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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

HAROLD H. HAAK (1935-2003)

PAPERS, 1954-2003
4 linear feet

ACQUISITION: The papers were donated by Harold Haak in 1997-2000, 2003.

ACCESS: The papers are open for research.

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PHOTOGRAPHS: In boxes 1 and 2.

PROCESSED BY: Diana Bustamante, 1998 and Heather Crowder, 2000.

Biography

Harold H. Haak was born on June 1, 1935, in Madison, Wisconsin. He received a B.A. at the University of Wisconsin in political science and later an M.A. in 1958. Haak went on to receive a Ph.D. from Princeton University. He was hired as an assistant professor at San Diego State University where he became an associate professor of political science, teaching from 1962 to 1969. Haak also served as Dean of Public Administration and Urban Studies at San Diego. He left that position in 1971 to become the Vice President for Academic Affairs at California State University, Fresno (CSUF).

Two years later Haak became the vice president (in 1974 the position was designated as chancellor) of the newly named University of Colorado at Denver (UCD). Haak helped to shape and define the university and its role in the innovative Auraria Higher Education Center (a shared campus for three separate institutions). His efforts were recognized in 1980 when he was awarded the University of Colorado Medal. Haak served six and a half years in Colorado until he returned to Fresno as president of CSUF.

Haak's presidency spanned eleven and a half years, from 1980 to 1991. Haak served on various committees, both academic and public service, and was voted one of Fresno's most powerful people in 1990. He stepped down as president in 1991. From 1992 to 1993, Haak served as Senior Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs for the California State University system on an interim basis.

In 1993 Haak returned to Fresno to teach political science at CSUF. In 2000, Harold Haak became president of Fresno Pacific University. He retired in 2002. He passed away suddenly on December 26, 2003.

Scope and Content Note

The Harold H. Haak papers measure 4 linear feet and date from 1954 to 2000, 2003. The collection is arranged in two series: Personal and Professional. The bulk of the collection chronicles Haak's abiding interest in organizational behavior and his career in administration. Haak has annotated some sections in the collection to clarify the context of his involvement and its significance.

Photographs of Haak and his wife along with letters from colleagues can be found in the **Personal** series (1954-1971, 1985-1996, 2003). There is much biographical information in the applications and vitas. *The Mubox Bugs* is a children's book that Haak wrote and published in 2003. The book was illustrated by Fresno State art professor Dan Nadaner and his two children, Jenny and Tommy. The story was also set to music by retired Fresno Pacific University music professor Larry Warkentin. In addition to the book, there is a CD with recordings of the

Scope and Content Note (cont.)

narration (as read by Haak) and music (performed by Warkentin). The ROTC folder deals with Haak's experience as a cadet in 1954, during the height of the McCarthy era. Haak's uniform was taken away because he once knew someone later investigated by the FBI.

Most of the materials in the **Professional** series (1962-2000) are arranged chronologically by the different phases of Haak's career beginning with his professorship at San Diego State University from 1961 to 1971. Only the two subseries at the end, Collective bargaining and Written work, do not follow the chronological sequence. Most of this series focuses on his presidency at CSUF. Haak's impact on the university is noted in the presidential evaluations.

Haak's efforts in the area of athletics was highly visible. He wrote an article on strategies for managing a successful athletic program in "Athletics: Presidential Problem and Prospects," published in 1990 (Professional, Written work, Published articles, 1985, 1988 and undated). Haak had encountered various problems of this nature as the newly appointed president of CSUF.

Throughout his career as a faculty leader and an academic administrator, Haak was an ardent proponent of "shared governance" and "collegiality" and wrote extensively on the implications of collective bargaining for higher education.

In addition to his published work, of which many are articles, Haak wrote two fictional narratives. *Parable of a President* and *Victim to Victor* chronicle the trials and tribulations of a fictional university president, Hubert Jones. The two books were well received among Haak's peers and their comments are filed under the heading Professional, Written work, Correspondence, 1969, 1980-1989.

Printed Works by Haak in the University Archives

Congress and the Politics of Personnel (1963)

Parable of a President (1982)

Uptight Management (1987)

Victim to Victor: A Year in the Life of a University President (1988)

[Various articles by Haak in the faculty authors collection]

Related Collection

Seventy-fifth Anniversary Celebration: Haak presided over the celebration and is featured on the videocassette [housed in University Archives with the 75th Anniversary materials].

Box no. Description

Box 1

Personal

Applications, 1962, 1971
Letters and cards, 1985-1996 and undated
The Mubox Bugs (book and CD), 2003
Obituaries and memorials, 2003
ROTC, 1954 and undated
Vitas, undated
Photographs, undated

Professional

San Diego State College, 1966-1971 (2 folders)
Academic Senate of the California State Colleges, 1968-1969, 1999
University of Colorado at Denver
 Correspondence, 1973-1974, 1978-1980
 Meeting notes, 1980 and undated
 Newspaper clippings, 1973-1974, 1979, 1983, 1988
 Reports/statements, 1978-1979 and undated
 University medal documents, 1980
California State University, Fresno
 Academic Vice President
 General, 1971-1973
 McConnell Report, 1971 and undated
 Commission on California Agriculture and Higher Education, 1993-1995
 President
 Appointment books
 1981
 1982
 1983
 1983-1984
 1984

Box 2

1985
1985-1986
1986
1987
1987-1988
1988
1989
1989-1990

Box no. Description

Box 2 (cont.)

Professional (cont.)

California State University, Fresno (cont.)

President (cont.)

Appointment books (cont.)

1990

1991

1992

Articles, 1980-1991

Athletics

Memoranda and correspondence, 1980-1986

Photograph, undated

Reports/statements, 1981-1990 and undated

Budget cuts, 1980 and undated

Commission on Fund Raising Report, 1988

Box 3

Correspondence, 1981-1991 and undated

Faculty grievances, 1984-1986

Presidential evaluations

1986 (2 folders)

1989

Resignation

Correspondence, 1990

Newspaper clippings, 1990

Tenth anniversary celebration, 1990

Speeches

General, 1980 and undated (2 folders)

Academic Assembly, 1980-1990 and undated

Affirmative action, undated

Commencement, 1982, 1986-1990

Kiwanis 75th celebration, 1996

University activities

Armenian project, 1995 (3 folders)

Coombs Committee, 1988-1991

Governance and collegiality ad hoc committee, 1984-1985

Guizhou University of Nationalities, 1999

National Agribusiness Education Commission, 1988-1989

Pacific Rim Institute, 1992, 1994, 1995

Box no. Description

Box 3 (cont.)

Professional (cont.)

California State University, Fresno (cont.)

University activities (cont.)

Review committees

Presidential

Kean College, 1993

York College, 1995

Directorial

1992

1995

Teaching

Correspondence, 1980-1981, 1985, 1996-2000

Box 4

Course outlines, 1995-1996, 1998-2000

Evaluations, 1994-1995, 1998-1999

Kenneth L. Maddy Professor of Public Affairs, 2000

Lecture notes, undated (6 folders)

California State University Chancellor's Office, 1992-1993 (2 folders)

Collective bargaining

Academic Senate of the California State Colleges, 1967-1971

Colorado, 1974-1975

Miscellaneous, 1969-1970, 1991 and undated

San Diego State College, 1966-1970

Consultancy, 1997

Written work

Correspondence, 1969, 1980-1989

Interviews for dissertation, 1962

Published articles, 1985, 1988 and undated

Unpublished, undated (2 folders)