Foundation for Ocean Research

Foundation for Ocean Research Records, 1975-1980

Physical Description: 5 record center cartons

Description: The collection consists of the office records of the Foundation for Ocean Research from 1975 to 1980. The material includes office records, financials, legislative monitoring files, correspondence, meetings, and interviews.

Excerpt from “John Dove Isaacs III, 1913-1980” by Richard Seymour and Paul Dayton. IN: Coming of Age: Scripps Institution of Oceanography, A Centennial Volume 1903-2003. Robert L. Fisher, Edward D. Goldberg, and Charles S. Cox, eds. La Jolla, California: Scripps Institution of Oceanography, 2003. pp. 57-63: “John Isaacs was a close friend of a San Diego entrepreneur philanthropist named Robert Peterson. Peterson and a partner created the Foundation for Ocean Research (FOR) mainly to fund Isaacs’ most speculative ideas. Among these was the notion that graduate students freed from the distractions and aggravation of competing for laboratory or field investigation resources and working together in a highly supportive environment would be far more creative than their peers embedded in the Scripps establishment. An off-campus facility was created with shops, laboratories, office space, and support staff. Isaacs met at least once a week with a group of specially selected graduate students who were supported by FOR. Out of this experiment in education came a number of demonstrations of Isaacs’ ideas, including the salinity power concept and the breath heater. Isaacs believed that the concept of attempting to warm scuba divers by heating their suits through various means was wrong, and that most of the heat loss came from breathing cold dry air from their tanks and then exhaling warm moist air at the expense of their body heat. He conceived of the idea of adding a very small amount of hydrogen to the breathing air and then passing it through a platinum catalyst that both warmed it and formed water vapor. It worked spectacularly, was patented, and was licensed by FOR, after Isaacs’ death, to an entrepreneur who saw its much larger potential in medical applications for reducing the stress on patients who breathed cold, dry oxygen. The FOR as incubator provided a rapid means of testing many of John Isaacs’ ideas. He tossed them out around the FOR conference table and a student could decide to work on one of them, occasionally leading to a Ph.D. dissertation. One such was his 1970s idea that the rotational momentum put into the atmosphere by lines of cars passing in opposite directions would increase the incidence of tornadoes in North America (where cars pass on the side proper to induce counterclockwise rotation). This difficult to prove concept was not readily accepted by atmospheric scientists, although the Berkeley physics department scientists took it very seriously when Isaacs presented a lecture there on the subject. In the last years of his life, he expressed some serious disappointment about the FOR experiment. It seemed to him that the students worked on his ideas exclusively, rather than generating their own and that they spent little time thinking about their projects, as opposed to working on them, except under his direct questioning at the weekly seminars. Perhaps the FOR students who most closely met his ideal of creativity and self-motivation were the Vidal brothers. They were Mexican nationals and worked jointly on different aspects of submarine hot springs off Baja California. The brothers discovered thermophilic bacteria that thrived at temperatures above the boiling point of water long before the discovery of the mid-ocean ridge hot springs with their surprising collection of radically different life forms. Without the Isaacs inspiration, FOR gradually disappeared, although the weekly seminar continued for a few years under the guidance of one of his ex-students.”

Isaacs, John Dove: Schwartzlose, Richard A.; Nierenberg, William Aaron; Peterson, Robert O.
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<td>Account for Accountability: January 1979 - March 15, 1979 [1 of 3]</td>
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<td>Account for Accountability: April 1, 1979 [2 of 3]</td>
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<td>A Need to Account for Accountability. Master Draft, February 1979 – April 1979</td>
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<td>Accountability Addresses, 1979</td>
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<td>Feedback &amp; Comments, February 14, 1979 - March 15, 1979 [1 of 2]</td>
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<td>Administrative Accountability in Research - An Unconventional View. Presentation to Southern California Chapter Meeting. Society of Research Administrators, May 8, 1979</td>
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1 Appendix B: Description of Major Federal Requirement Areas

Appendix C: Examples Showing DCAA Audit Agency Approach. Synopsis of Operations Audit Findings

Audit Findings / Problems


Audit Questionnaire - UCLA, April 1978 [1 of 3]

Audit Questionnaire - UCLA, April 1978 [2 of 3]

Audit Questionnaire - UCLA, April 1978 [3 of 3]

Behrman, Daniel. Prophet of an Aquatic Age, August 24, 1989

2 Binkley, Max A., Financial Issues of Federal Research Performed by Universities, October 11, 1977

Binkley, Max A., Universities and Federal Standards for Accountability, November 10, 1978

Bureaucracy, 1978-1979

CCN (Campus Computing Network)

Chen, Francis F., 1979

Chils Act, 1978-1979

Congress - Accountability [January 24, 1979]

Foundation for Ocean Research, Correspondence [December 1, 1982 – July 31, 1987]

DOE Reporting Requirements, 1978

Environment-Ideas, Basic Research, 1978-1980

Environment Papers, 1977-1979

Flaws Paper, 1978

AIR Fy 1985-1986
AIR Fy 1986-1987
AIP Fy 1985-1986, A-B
AIP Fy 1985-1986, C-D
AIP Fy 1985-1986, E-H
AIP Fy 1985-1986, I-L
AIP Fy 1985-1986, M-O
AIP Fy 1985-1986, P-Q
AIP Fy 1985-1986, R-S
AIP Fy 1985-1986, T-Z
AIP Fy 1986-1987, A-B
AIP Fy 1986-1987, C-D
AIP Fy 1986-1987, E-H
AIP Fy 1986-1987, I-L
AIP Fy 1986-1987, M-O
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<td>Employment Development Department [1986-1989]</td>
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Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, December 31, 1986

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, January 31, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, February 28, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, March 31, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, April 30, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, May 31, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, June 30, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, July 31, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, August 31, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, September 30, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, October 31, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, November 30, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, December 31, 1987

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, January 31, 1988

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, February 29, 1988

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, March 31, 1988

Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, April 30, 1988
BOX 3

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Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, May 31, 1988
Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, June 30, 1988
Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, July 31, 1988
Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, August 31, 1988
Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, August 31, 1988
Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, September 30, 1988
Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, October 31, 1988
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Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, December 31, 1988
Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, March 31, 1989
Foundation for Ocean Research Financial Statements, April 30, 1989
Foundation for Ocean Research Inventory, June 1985
Foundation for Ocean Research Inventory, June 1985
Foundation for Ocean Research Inventory, June 1985
Individual Employee Earnings Record
Payroll / Disbursements Journal, 1986
Payroll / Disbursements Journal, 1987
Payroll / Disbursements Journal, 1988
Federal Payroll (Withholding) Information, 1985
Property for Sale (Abalar Way), 1987
Federal Tax Returns, 1985-1988
Income Tax Returns, 1986
Income Tax Returns, 1987
Income Tax Returns, 1988
Tax Forms, 1982-1986
Torrey Pines Federal Credit Union, 1984-1987
W-2 Wage and Tax Statements, 1985-1988

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GAO (General Accounting Office) Study, December 15, 1978
Haskins & Sells, Certified Public Accountants, July 1977
Interview with Mr. Henry G. Kirschenmann, February 6, 1980

Serge Lang [1 of 3]
Serge Lang [2 of 3]
Serge Lang [3 of 3]

Foundation for Ocean Research, Minutes, October 14, 1985 - July 1, 1987
Meeting Minutes, Research Management Task Force, 1979
BOX 4 FOLDER TITLE

Minute Book Membership Register Society for Oceanographic Research

Minutes of Trustees Meetings, July 1975 - April 1977

Minutes of Trustee Meetings, September 29, 1977 - March 12, 1981

Minutes of Trustees Meetings, September 16, 1981 through November 4, 1986

Miscellaneous [1 of 2]

Miscellaneous [2 of 2]


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OMB Circular A-21, 1979-1981

OMB Circular A-88, 1979-1980

Organizational Prior Approval System [n.d.]


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Overhead (Indirect Costs), 1978  
Paperwork Laws, March 1979 - August 1980  

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Personnel Activity Reposting [1 of 3]  
Personnel Activity Reposting [2 of 3]  
Personnel Activity Reposting [3 of 3]  
Research Management Task Force, Miscellaneous  
Research Management Task Group  
Research Management Task Group  
Research Management Task Group  
Dean C. Johnson. [Letter] Rod Rose Award, December 14, 1979  
Victoria J. Fabry - Spiess' Grant, 1985  
M. Sophia Gil-Turner - Spiess' Grant, 1985  
SRA Government Agency Audit Committee, October 2, 1978 - April 6, 1979  
Letter to Wall Street Journal Review & Outlook: Mr. Califano's Mini-Scandals, July 18, 1979