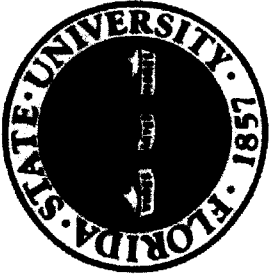


About the Program

Oral history is the technique of gathering historically pertinent information through tape-recorded interviews. Recent advances in modern technology have replaced traditional resources such as letters, diaries, and memoirs with spoken or electronic messages. To prevent the loss of source materials, universities, libraries, and other public and private organizations charged with preserving history are collecting personal observations and memories through oral history.

The Florida State University oral history collection began in 1969 under the direction of Professor Edward F. Keuchel. Renamed the Reichelt (Rye-kelt) Program for Oral History in 1999, the program honors the memory and generous support of history Professor Emeritus Wallace Ward Reichelt. The collection documents the history of Florida State College for Women [1905-1947] and Florida State University, the City of Tallahassee, and the State of Florida. In 1995, the program expanded to include military experiences, with a timely emphasis on veterans and civilian personnel involved in World War II and the Korean War. Our areas of interest includes military service as well as all lifetime experiences of the wars.

Interviews are conducted in person or by telephone, transcribed, processed, and archived according to professional guidelines established by the national Oral History Association. Interviewees are encouraged to edit their transcripts for accuracy. Each interviewee receives a final copy of his or her interview for personal records and family members. The collection is open to the public Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 3 PM, and by appointment.



REICHEL T ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

at

Florida State University

Robin Jeanne Sellers, Ph.D.
Director

Reichelt Program for Oral History
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-2200

I want to share my memories and experiences with HISTORY

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Area[s] of interest FSU _____ Tallahassee _____ Florida _____

Military: WWII _____ Korea _____ Vietnam _____ Other _____

Return to
Reichelt Program for Oral History
Florida State University Tallahassee, Florida 32306-2200 850-644-4966

FSCW / FSU

This collection includes interviews with or about FSCW and FSU administrators, faculty, and students. We have explored the growth of the campus and the creation and expansion of various academic departments. We have delightful accounts of the FSU athletic program in its infancy. '49ers recount impressions of the university and post-WWII Tallahassee. Interviews with university presidents Doak Campbell, Robert Strozier, Milton Carothers, Gordon Blackwell, John Champion, Stanley Mar-shall, Bernie Slinger, Dale Lick, and Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte showcase the high and low points of each administration, and yield insight into how their personalities shaped the administration of the university.

Our present focus is the FSU campus between 1947 and 1972, twenty-five years of growing pains involving successful and not so successful ventures. If you were here during any part of those years, please consider sharing your experiences with us.

Tallahassee and Florida

Tallahassee's earliest families and founders of numerous local businesses – residents, civic leaders, and businessmen – shared memories and insights with us. The interviews in this collection date from 1969 and document the capital's transition from a strictly rural community to a city.

The Florida collection contains interviews with early government personnel like State Archaeologist Calvin Jones and State Forestry Director Hux Coulter. Recollections of Florida Park Service and the Florida Highway Patrol personnel document the history of those two agencies.

Military

This is the umbrella collection of interviews with veterans and civilians who participated in US peace-keeping efforts as well as actual wartime situations: Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and our latest conflict against terrorism.

World War II

The collection includes 700+ interviews with veterans and civilians who lived through World War II, reflecting pre-Pearl Harbor days through the signing of the treaty with Japan on the USS *Missouri* and Occupied Japan. We are particularly proud of this growing collection, for we believe oral history offers a wonderful opportunity to show present and future generations the significance of World War II – and how it shaped the world as they know it.

Korea and Vietnam

Our World War II project serves as a jumping off point for interviews with veterans and other who experienced action or events connected with the Korean and/or Vietnam conflicts. The Korean "police action" has been under-reported in American history, and needs better documentation. The Vietnam War is unique in so many ways, and personal observations and memories may provide a new perspective on its place in our history.

Archived Collections

Florida Retirement Communities • Milton W. and Julia Carothers • Doak Sheridan Campbell • Wainwright Shipyard • Macon Community • Miller Enterprises • Florida Park Services • Florida Highway Patrol

From the Collection

In becoming a university, there was [a] need to have expanded entertainment, particularly sports facilities, not just an expanded academic program. It was imperative that we beat the University of Florida as soon as possible, especially in football, so that we could authenticate our new male competitiveness, our reason for being.

*Kitty Hoffman, Professor Emeritus,
Chemistry Department*

For every new dollar that FSU got, they [UF] insisted on having three or four. It was tough. And if you stepped out of that, they flat promised to defeat you.

Mallory Horne, Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives

There are people that like to go to the beach. There are people that like to go to the wilderness and hike and camp. There are people that like to go to historic sites. So we were trying to achieve a balance not only spatially or geographically but also by type.

*Ney Landrum, Director (1970-1989)
Division of Recreation and Parks*

The Patrol started out with a forest green uniform with boots, beige Stetson hat, orange around the hat. Sharp.

Major Clay Keith, FHP

This country was more in one piece from a human nature standpoint than it probably ever has been or will be. Never be like that again, I don't think.

Jeff Crew, WW II Veteran

Mostly those rocket attacks happened in the early morning, and I remember thinking that if we could go until 5:30 AM or so, that they would not hit us.

Peter A. Cowdrey, Jr., Vietnam Veteran

Further Information

The FSU History Department offers a graduate tutorial in Oral History each Fall and Spring semester and a full graduate/undergraduate course each Spring semester. Both include such topics as selecting appropriate subjects for interviews, preparing for, conducting, and completing formal interviews, and practical application of the information obtained. Modern equipment and interviewing techniques are explored.

For more information about oral history, to schedule a speaker or program for your organization, or to share your experiences (in person or by telephone) through the interview process in any of our project areas, contact

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Web Site: <http://www.fsu.edu/~ohp>

or
return the interview form on the reverse
page

To support the Reichelt Program for Oral History with a donation of funds, or if you would like more information on making such a gift, please contact:

Director of Advancement
College of Arts and Sciences
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Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1280
Phone: 850-644-9324