

**Guide and Finding Aid for
Clara E. Vanderbilt papers, 1970 - 1987**



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Abstract

Contains the papers of Clara E. Vanderbilt, director of the Physician Assistant Surgical Residency program at Montefiore Medical Center from 1978 to 2000, and the founding president of the New York State Society of Physician Assistants (NYSSPA). Types of materials include correspondence, meeting agenda books, committee materials, minutes, subject files, reports, reprints, pamphlets, photographs, and newsletters. Major subjects include New York State Society of Physician Assistants, American Academy of Physician Assistants, National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, Association of Physician Assistant Programs, certification and recertification of physician assistants, continuing medical education, Medicare reimbursement, legislation and legal affairs, specialty physician assistant programs, and surgical assistants. Materials range in date from 1970 to 1987.

Descriptive Summary

Creator

Vanderbilt, Clara E.

Title

Clara E. Vanderbilt papers, 1970 - 1987

Call Number

PA0003

Extent

6 boxes,
4750 items,
4.75 linear feet

Repository

Physician Assistant History Society
12000 Findley Road
Suite 100
Johns Creek, GA 30097-1409

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

No restrictions.

Copyright Notice

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Clara E. Vanderbilt Papers, Society for Preservation of Physician Assistant History, Johns Creek, GA, USA

Acquisitions Information

Gift to Physician Assistant History Center, October 2000; transferred from Physician Assistant History Center, October 2004 to DUMC Archives; transferred from the DUMC Archives to the PA History Society, Johns Creek, GA, August 2011.

Processing Information

Processed by Mira Waller, January 2005

Encoded by Mira Waller, January 2005

Biographical Note

Clara E. Vanderbilt was born in Hillsborough, N.C. in 1940. She graduated from the Duke University Physician Assistant Program in 1971, and Empire State College in 1982. She was one of the first two physician assistant surgical residents employed in 1971 by Montefiore Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM). Along with Drs. Marvin Gleidman and Richard Rosen, Vanderbilt helped establish the first physician assistant surgical postgraduate program in the country. She was director of the physician assistant surgical residency program at Montefiore Medical Center from 1978 until she retired in 2000. As a member of the AECOM faculty, Ms. Vanderbilt precepted students from over 25 programs, including Duke University's program.

Ms. Vanderbilt is a founding member of the Eugene Stead, Jr. Physician Assistant Student Society, one of the first constituent chapters of the current Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (SAAPA). She served as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) from 1972 to 1975 and was the organization's vice president in 1975. She became the founding president of the New York State Society of Physician Assistants (NYSSPA) in 1975 and was elected the organization's first president in 1976. Ms. Vanderbilt has served on numerous committees of the AAPA and NYSSPA including chair of the NYSSPA's Ethics and Judicial Affairs Committee. She was one of the first PAs appointed to the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA), serving from 1977 to 1983, and was twice elected president of the Association of Postgraduate Physician Assistant Programs.

Among her many awards and certificates of appreciation, Vanderbilt was awarded the AAPA presidential award in 1983 and the 20th anniversary award in 1988. She received the distinguished alumnus award from the Duke University Physician Assistant Program in 2000. The NYSSPA presidential award banquet was named in her honor in 2000.

Collection Overview

Organized into the following series: New York State Society of Physician Assistants, 1976-1987; American Academy of Physician Assistants, 1972-1987; National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, 1978-1983; Montefiore Medical Center, 1971-1987; Association of Physician Assistant Programs, 1973-1987; Subject Files, 1970-1981.

Arrangement Note

The ordering system of these records was changed substantially from their original order during initial processing. Subsequent processing retained the imposed ordering scheme for consistency.

Online Catalog Headings

These and related materials may be found under the following headings in online catalogs.

Education, medical.
Physician Assistants--history.
New York State Society of Physician Assistants.
American Academy of Physician Assistants.
National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.
Medicare.
Association of Physician Assistant Programs.
Physician Assistants--legislation & jurisprudence.
Montefiore Medical Center.

Collection Series

- **New York State Society of Physician Assistants (NYSSPA), 1976-1987**
- **American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA), 1972-1987**
- **National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA), 1973-1983**
- **Montefiore Medical Center, 1971-1987**
- **Association of Physician Assistant Programs (APAP), 1973-1987**
- **Subject Files, 1970-1981**

Detailed Description of the Collection

New York State Society of Physician Assistants (NYSSPA), 1976-1987

Contains Board of Directors meeting agenda books, correspondence, memorandums, minutes, pamphlets, by-laws, committee materials, newsletters, surveys, financial statements, and photographs pertaining to activities of the NYSSPA, of which Clara Vanderbilt was a founding member and president. Major subjects include recertification and continuing medical education.

Box 1

Annual Meeting

1976

1978

Board of Directors meeting agenda books
June 1976
December 1976
February 1977
May 1977
August 1977
August 1978
1978
March 1979
November 1979
August 1979
February 1980
July 1980
February 1981
August 1981
Board of Directors seats, declarations to file, May 1976
Bylaws
Committee appointments, February 1979
Conferences, 1987
Correspondence
1976-1977
1978-1980
Elections and meetings, 1977
General information
House of Delegates, 1978
Judicial Affairs Committee, 1979-1980
Lists and correspondence, 1980
Newsletters, 1976-1980
New York State Board of Regents, 1976-1980
Stationary

American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA), 1972-1987

Contains correspondence, Board of Directors meeting agenda books, committee reports, pamphlets, curricula vitae, financial statements, and other materials pertaining to the activities of the AAPA, of which Clara Vanderbilt was a member of the executive board. Major subjects include the American College of Physician's Assistants merger with the American Academy of Physician Assistants, increasing member dues, and certification and recertification of physician assistants.

Board of Directors meeting agenda books
Washington, D.C., November 1972
St. Louis, Mo., June 1973

Arlington, Va., October 1977
Boston, Mass., January 1978
St. Louis, Mo., May 1978
Las Vegas, Nev., April 1978
Arlington, Va., January 1979
Hollywood, Fla., April 1979
Box 2
Arlington, Va., June 1979
Arlington, Va., September 1979
New Orleans, La., May 1980
Arlington, Va., October 1980
San Diego, Calif., April 1981
Arlington, Va., June 1981
Alexandria, Va., September 1981
Arlington, Va., September 1982
Board of Directors meeting minutes, 1974
Committee Chairman and Board of Directors, 1980-1984
Committees, lists, and directories
Correspondence
1972-1974
1976-1980 (bulk 1976)
Dues increase, 1978-1979
House of Delegates
First annual meeting, 1976-1978
Fourth annual meeting handbook, 1980
Nominations, executive committee, 1981
Policy
1976-1981 (bulk 1980-1981)
1982-1983
Postgraduate Physician Assistant Program Seminar, 1987
President contacts in unchartered states, 1980
Professional Certification Committee
1978-1981
1982-1983
Box 3
Proposals
Standing Committees, Committee Chairman handbook, 1981-1982
Surgeons Assistant
Surgical Council, 1975-1978

National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA), 1973-1983

Contains correspondence, memoranda, Board of Directors meeting agenda books, historical information, pamphlets, and newsletters pertaining to the activities of the NCCPA, of which Clara Vanderbilt was a liaison member. Major subjects include certification and recertification of physician assistants, certification of surgeon assistants, and continuing medical education.

By-laws

Board of Directors lists, circa 1979-1981

Board of Directors meeting books

Las Vegas, Nev., April 1978

New Orleans, La., October 1978

Hollywood, Fla., April 1979

Atlanta, Ga., October 1979

New Orleans, La., May 1980

Atlanta, Ga., October 1980

San Diego, Calif., April 1981

Atlanta, Ga., December 1981

Washington, D.C., June 1982

Atlanta, Ga., December 1982

St. Louis, Mo., June 1983

New Orleans, La., November 1983

Committees

Executive Committee meeting, September 1981

Correspondence, 1973-1981 (bulk 1978-1980)

Finances, 1977-1981

General

History and description, 1979

Newsletters, 1975-1976

Box 4

Recertification, 1980-1981

Specialty Physician Assistant Committee, 1975-1977

Surgeons Assistant, 1979

Montefiore Medical Center, 1971-1987

Correspondence

1971-1976 (bulk 1972-1974)

1977-1980 (bulk 1978)

Calvin Spinner, 1981-1987 (bulk 1986-1987)

Touro physician assistant students, 1986-1987

Association of Physician Assistant Programs (APAP), 1973-1987

Contains committee materials, minutes, and correspondence pertaining to the APAP. Major subjects include post-graduate and specialty physician assistant education.

Biweekly report, May 1977 - July 1977
Executive Committee, December 20, 1973
Midyear meeting, 1986-1987
Postgraduate Subcommittee, 1986-1987

Subject Files, 1970-1981

Contains correspondence, reports, reprints, grant materials, committee notes, newsletters, clippings, and legislative materials pertaining to physician assistants, and specialty physician assistants such as surgeons' assistants.

AAPA, APAP, NCCPA Liaison Committee, 1976-1981
Advisory council on physician assistants, 1970-1979
American Association of Surgeons Assistants, 1977-1978 (bulk 1977)
American Medical Association, 1973-1977 (bulk 1973)
American Medical Association and American College of Surgeons physician assistant essentials, circa 1971-1974
American Nurses Association, nurse descriptions
Conference materials, 1980-1981
Grant proposal for surgeons assistant study, October 1979
Health and Hospital Corporation, New York City, 1970-1977
Health Care Research Center, Portland, Oregon
Hospital Association of New York State, 1971-1980 (bulk 1980)
Legislation
California, 1973
New York State
Marvin Stamm, regulation proposals,
Professional Conduct, 1976-1979
Representative and Senators, circa 1977
North Carolina, 1970-1976
Medical Orders, 1972-1985
Medicare S.1640, reimbursement for physician assistant services, 1972-1988 (bulk 1985-1986)
Memos and job descriptions, 1971-1981
National Relations Labor Board, 1976-1977
National survey of surgical departments, summary statistics, 1979-1980
New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants, 1978-1979
New York State
Governor's Advisory Council, 1976-1979
Nurses Association, 1972-1979
Program Council, 1975-1978 (bulk 1975)
Pennsylvania Society of Surgeons Assistants, by-laws
Box 5
Physician assistant profession, what you should know

Physician assistant statistical studies

1970-1972

1979-1981

Reports

Stanhope Study, physician assistant study, 1977

Stead Student Society

Surgeons assistant

Box 6

Surgeons assistant certification, 1981

Veterans Administration Hospital guidelines, 1969-1971

Yale Surgical Residency program, 1979-1980