 July
- b. 7 f. 15 Journal 1979 July
- b. 7 f. 16-17 Schedules and follow-up 1979 July
- b. 7 f. 18 Organizing meeting 1984 May 10
- b. 7 f. 19-21 Mailing lists and responses to mailing 1984 July
- b. 7 f. 22-23 Meeting 1984 October 19
Includes schedule, mailing, and report.
- b. 7 f. 24 White participation in dialogues of Theology in the Americas 1981-1984
- b. 7 f. 25 Letters and reflections on alternative Theology Project, revitalization 1984
Spring
- b. 7 f. 26 Members on Theology in the Americas paid mailing list 1985
- b. 7 f. 27 "A Crisis of Definition: What Does It Mean to Be White, North American
Christians?" workshop 1985
Includes mailing and notes from January meeting.
- b. 7 f. 28 Report on Alternative Theology Project workshop model 1985 Spring
White Affinity Group
- b. 7 f. 29 1979
- b. 7 "Social Action, Structural Analysis and Theological Reflection" workshop,
Marymount College 1979 July
- b. 7 f. 31 1980
- b. 7 f. 32 Detroit II Conference, West Coast Participation 1980
- b. 7 f. 33 San Francisco Workshop 1979 October
- b. 7 f. 34 West Coast 1980
- b. 7 f. 35 1981
- b. 7 f. 36 1982
- b. 7 f. 37 Stories of Liberation Conference mailing list 1982 December 17-18

Labor and Religion Project

The Religion and Labor Project, which emerged from the Detroit II Conference in response to the economic problems of the early 1980's, sought to bring together progressive spokespersons from the religious community and labor in an effort to advance new coalitions of community-based religious leaders seeking alternatives to the current capitalist system. Files document meetings this group held.

- b. 7 f. 38 Kalke, David and Darryl Mitchell correspondence 1981 February
- b. 7 f. 39 Labor Project with Center of Concern 1977
Includes proposal and communication.
- b. 7 f. 40 Church and Labor Project 1979-1983
- b. 7 f. 41 Work and Religion 1982-1983

Projects (cont.)

Labor and Religion Project (cont.)

Labor Project

b. 7 f. 42 Correspondence 1976-1977

b. 7 f. 43 Minutes and progress reports 1976

Task Force of Professional Theologians

Task Force of Professional Theologians focused on ways that this group can contribute to the struggle for liberation. Records pertain to meetings it sponsored and preparation for the Detroit II Conference.

b. 7 f. 44 1975

b. 7 f. 45 St. Louise meeting 1976 October

b. 7 f. 46 Maryknoll consultation minutes 1976 June

b. 7 f. 47 1976

b. 7 f. 48-49 Membership 1976-1977

b. 7 f. 50 1977

b. 7 f. 51 Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminar 1977 October 7-9

b. 7 f. 52 Proposals 1979

b. 7 f. 53 White participation in dialogues

b. 7 f. 54 1978

b. 7 f. 55 1979

b. 7 f. 56 1980

b. 7 f. 57 1982-1983

Printed matter

The final series, Printed Matter, contains publications of the Theology in the Americas Project, including newsletters, a documentation series concerning the various affinity groups, a book entitled *Is Liberation Theology for North America? The Response of First World Church to Third World Theologies* (1978). There are also brochures, as well as two issues of a journal titled *Doing Theology in the United States in Dialogue with the Indigenous Nations and Traditional Peoples* (1985-1988). Two books containing the conference proceedings of Detroit I in 1975 and Detroit II in 1980 complete the collection.

b. 8 f. 1 *Torres, Sergio and John Eagleson, eds. Theology in the Americas* 1976

b. 8 f. 2 *West, Cornel; Caridad Guidote; and Margaret Coakley, eds. Theology in the Americas: Detroit II Conference Papers* 1982

b. 8 f. 3 Announcements for books

b. 9 f. 1 Newsletters 1976-1984

Documentation series

b. 9 f. 2 1978-1979

b. 9 f. 3 1979-1983

b. 9 f. 4 "Is Liberation Theology for North America? The Response of First World Churches" 1978

b. 9 f. 5 Vision statement 1981

b. 9 f. 6 Brochures 1980s

b. 9 f. 7 Position paper of the Native American Project 1980

b. 9 f. 8 "Doing Theology in the United States in Dialogue with the Indigenous Nations and Traditional Peoples" 1985-1988

b. 9 f. 9 undated