FINDING AID TO
THE GARY FISHER PAPERS,
1948-2000

Purdue University Libraries
Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections
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Processed by: Kristin Leaman, June 27, 2011
Descriptive Summary

Creator Information: Fisher, Gary, 1931-

Title: Gary Fisher papers

Collection Identifier: MSP 84

Date Span: 1948-2000, predominant 1962-1963

Abstract: The Gary Fisher papers (0.5 cubic feet; 1948-2000) contains a notebook of Fisher’s anecdotes including recollections of his colleague Joyce Martin, patient notes pertaining to LSD psychotherapy treatment for children suffering from mental illness, articles and reports, his doctoral thesis, academic transcripts, his curriculum vitae, correspondence, and photographs.

Extent: 0.5 cubic foot (1 mss. box)

Finding Aid Author: Kristin Leaman, 2011

Languages: English

Repository: Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries

Administrative Information

Location Information: ASC

Access Restrictions: Patient files have been redacted to protect the privacy of those individuals. The original patient files are restricted for 75 years from the date they were created, circa 1960s.

Acquisition Information: May 10, 2011; Bess Granby; Donation

Accession Number: 20110510

Preferred Citation: MSP 84, Gary Fisher papers, Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries

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Subjects and Genres

Persons

Fisher, Gary

Topics

Hallucinogens--Therapeutic use
Child Psychology
Psychology
Psychiatry

Form and Genre Types

Articles
Black and white photographs
Color photographs
Manuscript (handwriting)
Notebooks
Research Notes
Transcripts
Vitas (curricula vitae)

Occupations

Psychology
Psychiatry
Child Psychology
Biography of Gary Fisher

Gary Fisher was born in Canada on June 2, 1931. He graduated with his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Utah and received further training from Al Hubbard with the Saskatchewan Group. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Fisher treated children ranging from the ages of four to thirteen who suffered from autism and schizophrenia with LSD and psychotherapy. While not all of his patients showed improvement, several of the children did benefit and showed marked improvement. Fisher also used LSD and psychotherapy to help dying patients. Once LSD was made illegal in 1962, Fisher had to cease his LSD research. He served as an assistant professor in the Division of Behavioral Sciences and Healthy Education in the School of Public Health at UCLA and has published several articles on his LSD research with autistic and schizophrenic children, as well as on his treatment of dying patients. Among his publications are “Some Comments Concerning Dosage Levels of Psychedelic Compound For Psychotherapeutic Experiences,” “Successful Outcome of a Single LSD Treatment in a Chronically Dysfunctional Man,” and “Treatment of Childhood Schizophrenia Utilizing LSD and Psilocybin.” Fisher, now living in southern California, is also an artist who states that his own psychedelic experiences influenced his art.

Sources:


Collection Description

Scope

The Gary Fisher papers (0.5 cubic feet; 1948-2000) contains a notebook of his anecdotes including recollections of his colleague Joyce Martin, patient notes pertaining to the LSD psychotherapy treatments for children suffering from mental illness, articles and reports, his doctoral thesis, academic transcripts, his curriculum vitae, correspondence, and photographs.

Descriptive Rules


Processing Information

All materials have been placed in archival housing. The materials have been organized into the following folders: Academic transcripts & CV, Doctoral Thesis, Correspondence, Notebook, Patient Notes, Photographs, Articles & Reports. Appropriate materials have been redacted in order to protect the privacy of patients. Rusty staples and paper clips were removed for preservation purposes.
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

1 Box, Gary Fisher papers, 1948-2000

Folder
1. Academic transcripts and CV, 1948-1974
3. Correspondence, 1968-1975
4. Notebook of Fisher’s anecdotes, unknown
5. Patient Notes, 1962-1963
6. Patient Notes, 1962-1963
   Photographs of Fisher with patients, 1962
   Photographs of Fisher’s artwork, 2008 (?)
8. Articles and Reports, 1962-1969

  Fisher, Gary (et al). An Investigation to Determine the Therapeutic Effectiveness of LSD-25 and Psilocybin on Hospitalized Severely Emotionally Disturbed Children. circa 1963. (typed manuscript)


Corrected transcript version of Gary Fisher’s tapes by Sylvia Thyssen, MAPS Networks Coordinator. May 22, 1997. (hand-written manuscript)


