

**Guide and Finding Aid for
Ruth Ballweg Papers, 1972-2018
Bulk 1990-1995**



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Abstract

Contains the papers of Ruth Ballweg, MPA, PA-C. She is a professor and a former director of the MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant Division in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine. She has been an acknowledged leader within the PA profession serving as an educator and professional consultant for more than three decades. Types of materials include personal papers, minutes of organizational planning minutes, photographs and correspondence. Materials range in date from 1972 to 2010 with bulk from 1990 to 1995.

Descriptive Summary

Title

Ruth Ballweg papers, 1972-2010

Creator

Ballweg, Ruth

Extent

3 boxes,
3 linear feet

Repository

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

Call Number

AC2015-12

Information for Users

Access Restrictions

No Restrictions.

Usage Restrictions

Copyright for the Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History records is held by the Society; all other copyright is retained by the authors of items in these papers, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Ruth Ballweg papers, Society for Preservation of Physician Assistant History, Johns Creek, GA, USA

Acquisitions Information

Gift;

Processing Information

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Biographical/Historical Note

Ruth Ballweg is a former Professor and Director of the MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant Division in the Department of Family Medicine at the University Of Washington School Of Medicine. She has been an acknowledged leader within the PA profession for more than two decades. She has served as President of the Washington Academy of Physician Assistants, and of PAEA. She has been a Commissioner of the NCCPA, and was an inaugural member of the Board of the NCCPA Foundation. She has twice been elected President of the Physician Assistant History Society and currently serves as its Historian.

A graduate of the MEDEX program, Ms. Ballweg joined the MEDEX faculty in 1981, and became its Director four years later. She oversaw its growth from a 20-student certificate program to a 110-student baccalaureate/master's degree program with multiple training sites serving five rural states in the Pacific Northwest. As an authority on primary care workforce issues she has consulted with the PEW Health Professions Commission, the National Health Service Corps, and HRSA's Title VII Advisory Committee. Widely published, she is the lead Editor of *Physician Assistant: A Guide to Clinical Practice*, the first textbook written for PA students, now in its 5th edition.

Ballweg has been notably active in the international development of the PA concept, working with governments and universities in South Africa, Australia, Canada, and Ghana, among others.

Ms. Ballweg was honored by the AAPA for lifetime work in 2012 with the Eugene A. Stead, Jr. Award of Achievement. She received a similar award from the PAEA in 2015.

Collection Overview

This collection contains papers, correspondence, photographs and organizational planning records relating to Ruth Ballweg's career as an educator and leader of various organizations that she served with for over 30 years. Organized into the following series: Subject Files, Correspondence, Photographs, and Artifacts.

Online Catalog Headings

Physician Assistants -- USA.
Physician Assistants -- History.
Physician Assistants--Education--United States
University of Washington
MEDEX
Ruth Ballweg

Collection Series

- **Subject Files, 1972-2016**
- **Correspondence, 1989-2011**
- **Photographs**
- **Artifacts**

Detailed Description of the Collection

Personal Papers

This collection contains organizational records describing the activities of various committees and task groups on which Miss Ballweg served: information about various PA educational programs in the early 1990s, manuscripts describing legislative initiatives, correspondence, pamphlets and class photographs that span Miss Ballweg's professional career as an educator and national leader within the PA profession.

Series One: Subject Files, 1972-1999

Association of PA Programs

Issues holding Accreditation (~1997)

Futures Project (1986-88)

ARC Transfer (1991)

Program Assistance and Technical Help

PATH (1994-95)

PATH Development (1994)

PATH Administrator Workshop (1999)

PATH Reports/Activities (1996)

Documents (1998-99)

New Program Workshop (1992)

Migrant Health Fellowship (1989-90)

AAPA/APAP Task Force on Recruitment and Retention (1990)

External Affairs Committee (1992)

Minority Affairs (1989-90)

Public Education Committee (1983-84)

Governmental Affairs Committee (1986)

APAP-AAPA Contract (1989-90)

Strategic Planning (1990)

NCCPA Liaison (1989-90)

New York Issues (1990)

Surveys (1982-84)

Goals and Priorities Committee (1975-76)

Documents on Recertification (1985)

American Academy of Physician Assistants

Long Range Planning Meeting (1990)

Government Affairs Group (1996-97)

Health Reform Briefs (1993-94)

LA Emergency Medicine Residency Program USC PA Emergency Medicine Residency
Class Photographs, (1981-1993)

Reimbursement

Federal (1977)

WAPA (1993)

Federal Waivers (1992)

State Law Evaluation (1993)

NHSC "Dream Team" (1995)

NHSC White Paper (1990-91)

Federal Commissioning (1989-90)

National Health Service Corps (1990)

Licensing/Credentialing (1993)

Certification/Recertification (1992-94)

VA/PA Task Group (1999)

New Programs

Alabama (1990)

Arizona (1992-95)

California (1990)

Colorado (1990)

Connecticut (1990-92)

Florida (1990-96)

Hawaii (1992-95)

Idaho (1994)

Pennsylvania (1992)

Ohio (1992)

South Carolina (1991)

South Dakota (1990)

Tennessee (1990)

Texas (1990)

Washington (1992)

Minnesota (1991)

Missouri (1990)

New York (1990-91)

New Mexico (1993)

MEDEX

AMA News Release 1972

MEDEX RWJ Grant (1975-78)

Legislative Writings (1972)

NCCPA Research Proposal RWJ (1976)

International PA Programs, Outreach

Zurich, Switzerland, 2000

The Netherlands, 2003

Laos, 2006

Ghana, 2007

Netherlands PA Program Brochures, Undated

Canadian PAs, 2016 [Digital]

UK, 2018 [Digital]

Series Two: Correspondence

APAP (1989-90)

Bruce Fichandler (1989-90)
Ballweg APAP President Correspondence (1990)
William Marquardt to AMA (1993)
WB Saunders/Elsevier (1994-2004)
Jones and Bartlett (2008-2010)
PA History Society President Ballweg, 2009-2011 [Digital]
Richard "Dick" Smith, 2002 [Digital]

Series Three: Photographs, 1979-2017

Ruth Ballweg Headshot, circa 1980
Ruth Ballweg 001-002, 2006
Ruth Ballweg Portrait, 2008
Ruth Ballweg Presentation of Books to University of Washington 001-003, 2016
Ruth Ballweg in Front of First Practice, 1979
Dick Smith Memorial Photographs [Digital]

Box 3

Series Four: Artifacts

Plaque entitled "In Appreciation for your Efforts and Contributions to the Washington Academy of Physician Assistants, 1985 October

Crystal Award for Long Outstanding Service and Leadership to the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, 2002-2008

Service Award for being a Founding Board Member of the NCCPA Foundation

Plaque for Significant Contributions to the National Advisory Council on the National Health Service Corps, 1993-1996

Upjohn APAP President's Award, 1990-1991

Gavel for being WAPA President, 1994-1995

Plaque for being a member and vice chair for the Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry, 1999-2003

Plaque from MCPHA Boston School of Physician Assistant Studies, 2012 October 11

T-shirt for MEDEX Tacoma First Class PAs

Program bag, program, and badge for the Nederlandse Associatie Physician Assistants Conference, 2014

Ruth Ballweg's MEDEX Physician's Assistant First Practice Sign, c.1979