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

Guide to the

Jewel Plummer Cobb papers

1950-2000 [bulk 1960-1990]

Sc MG 298

Summary

Creator: Cobb, Jewel Plummer, 1924-2017

Title: Jewel Plummer Cobb papers

Date: 1950-2000 [bulk 1960-1990]

Size: 18.2 linear feet

Abstract: The Jewel Plummer Cobb Papers document Cobb's career as a cancer researcher, professor at several colleges and a college administrator. The collection consists of biographical material including news articles, in addition to correspondence with friends and colleagues and with organizations for which she was a board member. Her scientific career is represented by her Ph.D. dissertation entitled "Mechanics of Pigment Formation" (1950), notes and progress reports on her cancer research, lecture notes, course outlines, and copies of her scientific publications.

Access: Advance notice required.

Preferred citation: Jewel Plummer Cobb papers, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Jewel Plummer Cobb was a professor of biology and zoology, and was president of California State University at Fullerton from 1981-1990. She earned a Ph.D. in cellular biology in 1950, and has held professorships at New York University, Sarah Lawrence College, Connecticut College in New London, Douglass College-Rutgers University, and California State University, Los Angeles.

Dr. Cobb is known for her work in cell physiology, her promotion of the advancement of women in scientific fields, and her activities on behalf of minorities in the science professions. She has published articles on cancer research, the advancement of women in scientific fields as well as the advancement of minorities. Cobb has been the recipient of many awards including the 1999 Achievement in Excellence Award from the Center for Excellence for her contributions to science and education. She has also been a board member of many organizations including the National Science Board, Talladega College, and the National Committee on Women in Science and engineering of the National Academy of Sciences.

Scope and Content Note

The Jewel Plummer Cobb Papers document Cobb's career as a cancer researcher, professor at several colleges and a college administrator. The collection consists of biographical material including news articles, in addition to correspondence with friends and colleagues and with organizations for which she was a board member. Her scientific career is represented by her Ph.D. dissertation entitled "Mechanics of Pigment Formation" (1950), notes and progress reports on her cancer research, lecture notes, course outlines, and copies of her scientific publications. Cobb's administrative career at Douglass College details her accomplishments and the dedication of a math and science building named in her honor. Papers relating to Cobb's career as president of California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) consist of congratulatory letters upon her appointment as president, printed matter and correspondence pertaining to her investiture, news clippings, and press releases about her involvement in numerous and diverse academic activities. Of particular interest are the University's evaluations of Cobb consisting of letters and forms. Other aspects of her position at CSUF are revealed in her appointment calendars (1982-1989), notebooks, her professional review file, and annual progress reports. The collection contains texts of her speeches as dean at Connecticut College and Douglass College at Rutgers, New Jersey, and as president of CSUF. The speeches were addressed to a variety of audiences and educational groups at her own college campus, as well as at other universities and to diverse organizations and educational groups. Topics include science, women, minorities, and educational issues. Cobb also presented her viewpoints about these subjects in her published writings. There is also material regarding Cobb's participation on corporate boards and with scientific and women's organizations, in addition to information about the many honorary degrees and awards presented to her. Her association with educational institutions and organizations since her 1990 retirement is also documented.

Arrangement: Papers organized into two series: I. Papers and II. Additions

Key Terms

Subjects

African American college administrators
African American college presidents
African American scholars
African American scientists
African American women
African American women college teachers
African American women scientists
African Americans -- Education (Higher)
African Americans in medicine
Biologists -- United States
Cancer -- Genetic aspects
Cancer -- Research
Cancer -- Study and teaching -- United States
Cancer cells
Cell physiology
Melanoma
Universities and colleges -- United States -- Administration

Women biologists
Women college presidents
Women deans (Education)
Women in medicine
Women in science -- United States
Women medical scientists
Women's colleges -- United States

Titles

Schomburg NEH Automated Access to Special Collections Project

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Scrapbooks
Speeches

Names

Cobb, Jewel Plummer, 1924-2017
California State University, Fullerton
Connecticut College
Douglass College
National Science Foundation (U.S.). Committee on Minorities and Women in Science
Sarah Lawrence College