

Miriam P. Cooney, CSC, Papers 1954-2011, undated

Creator: Miriam P. Cooney, CSC (1925-2020)

Extent: 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

Language: English

Repository: Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago. Please contact WLArchives@luc.edu regarding use.

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: None

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Provenance: Materials were donated to the WLA by Miriam P. Cooney, CSC on January 3, 2012 (WLA2012.01).

Processor: Grace Pekar, February 2012

Processing Information: Finding aid updated May 2025.

Separations: Less than 0.15 linear feet extraneous and duplicate material was removed and discarded.

See Also: BVM records in the Mundelein College Record Collection at the Women and Leadership Archives.

Biographical History

Miriam P. Cooney was born in 1925 in South Bend, Indiana. She obtained her undergraduate degree in mathematics from St. Mary's College in 1953, her graduate degree from Notre Dame University in 1955, and her doctorate degree from University of Chicago in 1969. Sister Miriam started teaching math in 1951 at St. Mary's College and rose to Associate Professor in 1959. From 1971-1972 she served as Associate Chair in the math department at Notre Dame University and Professor/Chair of Saint Mary's College from 1968 to 1991. In 1981 she and Sister Stephanie Sloyan (1918-2007), RSM, embarked on a study of 130 Catholic women—primarily nuns—surveyed about their doctorate degrees and careers in mathematics. This resulted in a Smithsonian Institute project and a published study titled *Directory of Women Religious in Higher Education* in 1986. Her other publications include dissertation "The Non-Solvable Hall Subgroups of the General Linear Group" in 1970, the co-authored article "Recruitment and Retention of Students in Undergraduate Mathematics" in 1990 and *Celebrating Women in Mathematics and Science* in 1996. Sister Miriam passed away on December 16, 2020.

Scope and Content

The materials in this collection consist of 0.5 linear feet (1 box), mostly papers pertaining to the study of religious women in mathematics. These papers span the years 1954 to 2011 and include various correspondences, notes, articles and templates for the project. It is divided into one series with a subseries and is arranged alphabetically.

Series 1: Research, 1981-2000, undated, Box 1

Contains materials relating to Sister Miriam P. Cooney’s project of religious women in mathematics. It featured correspondence about the project, handwritten notes and drafts of documents, directories of religious women in mathematics, templates of documents, biological information on other religious women and grant proposals/speeches about the project.

Series 2: Research: Biographical and Surveys, 1954-2011, undated, Box 1

Contains the surveys from Sister Miriam P. Cooney, CSC and Sister Stephanie Sloyan, RSM to various religious women in mathematics. Attached to some of these surveys are biographical articles, notes, and resumes/CV pertaining to the women.

Subjects:

- Cooney, Miriam P. (1925-2020)
- Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, Ind.)
- Women in Mathematics
- Religious Studies
- Women Studies

| Box | Folder | Title | Dates |
|-----|--------|---|--------------------|
| | | <i>Miriam P. Cooney, CSC, Papers, 1954-2011, undated</i> | |
| | | Series 1: Research, 1981-2000, undated | |
| 1 | 1 | Articles on non-surveyed women | 1983, undated |
| 1 | 2 | Contacts notes and directory drafts #1 | 1982, undated |
| 1 | 3 | Contacts notes and directory drafts #2 | 1984-1995 |
| 1 | 4 | Correspondence: general from Sister Cooney, CSC | 1983-1995 |
| 1 | 5 | Correspondence: research/survey requests from Sr. Cooney, CSC | 1983-1986 |
| 1 | 6 | Correspondence: to Sister Cooney, CSC | 1983-2000, undated |
| 1 | 7 | Correspondence: to & from others | 1984-1985 |
| 1 | 8 | Grant Proposal | 1983 |
| 1 | 9 | Letter Templates | 1983-1986 |
| 1 | 10 | Miscellaneous bibliography | 1982 |
| 1 | 11 | Publication: “Directory of Women Religious in Higher Education” | 1986 |
| 1 | 12 | Survey Templates | 1983, undated |
| 1 | 13 | Speech from Conference | 2000 |
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| Series 2: Research: Surveys, 1954-2011; undated | | | |
|--|----|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 14 | Surveys: A-D | 1978-2000, undated |
| 1 | 15 | Surveys: E-H | 1955-1997, undated |
| 1 | 16 | Surveys: J-Mc | 1983-2011, undated |
| 1 | 17 | Surveys: Mc-R | 1974-1985, undated |
| 1 | 18 | Surveys: S-T | 1983-1998, undated |
| 1 | 19 | Surveys: V-Z | 1954-1983, undated |