

Mary Kenny Landers Papers
1938 - 1979
Finding Aid



Mary K. Landers

Archives and Special Collections



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GENERAL INFORMATION

Accession Number: 93-01

Size: 8.1412 cu. ft.

Location: Range 5 Section 4 Shelves 21-24

Provenance: Mary K. Landers

Restrictions: The Following Folders are **CLOSED** to Researchers:

- Box 6 Folders 5 - 13
- Box 7 Folders 1 - 7
- Box 12 Folder 9
- Box 17 Folder 3

Archivist: Prof. Julio L. Hernandez-Delgado

Assistant: Ms. Gretchen Opie

Date: July 1999

Revised: November 2014

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Mary K. Landers was born in Fall River, Massachusetts in 1905. She received a Bachelor of Arts (1926) and a Masters of Arts (ca. 1930) from Brown University, and later acquired a Ph. D from the University of Chicago. Landers joined the Department of Mathematics at Hunter College in July 1933, and continued to teach until 1975 when she retired as a full professor.

During her tenure at Hunter College Landers was actively involved in a variety of college-wide committees like the Grievance Committee. Two of the most engaging assignments involved the development of a new Computer Science program for the Departments of Mathematics and Science and the chairing of the Advisory Board on Plant Planning.

Landers' most active role was as secretary of the Legislative Conference from 1959 to 1972. The Legislative Conference was formerly established in 1938. For most of its history the Legislative Conference represented the interests of the entire instructional staff of the city colleges-library, laboratory, registrars, business and medical staffs as well as the teaching faculty. Among the Conference's primary concerns were salaries, retirement benefits, curriculum changes, and promotional policies. It served as an informal negotiator, working with school administrators, the Board of Higher Education, and city and state legislatures to develop policies that were beneficial to the instructional staff.

By 1967, however, New York City had established the Municipal Office of Collective Bargaining, and the state had passed a law that regulated for the first time the activities of employee representative organizations. The Legislative Conference could no longer function successfully without being recognized as the exclusive representative of the City University staffs. In 1968, following an election, the Legislative Conference was named the sole collective bargaining agent for tenured teaching faculty; the United Federation of College Teachers (UFCT) would represent the non-teaching instructional staff, as well as temporary and adjunct professors.

The Legislative Conference became affiliated with the New York State Teachers Association (NYSTA) and the National Education Association (NEA) in 1970. This allowed the Legislative Conference to use many of the resources of many influential state and national organizations while still maintaining its autonomy. In 1972, when the affiliation agreement between the Legislative Conference, NYSTA, and NEA expired, the Legislative Conference merged with the United Federation of College Teachers (UFCT) to form the Professional Staff Congress. For the first time CUNY had a single unified organization serving as the legal bargaining agent for all the instructional staffs of The City University of New York.

This collection reveals Landers' active involvement in nearly all aspects of the Legislative Conference. She was an early advocate of academic collective bargaining and was instrumental in developing and creating many of the organization's policies.

Mary K. Landers taught mathematics at Hunter College for 42 years. Landers was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the New York Academy of Sciences. She retired as professor emeritus of mathematics at Hunter College in 1975. In 1985, Rita Morgan was inducted in the Hunter Hall of Fame primarily for work as a peace activist and for her advocacy of the hungry and the homeless worldwide.

Landers unfortunately developed cancer and died at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island on November 20, 1990. She was survived by her two sons Robert and Richard, her daughter Patricia and by her two sisters, Margaret Rowell and Rita Hitchinson.

Gretchen Opie
Julio L. Hernandez-Delgado

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Mary K. Landers Papers consists of documents that she acquired from her association with the Legislative Conference and Hunter College of the City University of New York between 1957 and 1975. In addition, there are also materials that document her work as a professor of mathematics and her involvement in a variety of department and college-wide committees. The collection also contains materials from the honor societies of which she was a member, and from the Hunter College Library.

One important aspect of the collection are the records from the Advisory Board on Plant Development, a committee Landers was involved with from 1962 to 1969. The committee worked with department representatives, developers, and architects to plan the construction of what eventually became the East and West towers of Hunter College. Materials in the collection include departmental space requests and recommendations, minutes, correspondence, reports from subcommittees, and building programs.

The bulk of the papers consists of materials from the Legislative Conference. As secretary of the Conference from 1959 to 1972, Landers amassed an array of materials that document the activities of the organization. In addition to her own materials, Landers managed to save documents and correspondence of Belle Zeller, first president of the Legislative Conference and Mary R. Sheehan, the Conference's former secretary.

The Papers highlight the work of the Legislative Conference from 1938 to 1972. It includes a complete set of the minutes of the Legislative Conference that were edited by Landers, as well as administrative records, directories, financial documents, correspondence, and the Conference's two news publications, the *Legislative Conference News* and *The Reporter*. Many of the documents cover budget, salary and tenure negotiations, minutes, correspondence, and reports. Landers also served as chair of the Hunter College Grievance Committee from 1970 to 1972, and kept extensive records of the grievances she dealt with during that time. In addition, there are also documents relating to several significant events in the Conference's history, including the election that named it the sole collective bargaining agent for career faculty, the affiliation between the Conference, New York State Teachers Association (NYYSTA) and the National Education Association (NEA), and the merger between the Legislative Conference and the United Federation of College Teachers (UFCT).

Although the papers contain little biographical information on Landers, they do reveal her association and commitment to the Legislative Conference allowed her to preserve an important and thorough documentation of the work of CUNY's first official legal representative of the career faculty.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series I – Biographical Information

Subseries I consists of three articles which provide brief information on the life of Mary K. Landers.

Series II – Legislative Conference

Subseries 2.1 Administration

Subseries 2.2 Committees

Subseries 2.3 Correspondence

Subseries 2.4 Publications

Subseries 2.5 Hunter College Chapter of the Legislative Conference

Subseries 2.1 consists of general files the Legislative Conference. There are minutes, including three bound volumes edited by Mary K. Landers, by-laws, membership directories, financial materials, records from the Executive Committee and the Governing Board. Folders are arranged alphabetically. Subseries 2.2 consists of memoranda, minutes and reports of the committees that comprised the Legislative Conference. The committee files provide information about the Conference's policies, budgetary concerns, salary and tenure negotiations, grievances, and benefits for non-instructional staff. Also included are materials recording significant events in the Conference's history, including the election that named it the sole collective bargaining agent for career faculty, the affiliation between the Conference, NYSTA and the NEA, and the merger between the Conference and the UFCT. Arrangement is alphabetical, then chronological in most folders. Researchers should note that individual grievance folders are **CLOSED** for examination as well as Landers' student files. Subseries 2.3 consists of correspondence pertaining primarily from Mary K. Landers; Mary Sheehan, previous secretary of the Legislative Conference; and Belle Zeller, chair of the Conference from 1944 to 1972. Subseries 2.4 consists of select issues of the *Legislative Conference News* (1964 - 1972) and *The Reporter* (1968 - 1971). Subseries 2.5 consists of materials from the Hunter College Chapter of the Legislative Conference which highlight the chapter's activities. Folders are arranged alphabetically.

Series III – Organizations

Series II documents the collaborative work of the Legislative Conference with the Board of Higher Education, the National Education Association and the New York State Teachers Association among other organizations. Arrangement is alphabetical.

Series IV – Hunter College

Subseries 4.1 Advisory Board on Plant Development

Subseries 4.2 Division of Science and Mathematics

Subseries 4.3 Honor Societies

Subseries 4.4 Hunter College Library

Subseries 4.1 consists of documents from the committee that planned the construction of the East and West towers of Hunter College. There is extensive documentation of departmental space requests and recommendations, materials from subcommittees, and reports and building programs from architects and planners. Subseries 4.2 contains materials from the Department of Mathematics. There are notes, outlines and materials from Landers' classes and committee work. Folders are arranged alphabetically. Subseries 4.3 consists of materials from the three honor societies that Mary K. Landers was a member of: Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Mu Epsilon and Sigma Xi. Folders are arranged alphabetically. Subseries 4.4 contains materials from the Hunter College Library from 1942 to 1965. There is extensive correspondence from the Friends of the Hunter College Library from 1942 -1957, as well as information about the library's reference room, reserve room, and Teachers Central Laboratory. Folders are arranged alphabetically; correspondence is chronological.

CONTAINER LIST

SERIES I – BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	1	<p>“Mary K. Landers, 85, Former Math Professor.” <i>The New York Times</i> November 12, 1990, n.p.</p> <p>“In Memoriam Mary K. Laners.” <i>Clarion</i>, December 1990, p. 8.</p> <p>“In Memoriam [Mary K. Landers].” <i>The Faculty Voice</i>, March 1991, p. 2.</p>

SERIES II – LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Subseries 2.1 Administration

1	2	Agreement Between The Legislative Conference and the Board of Higher Education (B.H.E.) of the City of New York, ca. 1969 Bulletins, 1948 - 1971
	3	Appointments, Reappointment and Promotion, 1946 - 1947
	4	Bills, 1961-1967
	5	By-Laws, 1943, 1959, 1963, 1965, 1967
	6	Check books
	7	Civil Service Employees, 1960
	8	College Office Assistants, 1963
	9	College Physicians and Dentists, 1960
	10	College Science Assistants, 1963 - 1966
	11	Community Colleges, n.d.
	12	Directory, 1960 - 1971
	13	Distribution of Rank, 1965 - 1969
2	1	Dues, 1959 - 1965
	2	Ibid., 1966 - 1971
		Election of Delegates
	3-4	Ballots, 1964
	5-6	Ballots, 1967
	7	Election Results: 1960, 1962, 1967
	8	Faculty Research Program, 1970
	9	Financial Reports, 1971 - 1972
	10	Governing Board, 1968 - 1970

SERIES II – LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Subseries 2.1 Administration

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
2	11	History of Legislative Conference
3	1	Hunter College School of Social Work, 1967
	2	Leaves of Absences, 1943, 1945
	3	LC-NEA-NYSTA's Affiliation, 1970
	4	Library Staff, 1952 - 1958
		Minutes
		Typed and Handwritten Drafts
	5	1959 - 1960
	6	1960 - 1961
	7	1961 - 1962
	8	Digest of Minutes, 1961-1963
	9	Miscellaneous Minutes
4		Legislative Conference of the City University of New York 1938 - 1972, 3 volumes, ed. Mary K. Landers (bound)
5	1	Miscellaneous Materials
	2	Officers and Members, 1939 - 1967
	3	Personnel Status, 1948
	4	Public Relations Program, 1940
	5	Teacher Load, 1967

Subseries 2.2 Committees

5	6	Administrative Staff Committee, 1946, 1950 - 1951
		Budget Committee
		1940 - 1947
	7	1960 - 1961
	8	1961 - 1962
	9	1962 - 1963
	10	1964 - 1965
	11	1965 - 1966
	12	1967 - 1968
	13	1968 - 1969
6	1	1969 - 1975

SERIES II – LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Subseries 2.2 Committees

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
6	2	Collective Bargaining Committee, 1963-1968
	3	Committee on Board Higher Education (B.H.E.) By-Laws, 1938 - 1939, 1943 - 1967
	4	Executive Committee, 1963, 1965
		Grievance Committee
	5	Administrative Materials
	6	Aschkenasy, Nehama [CLOSED FILES]
	7	Bablove, Beatrice
	8	Baird, Keith
	9	Davis, Tom
	10	Delaney, Sheila
	11	Hayes, Roslyn
	12	Jackson, Renwick
	13	Jaworsky, Michael
7	1	Martin, Constance [CLOSED FILES]
	2	Muntz, Elizabeth
	3	Rave, Georgia
	4	Robbins, Lillian
	5	Schecter, Stanley
	6	Seda, Eduardo
	7	Shilling, Nancy
	8	Sociology Department
	9	Miscellaneous Grievances
		Insurance Committee
	10	Brochures
	11	Correspondence, 1964 - 1967
	12	Employee Blood Credit Program, 1971
	13	Insurance Plans
8	1	Committee on Instruction and Temporary Ranks, 1964
	2	Negotiating Committee, 1969, 1971
	3	Pension and Retirement Committee, 1956, 1966 - 1967
	4	Committee for Equal Retirement for N.Y.C. Teachers, 1961

SERIES II – LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Subseries 2.2 Committees

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
8	5	Legislative Conference Pension and Retirement Committee Teacher's Retirement Board, 1950 - 1969
	6	Calendar, 1974
	7	Correspondence, 1960 - 1961
	8	Independent Committee for the Election of H. Bushey, 1953
	9	Committee on Retraining and Reassignment of Staff Members, 1942 - 1944
	10	Committee on School of General Studies, 1952 - 1967
	11	Salary Committee 1935 - 1946
9	1	1947 - 1948
	2	1949 - 1950
	3	1950 - 1952
	4	1953 - 1972
		Tenure Committee
10	1	Tenure Legislation, 1940
	2	Tenure for Non-Instructional Staff, 1940
	3	1945
	4	1950 - 1972
	5	Committee on University Governance, 1964 - 1968

Subseries 2.3 Correspondence

10	6	Landers, Mary K. Incoming, 1959 - 1971
	7	Outgoing, 1959 - 1970

SERIES II – LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Subseries 2.3 Correspondence

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
11	1	Sheehan, Mary R. Incoming, 1949 - 1960
	2	Outgoing, 1948 -1959
		Zeller, Belle Incoming
	3	1947 - 1963
	4	1963 - 1970
	5	Outgoing, 1946 - 1971
		General Correspondence
	6	1938 - 1961
	7	1962 - 1970
	8	Twentieth Anniversary Luncheon Correspondence, March - April 1958
9	Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Luncheon Correspondence, January 1963	
10	Correspondence, February - April 1963	

Subseries 2.4 Publications

12	1	<i>Legislative Conference News</i> , 1964 - 1972
	2	<i>The Reporter</i> , 1968 - 1971

Subseries 2.5 Hunter College Chapter of the Legislative Conference

12	3	Activities, 1971
		Committees
	4	Communications Committee, 1971
	5	Executive Committee, 1970 - 1972
	6	Facilities Committee, 1971

SERIES II – LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Subseries 2.5 Hunter College Chapter of the Legislative Conference

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
		Committees
12	7	Housing Committee, 1971 - 1972
	8	Membership Committee, 1971 [CLOSED FILE]
	9	Correspondence, 1970 - 1972
	10	Departmental Representatives, 1971
	11	Grade Appeals, 1970, 1978
	12	Miscellaneous Materials

SERIES III – ORGANIZATIONS

12	13	American Association of University Professors, 1949, 1955, 1966 - 1967
		Board of Higher Education
	14	Agreement between Legislative Conference and Board of Higher Education, 1969
13	1	By-Laws, October 1948
	2	By-Law Amendments, 1958 - 1959
	3	Minutes, 1946 - 1948
	4	Miscellaneous Materials
	5	Reports of the Chair, 1959 - 1961, 1963 - 1965
		Summaries of Action
	6	April 2, 1941
	7	December. 20, 1948
	8	March 18, 1963
	9	March 16, 1964
	10	February 15, 1965
	11	March 15, 1965
	12	May 17, 1965
14	1	September 20, 1975

SERIES III – ORGANIZATIONS

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
14	2	National Education Association, ca. 1971
	3	New York State Teachers Association, 1972
		Professional Staff Congress of The City University of New York
	4	Activities, 1972 - 1974
	5	Administrative Council
	6	<i>Clarion</i> , 1972 - 1974
	7	Department Representatives
	8	United Federation of College Teachers, 1966 - 1921
		University Faculty Welfare Trustees
	9	Agenda and Minutes, 1966 - 1971
	10	By-Laws, 1967
	11	<i>Faculty Welfare Trustees Newsletter</i> , 1968 - 1979

SERIES IV – HUNTER COLLEGE

Subseries 4.1 Advisory Board on Plant Development

14	12	University Faculty Welfare Trustees Miscellaneous Materials
	13	CUNY Master Plan, 1968
	14	Holy Report on Long Range Plan, 1963
		Hunter College Faculty Council Committee on Legislation and Board of Higher Education (B.H.E.) By-Laws
15	1	1942 - 1946
	2	1943 - 1947
	3	Special Evening Session Committee, 1950
		Hunter College Master Plan, 1968
	4	Programs for Bronx & Park Avenue Buildings, 1966 - 1968
	5	Student Enrollment Policies and Trends, 1967 - 1968
	6	Long Range Plan, Final Draft, 1968

SERIES IV – HUNTER COLLEGE

Subseries 4.1 Advisory Board on Plant Development

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
15	7	Hunter College Master Plan Minutes, 1964 - 1965, 1967 - 1968
	8	Miscellaneous Materials
	9	Proposed Capital Budget 1966 - 1967
16	1	Report on Expansion Program for Hunter College, 1967
	2	Space Requests and Recommendations, 1963 - 1968
		Space Program
	3	Summaries, 1968
	4	Detailed Building Program, November 17, 1969
	5	Bronx Classroom Building, 1969
	6	Fine Arts Building, 1965 - 1966
		Subcommittees
	7	Library, 1964 - 1966
8	New Park Avenue Building, ca. 1967	
9	Teacher Education and Graduate Center, 1964 - 1965	

Subseries 4.2 Division of Science and Mathematics

16	10	Committee on Curriculum Curriculum Changes, 1972 - 1973
	11	Minutes, 1972 - 1973
	12	New Course Proposals, ca. 1972
		Mathematics Department
13		Academic Counseling, 1965
14		Activities - Clubs, Speakers and Colloquiums, 1966, 1972
15		Administrative Materials, 1952, 1966
		Computer Science Program
16		Computer Equipment, 1968 - 1969
17		Computer Lab, 1969
18		Computer Science Program, 1973
19		Courses

SERIES IV – HUNTER COLLEGE

Subseries 4.2 Division of Science and Mathematics

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
		Computer Science Program
		Dolciani, Mary
16	20	Department Materials, 1968 - 1969
	21	Examination Books, 1967
17	1	Educational Policy Committee, 1963, 1972
		Landers, Mary K.
	2	Course Notes, 1953 - 1954, 1969
	3	Students Lists, 1956 - 1957, 1970, [CLOSED FILE]
	4	Lao G. Simons Scholarship Fund, 1940
	5	Miscellaneous Materials
	6	Nominating Committee, 1972
	7	Textbook Brochures

Subseries 4.3 Honor Societies

17	8	Committee on Honorary Societies, 1953 - 1959
		Phi Beta Kappa
	9	Constitution and By-Laws, 1951, 1958
	10	Meeting Notices, 1952 - 1953, 1963, 1969
	11	Membership, 1949, 1953, 1962 - 1965
	12	Pi Mu Epsilon, 1965
		Sigma Xi
	13	Convocation, 1969
	14	General Materials

SERIES IV – HUNTER COLLEGE

Subseries 4.4 Hunter College Library

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
17	15	Acquisitions List Design, 1965
	16	Civil Defense, 1942
	17	CUNY Library Teletype, 1965
	18	Division Requests, 1957 - 1961
		Friends of the Hunter College Library
	19	Acknowledged Contributions, 1954 - 1957
	20	Bank Statements, 1943 - 1956
18	1	Brochure, 1953
		Correspondence
	2	1942 - April 1943
	3	May - December 1943
	4	1944 - 1947
	5	1948 - 1949
	6	1951 - 1952
	7	1953 - 1957
	8	Information Sent to Other Agencies
	9	Miscellaneous Materials
	10	Reference Room, 1965 - 1966
	11	Reserve Room, 1964 - 1965
	12	Social Science Library, 1965
	13	Teachers Central Laboratory, 1964 - 1965
	14	Weeding and Book Disposal