

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - Jean Rands fonds (RBSC-ARC-1855)

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Jean Rands fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Title:	Jean Rands fonds
Reference code:	RBSC-ARC-1855
Date:	1954-2019 (date of creation)
Physical description:	75 cm of textual records 4 photographs 1 cassette tape
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Finding aid produced by Elizabeth Robertson, November 2023.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Jean Rands (born Mary Jean Rands) was raised in Saskatchewan in the 1950s. Her parents, Stan Rands and Doris Rands (née Fraser), were both prominent figures in social activist circles in the province. She had two siblings: an older brother, Brian Rands, and a younger sister, Ailsa Curiel (née Rands). Jean attended high school in Regina at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate, and was politically and socially engaged from an early age. A member of the Young Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), Jean regularly participated in peace marches and joined picket lines in support of striking workers during her school years.

In 1963, Jean moved to Toronto with her long-term partner, Al (Allan) Engler. There she was a member of the League for Socialist Action (LSA), a Trotskyist socialist organization. In 1968, at age 19, Jean relocated to Vancouver, and began work as a typesetter for the student newspaper at Simon Fraser University. She became involved with the SFU Women's Caucus, and grew increasingly active in feminist labour organizing, especially in sectors with high participation of women workers which the Canadian labour movement had historically neglected. Throughout the 1970s and 80s, Jean was active as a labour organizer, particularly with SORWUC (the Service, Office, and Retail Workers' Union of Canada) and several of its local chapter. She was a founding member of both AUCE (Association of University and College Employees) and SORWUC, and served in executive positions in both organizations. She maintained a lifelong interest and commitment to labour and feminist issues, which are reflected in her speaking and writing.

Over the course of her life, Jean worked in typesetting and clerical positions with several employers in Vancouver and Toronto. She retired in Vancouver in 2010.

Scope and content

Fonds reflect Jean Rands's interest and activism in feminist labour organizing in western Canada and her speaking and writing around these issues, and also contains records relating to her family and personal connections. The fonds primarily consists of labour union meeting agendas and minutes, union leaflets and flyers, newspaper clippings, legal documents, correspondence, and drafts of speeches and articles. Personal records include diaries, personal correspondence, and a few photographs.

Notes

Title notes

Arrangement

There was no apparent order within each box. The archival assistant therefore assigned series while processing the fonds.

Related material

University of Regina Archives & Special Collections. Stan Rands fonds, 89-70.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
-

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Photographic material (documentary form)
 - Sound recording (documentary form)
 - Family and personal life (subject)
 - Labour (subject)
 - Organizations (subject)
 - Women (subject)
-

Series descriptions

Labour organizing

Date: 1963–2019 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series reflects Jean Rands's involvement in labour organizing in the B.C. lower mainland and in Saskatchewan, predominantly in the 1970s and 80s, both independently and in connection with the various unions and labour organizations she was part of. These include the Association of University and College Employees (AUCE), where she was a founding member; the Working Women's Association (WWA), which disseminated information about labour issues faced by women; the Service, Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC), where Jean was a founding member and served as president at the national level; SORWUC Local 2, United Bank Workers; SORWUC Local 4, Bank and Finance Workers, where she served as president; Union Sisters, a grassroots group for women's labour organizing in the B.C. lower mainland; and the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (UTFE/TFEU).

The records consist of documents arising from Jean's involvement as an executive and active member of these groups, such as meeting agendas and minutes, leaflets and flyers, legal documents, conference planning records, and correspondence. The records also consist of newspaper clippings and articles on topics of women and labour issues, reflecting Jean's ongoing interest in these topics throughout her life.

Physical description: 50 cm of textual records

1 cassette tape

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-01	File - SORWUC national newsletter	1978-1983		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-02	File - SORWUC special convention Jan. 31 1982	1982		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-03	File - National minutes 1983	1983		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-04	File - SORWUC national 1983	1983		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-05	File - SORWUC minutes 1976	1976		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-06	File - Local #1 mailings/minutes 1977	1977		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-07	File - Church's Chicken 1977	1977		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-08	File - SORWUC minutes etc. 1979	1979		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-09	File - Goldenwood	1979-1980		
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-10	File - Local 1 1980	1980		

RBSC-ARC-1855-01-11	File - Local 1 by-laws etc.	1977-1980
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-12	File - Contract committee	1977-1978
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-13	File - SORWUC newsletters	1976-1979
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-14	File - National Bank organizing 1982	1982
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-15	File - Nicole vs. National Bank 1984	1981-1984
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-16	File - BFW meetings 1981	1981-1982
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-17	File - BFW clippings & photos	1977-1986
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-18	File - UBW 1980	1978-1980
RBSC-ARC-1855-01-19	File - UBW 1981	1981
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-01	File - Bankworkers minutes 1984-85	1984-1985
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-02	File - [SORWUC Local 4 files]	1982-1983
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-03	File - Denny's	1973
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-04	File - Injunctions re: Denny's	1973
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-05	File - Corres. - Working Women	1968-1972
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-06	File - History WWA	1969-1997, predominant 1989-1997
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-06-SPC-01	Item - Jean Rands - Everywoman's Health Centre / Sept. 3 1992 - interviewed by Ann Thomson / JEAN'S COPY A + part of B	
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-07	File - Analysis	[1980s?]
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-08	File - AUCE exec. meetings & membership - before certification	1972-1974
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-09	File - AUCE SFU	1974-1975
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-10	File - AUCE affiliation stuff 1980	1979-1980
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-11	File - Union Sisters	1983-1988
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-12	File - Union Sisters	1987-1992
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-13	File - Women in unions	1969-1977
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-14	File - [Union flyers, pamphlets, and articles]	[ca. 1976]-1998
RBSC-ARC-1855-02-15	File - 1960s misc. corres. + etc.	[after Feb. 1969]

RBSC-ARC-1855-02-16	File - 1970s misc. corres. + etc.	1976-1984
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-01	File - CWOC meetings - Jean's notes	1978-1981
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-02	File - Downtown lunch meetings 1986	1985-1986
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-03	File - EPIC	1982-1984
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-04	File - Solidarity campaign misc. leaflets	1975-1985
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-05	File - Laws - out of date	1970s
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-06	File - Bernadette's case April 87	1987
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-07	File - Bill 19 conf.	1987
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-08	File - Sask. Working Women	1972-1987
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-09	File - Correspondence - prairies	1972-1974
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-10	File - Working Women's conf. 1992 + lists	1992
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-11	File - Pensions	1983
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-12	File - Women's movement leaflets	1982
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-13	File - Bank workers' archives	1991-1993
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-14	File - Women's Caucus website	[ca. 2017]
RBSC-ARC-1855-03-15	File - Liz's	1969-1971
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-01	File - [Miscellaneous labour organizing records]	1963-[after 2019], predominant 1970-1982

Speaking and writing

Date: 1977–1987 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series reflects Jean Rands's speaking and writing activities over the course of the 1970s and 80s on topics relating to women and labour activism. Some of the writing in this series was published, including *An Account to Settle: The Story of the United Bank Workers (SORWUC)* and "Toward an Organization of Working Women" in *Women Unite!* The series includes manuscripts, draft articles, solidarity speeches, and published versions of articles.

Physical description: 10 cm of textual records

Publication status:

published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-02	File - UBW history - Jean's notes	1977-1979		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-03	File - Eaton's article	1985		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-04	File - BC fed. women's conf. 1987	1987		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-05	File - Article for Women's Movement in Canada on feminist unions	1980-1982		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-06	File - Women and unions - speeches	1979-1987		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-07	File - WAB + solidarity speeches	1983-1984		

Personal and family files

Date: 1954-2014 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of Jean Rands's personal and family records; it contains diaries and journals; personal correspondence; résumés and job application records; newspaper clippings of her participation in peace demonstrations; a manuscript of a book written by her father Stan Rands, Privilege and Policy, which was published posthumously; and a small number of photographs.

Physical description: 15 cm of textual records
4 photographs

Publication status:

published

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-08	File - Jr. high school	[ca. 1961]-1962		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-08-PH-01	Item - Photograph			
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-09	File - [Journal]	1968-1969		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-10	File - Correspondence - Helen P.	1973-2008		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-11	File - Stan's book	1954-1984		
RBSC-ARC-1855-04-12	File - Number one northern : Poetry from Saskatchewan	1977		

RBSC- ARC-1855-05-01	File - Jean's job hunting	1978-1986
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-02	File - CAP college labour studies	1981
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-03	File - Crossword for Doris 1987? / Burning questions	1987?
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-04	File - Maggie Benston	1991-1993
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-05	File - [Diary]	[ca. 1991]-1998
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-06	File - [Journal]	[ca. 1991]
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-07	File - [Journal]	[after Nov. 2000]
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-08	File - [Miscellaneous personal correspondence]	1976-[2014?], predominant 1976-1995
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-08- PH-02	Item - Photograph	
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-08- PH-03	Item - Photograph	
RBSC- ARC-1855-05-08- PH-04	Item - Photograph	