

Russell, Dorsye E., papers

Dorsye E. Russell papers

1942 -1987

Title Statement

Russell, Dorsye E., papersA Guide to the Papers of Dorsye E. Russell 2001.Nov.16

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

2001.Nov.16

Unit ID

/repositories/3/resources/339

Unit Date

1942 -1987

Language

English

Extent

2.9 Linear Feet

Repository

VCU Health Sciences Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Donated to the Tompkins-McCaw Library

Preferred Citation

Dorsye E. Russell Collection, Accession #2001/Nov/16, Special Collections and Archives, Health Sciences Library, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va.

Biographical/Historical Information

Dorsye Russell was known as a pioneer in Virginia nursing. At a time when women were not expected to continue their education past a bachelor's degree, Russell earned her master's making her one of the most educated nurses in Virginia. Russell has the distinction of being the only woman to have been the president of three major nursing organizations within Virginia; The Virginia Nurses' Association, Virginia League for Nursing, and the Virginia Organization of Nurse Executives.

Russell was heavily involved with the Medical College of Virginia Foundation and the Nursing Division of the MCV Alumni Association. She was a teacher and administrator and her legacy is one of service to the institutions she served. She was an assistant professor in nursing at MCV as well as at Patrick Henry Community College where she established their nurse training curriculum. She was director of nursing at several Virginia hospitals including Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, Kings Daughter's Hospital in Staunton, and Lynchburg General Hospital in Lynchburg. She was appointed to the Governor's Committee on Nursing by Governor Mills Godwin in 1966. This Committee provided an accurate view of the challenges and needs of the nursing profession in Virginia at a time when it was most needed. From 1965 to 1975, Russell served on the State Board of Nursing.

Russell was also instrumental in establishing the Dorsye E. Russell Leadership Fund at MCV's School of Nursing in 1996. This endowment was envisioned to provide the needed funding for a course in professional organizational leadership and to make MCV a "flagship school" in Virginia. It is also intended to provide the skills needed for leadership within nursing associations.

Russell received many awards during her professional career, but the two most important were the Nancy Vance Award, the highest award given by the Virginia Nurses' Association in 1982, and just after her death, she was honored as one of the 50 pioneering nurses in Virginia. Though she never married and had no children, her legacy lives on in the organization she helped to build and the profession in which she worked. Russell is buried in Richmond's Hollywood cemetery. Her obituary can be found in the Fredericksburg Press Lance-Star.

03 Dec 1919: Born in Richmond, Virginia.

1938-1940: Attended College of William and Mary.

1943: Graduated, Medical College of Virginia. (BS, Nursing)

1945-1949: Faculty, Assistant Professor of Nursing, St. Philip School of Nursing, Medical College of Virginia.

1951: Graduated, Columbia University. (MA. Nursing Administration)

1956-1958: President of the Virginia League of Nursing.

1965-1970: Served as a Member of the Virginia State Board of Nursing.

1966-1970: President of the Virginia Nurses' Association.

1966-1969: Member of the Governor's Committee on Nursing (Virginia)

1970-1971: Asst. Professor of Nursing at Patrick Henry Comm. College.

1970-1975: Served as a Member of the Virginia State Board of Nursing.

1982: Awarded the Nancy Vance Award by the Virginia Nurses' Association.

1984: Awarded the Outstanding Nursing Alumni Award by the MCV Alumni Association.

05 Apr 2000: Died in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

03 May 2000: Honored as a Virginia Pioneering Nurse by the Virginia Nurses' Association.

Scope and Content

This collection contains correspondence, meeting minutes, reports, essays and published materials dating from 1942 to 1987, with the bulk of material dated from 1968 - 1973. This material deals mainly with Russell's work with the Virginia Nursing Association in which she served as an officer and later President. Missing from the collection are things related to Russell's personal affairs.

Keywords

Nurses -- Virginia.
Russell, Dorsye E.
Virginia Commonwealth University. School of Nursing
Virginia Nurses' Association

Arrangement

Records are arranged in chronological order.

Description of Subordinate Components

Virginia Nurses' Association (VNA)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4627

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Papers collected during the tenure of Mrs. Russell as President and Mrs. Evans when they worked as officers for the VNA.

Bylaws and bylaw amendments.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4635

Unit Date 1967 - 1975

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder includes the bylaws and amendments to the bylaws proposed to the Committee on Program.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4636

Unit Date 1961-1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains minutes and correspondence regarding the Executive Committee.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Board of Directors.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4637

Unit Date 1960-1964

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains minutes and correspondence regarding the Board of Directors.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Board of Directors.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4638

Unit Date 1965-1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains minutes and correspondence regarding the Board of Directors.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Financial Reports.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4639

Unit Date 1963-1974

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains the Financial Reports including Cash on Deposit, General and Special Fund Receipts and Disbursements.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Financial Committee.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4640

Unit Date 1969-1974

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains minutes of the Financial Committee, reimbursement policies, meeting summaries, and other correspondence dealing with the activities of the Committee.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Financial Committee

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4641

Unit Date 1969-1974

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder includes anticipated income and budgets for 1973, 1974 as well as a CPA financial examination dated Dec. 31, 1973. Also included is an assessment for property owned by the Association.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Agnes D. Randolph Fund

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4642

Unit Date 1967-1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder includes a scholarship review of the fund designed to assist nurses in Tuberculosis sanitariums. It was discontinued as the number of cases dropped.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; McLeod-Smith-Montgomery Fund.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4643

Unit Date 1970-1973

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder includes a scholarship review of the fund designed to provide financial assistance to nursing students. Also included are the minutes of the committee and a copy of House bill H. R. 910 which provides for scholarships for nursing education.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Student Nurses' Association of Virginia

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4644

Unit Date 1969-1970

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder includes correspondence, meeting minutes, certification information as well as drafts of Student Nursing Association bylaws.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Committee of Convention Program.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4645

Unit Date 1970-1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains agendas, meeting notes, workshop plans and other correspondence regarding the 1970 Convention held at the Golden Triangle Motor Hotel, Norfolk, VA.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Advisory Council, Nurses' Professional Registries, VNA-VLN Coordinating Committee, Committee on Long and Short Term Goals, Committee on Professional Nursing Practice, Committee on Membership and Public Relations.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4646

Unit Date 1971-1973

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder consists of documentation of several committees of the Virginia Nurses' Association.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Districts Presidents Correspondence.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4647

Unit Date 1966-1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains minutes of quarterly meetings as well as letters to the District Presidents from the Executive Director or Executive Secretary.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Committee on Legislation.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4648

Unit Date 1969-1970

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains minutes of the committee meetings as well as information concerning pending legislation wanted by the VNA.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Committee on Economic and General Welfare.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4649

Unit Date 1969-1970

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder consists of minutes of the Committee of Economic and General Welfare.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; General documents sorted by type

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4650

Unit Date 1971-1973, 1987

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains reports, letters, charts, and several organizational goals.

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Committee Members Lists

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4651

Unit Date 1966, 1969

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Documentation of the Virginia Nurses' Association; Letters from other State Nursing Groups and Companies

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4652

Unit Date 1970-1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Newsletters of the Virginia Nurses' Association

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4653

Unit Date 1950, 1970-1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

The Non's Psalm

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4674

Unit Date 1950

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Article by Edward P. McCright

Up Ante

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4675

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Article by the American Hospital Association

Nursing Today

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4676

Unit Date Sep. 1969

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Editorial by Sadie Barton Snellings, in VNA News.

VNA News

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4677

Unit Date May, 1970

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Vol. 1, No. 6

VNA News

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4678

Unit Date Feb. 1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Vol. 2, No. 3

VNA News

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4679

Unit Date Apr. 1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Special Edition

VNA Newsletter to District Presidents

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4680

Unit Date Apr. 1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

VNA Legislative Alert

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4681

Unit Date Apr. 1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

VNA News

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4682

Unit Date Aug. 1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Vol. 3, No. 1

Bedside Nurse

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4683

Unit Date May 1971

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent Washington News

Booklets of the Virginia Nurses' Association.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4654

Unit Date 1965-1967, 1972

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Extent This folder contains dinner programs and Annual Joint Meeting programs from the Virginia Nurses' Association and the Student Nurses' Association of Virginia.

Personal papers of Luna Thomas Evans.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4628

Mixed Materials 2 (box)

Personal papers of Luna Thomas Evans.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4655

Mixed Materials 2 (box)

Extent This folder contains letters regarding business with and membership paperwork for Evans in the VNA.

Personal papers of Luna Thomas Evans.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4656

Mixed Materials 2 (box)

Extent This folder contains letters and paperwork involving the Equal Rights Amendment.

Correspondence related to her duties as an officer in the Virginia Nurses' Association.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4657

Mixed Materials 2 (box)

Extent This folder contains letters from Thelma L. Bishop, Barbara T. Walker, Kenneth L. Rinker, Richard Cowling, and Beverly T. Boyd.

Clippings from various newspapers. Arranged by Date.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4629

Mixed Materials 3 (box)

Extent Clippings on nursing and finances.

Papers and articles involving Practical Nursing.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4630

Mixed Materials 4 (box)

Articles from The American Journal of Nursing .

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4658

Unit Date 1942-1949

Mixed Materials 4 (box)

Extent This folder contains articles concerning practical nursing and training.

Articles and papers from several different publications.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4659

Unit Date 1940-1950

Mixed Materials 4 (box)

Extent This folder includes articles and papers on practical nursing and training.

American Nursing Association's Practical Nursing education and training.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4660

Unit Date 1946-1972

Mixed Materials 4 (box)

Extent This folder includes training guidelines; course outlines all dealing with defining a curriculum for practical nursing.

Practical nursing extras.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4661

Unit Date 1949-1950

Mixed Materials 4 (box)

Extent This folder contains a poster depicting many newspapers clippings regarding practical nursing as well as a list of articles on the subject as well.

The American Nurses' Association (ANA)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4631

Mixed Materials 5 (box)

Extent These papers were collected over the years during which Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Evans served as board members of the American Nurse's Association.

Statements, Master Plans and Summaries.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4662

Unit Date 1949-1950, 1972

Mixed Materials 5 (box)

American Nurses' Association Information.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4663

Unit Date 1961, 1968

Mixed Materials 5 (box)

Extent This folder contains paperwork and the information packet given to new members of the ANA

Leadership and Supervisory training guides and suggestions.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4632

Mixed Materials 6 (box)

Addresses and how-to guides for training, teaching leaders and supervisors how to be better managers of time and personnel.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4664

Unit Date 1948-1955

Mixed Materials 6 (box)

Leadership guides and training worksheets.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4665

Mixed Materials 6 (box)

Papers Presented at the Annual Nursing Lectureship, MCV School of Nursing.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4633

Unit Date 1967-1969

Mixed Materials 7 (box)

Extent This folder contains a booklet with the first two papers given at this annual event as well as a copy of the third.

Issues in Nursing

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4666

Mixed Materials 7 (box)

Extent Written by Jo Eleanor Elliot

A Historian's View on the Future of Nursing

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4667

Mixed Materials 7 (box)

Extent Written by Dr. Helen Nahm.

Nursing Education- Nursing Service Where Do They Meet?

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4668

Mixed Materials 7 (box)

Extent Written by Luther Christmas, PhD, RN.

Awards and Artifacts

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4634

Physical Location Not included with the collection. Stored with other memorabilia.

Paperweight: green marble with a clock.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4669

Extent Inscription: "Sustained Distinguished Membership. Sadie Health Cabaniss Society. VCU/MCV School of Nursing."

Physical Location Memorabilia collection

Paperweight: Acrylic.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4670

Extent Inscription: "Sadie Heath Cabaniss Society. VCU/MCV School of Nursing."

Physical Location Memorabilia Collection

Ceremonial Urn: Pewter.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4671

Extent Inscription: "Cabaniss Society, 1995" and "VCU/MCV"

Physical Location Memorabilia Collection

Metal bookmark: gold toned.

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4672

Extent Inscription: "Celebrating 50 Years of Service. MCV Foundation 1949-1999".

Physical Location Memorabilia Collection

Miniature picture

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/4673

Extent Inscription, "MCVAA Board of Trustees. April 22, 1994."

Physical Location Memorabilia Collection