



Guide to the Carol C. Harter Professional Papers

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	5
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Harter, Carol C., 1941-2023
Title:	Carol C. Harter Professional Papers
ID:	UA-00147
Date [inclusive]:	1940 to 2023
Date [bulk]:	1989 to 2006
Physical Description:	6.78 Cubic Feet (11 boxes)
Physical Description:	7.18 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Carol C. Harter Professional Papers (1940-2023) consist of material documenting Harter's scholarly and administrative career. The collection includes letters, publications and reports, speeches, and photographs from Harter's time as the 11th and first female president of State University of New York (SUNY) Geneseo and as the 7th president of University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). As of 2024, Harter was UNLV's longest-serving and also its first female president.

Preferred Citation

Carol C. Harter Professional Papers, 1940-2023. UA-00147. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1f78k>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Carol C. Harter was the 7th president of University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) from 1995 to 2006. She was UNLV's longest-serving and first female president.

Born June 1, 1941 in Brooklyn, New York, Harter attended Harpur College (now Binghamton University) where she studied literature. She held a bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. in English and American literature. After serving as a faculty member and in two vice presidential roles

at Ohio University, she became the 11th and first female president of State University of New York (SUNY) Geneseo. In 1995, Harter was appointed as the 7th president of UNLV and led the university during a time of significant growth until stepping down in 2006. Major contributions to the university include: construction of 17 new buildings, creating 100+ new degree programs, ambitious fundraising programs, making UNLV a more student-centered university, and much more. After stepping down in 2006, she went on to lead the international literary center, Beverly Rogers, Carol C. Harter Black Mountain Institute, which she cofounded. She later served on the BMI Advisory Board and was a member of the Guinn Center for Public Priorities Board of Directors.

Carol and Michael Harter were married for over 62 years and have two children. Carol C. Harter passed away in San Diego, California, on September 14, 2023.

Sources:

"Let Her Record Prove Them Wrong," by Steve Bornfeld. *UNLV News Center*. Accessed July 11, 2024. <https://www.unlv.edu/news/article/let-her-record-prove-them-wrong>

"Carol Harter, UNLV's longest-serving and first female president, dies at age 82," by Tabitha Mueller and Jacob Solis. *The Nevada Independent*. Accessed July 11, 2024. <https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/longest-serving-president-of-unlv-carol-harter-dies-at-age-82>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Carol C. Harter Professional Papers (1940-2023) consist of material documenting Harter's scholarly and administrative career. The collection includes letters, publications and reports, speeches, and photographs from Harter's time as the 11th and first female president of State University of New York (SUNY) Geneseo and as the 7th president of University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). As of 2024, Harter was UNLV's longest-serving and also its first female president. Harter's UNLV files include presidential evaluations, progress reports, fundraising information, letters of support, and State of the University speeches. Also included are newspaper clippings and publications featuring articles written about Harter during her tenure at UNLV, which document the community's perception of her presidency. Harter's literary research and teaching files are also included in the collection.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials are grouped by time period.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests. Advanced notice is required.

Publication Rights

This material is made available to facilitate private study, scholarship, or research. The donor, Michael Harter, transferred all right, title and interest they had in the Carol Harter Professional Papers (UA-00147) to UNLV. However, some material may be protected by copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity rights, or other interests not owned by UNLV. Users are responsible for determining whether permissions are necessary from rights owners for any intended use and for obtaining all required permissions. Acknowledgement of the UNLV University Libraries is requested. For more information, please see the UNLV Special Collections policies on [reproductions and use](#) or contact us at special.collections@unlv.edu.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Materials were donated in 2024 by Michael Harter; accession number 2024-083.

Appraisal

Acquired by Sarah Quigley, Director of Special Collections and Archives, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives' holdings on University history.

Processing Note

In 2024, Sarah Jones accessioned the collection, rehoused the material into boxes, and wrote a brief finding aid in ArchivesSpace.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Carol Harter oral history interview, 2021 June 18. OH-03786. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Carol Harter oral history interview, 2007 April 20. OH-00802. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

UNLV TV Audiovisual Collection, approximately 1980-2023. UA-00098. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1vx52>

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Foundation Records, 1981-2013. UA-00079. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1dd2q>

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Creative Services Records, 1959-2016. PH-00388. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Education, Higher -- Administration
- College presidents
- Women college presidents
- English language -- Study and teaching
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas -- History
- Black Mountain Institute

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
UNLV papers	
UNLV inaugural address and State of the University speeches, 1995 to 2003 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 04
President Harter's UNLV files, 1995 to 2006 Physical Description: 7 Files	box 05 box 06
UNLV Presidential Progress reports, 1995 to 2003	box 06

UNLV President's Evaluation materials, 2000 to 2004 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 06
Awards, certificates, and invitations from dignitaries, approximately 1990 to 2009	box 06
Photographs of President Harter at various events, 1995 to 2006 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 07
Photograph album from 1995 UNLV commencement and President Carol C. Harter's inauguration, 1995	box 09
Audiocassettes from Harter interview, approximately 1995 to 2006 Physical Description: 4 Cassettes	box 09
UNLV publications that feature Harter, approximately 1995 to 2019 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 07
Newsclippings and correspondence regarding UNLV resignation, 2006 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 08
Newsclippings and publications written by or about Harter, approximately 1995 to 2019 Physical Description: 7 Files	box 08 box 09 box 10 box 11
SUNY Geneseo papers	
SUNY Geneseo newsclippings, 1989 to 1995 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 01
SUNY Geneseo annual reports and publications, 1989 to 1995	box 01
SUNY Geneseo correspondence and State of the University materials, 1989 to 1995	box 01
SUNY Geneseo presidential resolutions, approximately 1990 to 1995	box 01
SUNY Geneseo inauguration ceremony photographs, 1989 to 1995	box 01 box 11
Literature and teaching files	
Joyce Carol Oates research files, approximately 1970 to 1989 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 02
William Faulkner research files, approximately 1970 to 1989 Physical Description: 8 Files	box 02 box 03 box 04
Louise Erdrich research files, approximately 1970 to 1989	box 04
English literature files, 1970 to 2012	box 04

Personal papers	
<i>Ohio University Today</i> newspaper, 1984	box 02
Personal family photographs, approximately 1940 to 2019	box 07
Congressional Record vol. 169, no. 159 with remarks on Harter's legacy, 2023 September 20	box 07