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Title

Introduction and Front Matter: Women in the Department of History

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Women in the Department of History: An Introduction

Mary Elizabeth Berry, Class of 1944 Professor of History Emerita

One hundred fifty years ago, on October 3, 1870, the Board of Regents unanimously approved the resolution: “That young ladies be admitted into the University on equal terms in all respects with young men.” Units across the campus are marking the anniversary by honoring “the remarkable women who have studied at, worked for, and contributed to UC Berkeley” and, more broadly, the “gender diversity and inclusivity in our vibrant academic community” (Carol Christ, in a letter of 4/12/20). Find extensive information about the project in the introduction to this collection (Gallagher, Humphreys, MacLachlan <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/38s6j3t5?>)

The contributions of our department to this project began with a focus on our women faculty. In June, 2021 we added “A Survey of Women Recipients of Ph.D.s.” with an aggregate data chart (1950-2019) as well as brief bios of 124 women who received the degree between 1919 and 1979. It will also take readers to a list, provided by the Department of History, of all Ph.D. recipients from 1950 to 2000. In addition to enriching this material and expanding it in time, we hope that members of our extended community will help build sections on current students, staff, and friends and family. Thematic sections would also be wonderful. No boundaries! Please be in touch with us by email: meberry@berkeley.edu. We welcome partners ready to push past start on many topics. (Contributions to the “Voices” section are encouraged from everyone!) With great gratitude and admiration, I salute Maya Sisneros for her brilliant work on the department website.

This collection is organized into specific sections available as separate pdfs. All have been created and written by Mary Elizabeth Berry with the exception of the David Hollinger article.

Part I: [The Chronology of Faculty Appointments of Women, 1958-2000.](#)

Part II: [The First Nineteen Women Faculty Members, 1958-1999.](#)

An extended profile of Adrienne Koch (1958-65), written by David Hollinger, followed by short bios of her 20th-century successors written by Mary Elizabeth Berry.

Part III: [Voices: Personal contributions from some of the first nineteen.](#)

See the entry by Mary Elizabeth Berry for a broader history of the Department.

Part IV: [A Survey of Women who Received Ph.D. degrees from the Department of History, UCB with a Focus on 1919-1979,](#) by Mary Elizabeth Berry.

Introduction and statistical summary, profiles by decade.

Part V: [Documents:](#)

Adrienne Koch, "Two Cheers for Equality," 1963.

Elizabeth Colson and Elizabeth Scott, "Report of the Subcommittee on the Status of Academic Women on the Berkeley Campus, 1970.

(<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED04213.pdf>)

[A Note to Readers Regarding This History of Women in the Department of History January, 2022](#)

The original material for the document that follows was uploaded to the website of the Department of History in August of 2020 and June of 2021. It included many embedded links to other websites that, for example, provide curricula vitae for the female faculty members and biographical details for the female recipients of history Ph.D.s who are described in the text. Few, if any, of those links will remain live in this PDF document. Hence, researchers will need to seek additional documentation themselves or consult a digital copy of the 150W website of the Department of History

held by the Bancroft library, which may enable more links. If they do not directly link, please copy them into your browser: <https://wayback.archive-it.org/16283/20210913182815/https://history.berkeley.edu/women-department-history>

The original material also included a section that listed and provided links to the major sources cited by authors of individual essays. Because that section has not been archived, I list those sources and web addresses below. (Please note that Adrienne Koch's "Two Cheers for Equality" has been added at the end of this PDF document. We include it in full, and provide an amplified biography of Koch, because information about this first woman on the department's ladder faculty is not widely available.)

History at Berkeley: A Dialogue in Three Parts, by Gene Brucker, Henry May, and David Hollinger
(UCB: Institute of Governmental Affairs, 1998).
<https://oac.cdlib.org/view?docId=hb8g5007t1&query=&brand=oac4>

"UCB History Department Oral Histories," Oral History Center, Bancroft Library
<https://digicoll.lib.berkeley.edu/search?ln=en&cc=UCB+History+Department+Oral+Histories>

"The Marion and Herbert Sandler Oral History Project," Oral History Center, Bancroft Library
<https://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/oral-history-center/projects/sandler>

University of California Academic Senate, In Memoriam.
<https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/in-memoriam/index.php>
To link to a particular obituary, enter the first and last name of the individual in the "Search Memorials" box.

"Report of the Subcommittee on the Status of Academic Women on the Berkeley Campus," co-chairs
Elizabeth Colson and Elizabeth Scott, May 19, 1970.
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED042413.pdf>

“Two Cheers for Equality,” by Adrienne Koch. Delivered as a speech at a UC forum in San Francisco during 1963 and printed, following Koch’s death, in the Maryland Historian III (Spring 1972), 21-31. <https://history.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/koch-1963speech.pdf>

“Adrienne Koch, Historian, Dies: Wrote on America of 1765-1815.” New York Times obituary, August 23, 1971. <https://www.nytimes.com/1971/08/23/archives/a-drienne-koch-historian-dies-wrote-on-america-of-1765-181-argued.html>