

Barbara Stuhler

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Interview with Barbara Stuhler

**Interviewed by Professor Clarke A. Chambers
University of Minnesota**

**Interviewed on August 25, 1994
at the Home of Barbara Stuhler in St. Paul, Minnesota**

Barbara Stuhler - BS
Clarke A. Chambers - CAC

CAC: This is Clarke Chambers. This morning, August 25, 1994, I am interviewing Barbara Stuhler who was, for forty years, 1950 to 1990, a member of the faculty of the University of Minnesota and occupied many interesting positions there. The interview is being conducted in her home in St. Paul on the bluffs overlooking the river and the city.

Barbara, I find that it is very useful to start out with just a brief autobiography of where people came from, how you got interested in political science, how you happened to come to the University of Minnesota, what you found when you got here, etcetera.

BS: I grew up in Evanston, Illinois. I went to college at what was then a women's college, now co-educational, called MacMurray, which was founded in 1848 as the Illinois Female Seminary. Its purpose was to make good wives for Methodist ministers. [laughter]

CAC: [laughter]

BS: By the time I arrived, the name had changed and so had the mission. It was, essentially, a liberal arts college for women, one of then three in the Middle West . . . the other two being Rockford College in Illinois and Milwaukee Downer in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I was a freshman in zoology class and we had a wonderful teacher. I didn't have a scientific bent, but I had to get the science requirement out of the way; so, there I was and it was the fall of 1941. The lecture class met on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at eight o'clock in the morning and almost every class period, Dr. Walters would open not with a discussion of zoology but what was going on in the world. She would say indignantly to us, "This is a tremendously important period in world history, and you're living in it, and you have to know what's going on. There are papers in each of the dormitories and I want you to read those newspapers. I want you to turn on the radio.

Inform yourselves because your lives are going to be affected by the events that are happening today." She was a very forceful personality and I took it seriously.

CAC: Do you think many other of your classmates did?

BS: Yes, some who were close friends. I was in a group that became interested in that. I must say, parenthetically, that I'd sort of drifted my way through high school; but, I had the good fortune when I got to college to pick up with some friends who were really interested in studying and the academic world. So, I got into that habit.

CAC: Was the staff mostly female?

BS: Yes, but I did have a number of male professors, one of whom I'll get to in a moment, who influenced me greatly. The only newspaper I'd ever seen was the *Chicago Tribune* and, suddenly, I was introduced to the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*. [laughter]

CAC: Oh, my.

BS: I became interested. I majored in sociology and had a wonderful woman professor, a New Englander. I think you'd describe her as a bluestocking probably. She was the head of the department and I learned a great deal from her and, indeed, in time became her assistant. But then, in my senior year—that's 1944-1945; it was when [Franklin D.] Roosevelt was running for the fourth time around—suddenly, I found myself the head of the Roosevelt forces in this seabed of Republican girls. I was always sort of called upon to talk about the campaign, and make a pitch for Roosevelt, and so on. That was sort of my first introduction into politics. I remember that fall my mother, and my father, and my aunt, and my uncle, all four of them solid Republicans, came down to visit me and I forgot, when I ran out to the car to greet them, that I had my Roosevelt button on my lapel. My uncle took one look and said, "Let's get back in the car and go home." [laughter]

CAC: I was the first Democrat in my family for ninety years.

BS: Really?

CAC: Yes, the same thing.

BS: Exactly. The next important thing that happened to me was . . . This is the male professor. His name was Dr. William Hendrickson and he was a professor of history. They really didn't have a political science department, but they had history that impinged on economics, and sociology, and so on. I took a lot of history courses from him and I took an independent study course in constitutional law from him. He recruited me to go around and speak to the clubs and organizations in Jacksonville, Illinois, about this new United Nations [UN] that was being talked about. I was to talk about the League of Nations and give that sort of background and, then, he

would pick up and deal with the proposals that were being made, the discussions that were going on concerning the formation of this new United Nations. We went to the Elks Clubs, and the AAUW [American Association of University Women], and all the organizations in Jacksonville. That was a great learning experience for me. I've always treasured that and remembered it. Dr. Hendrickson, incidentally, wrote the history of MacMurray College that came out in probably the 1950s, maybe early 1960s. He advised me to go to law school. That really bewildered me because there weren't women who were lawyers. I thought about three years of study and I thought I was really ready for something else. I said that I really didn't think so. Then, he said, "Why don't you apply to a school of public administration?" I said, "What exactly is public administration?" He gave me a little lecture. I applied a number of places, including the University of Minnesota. It was the University of Minnesota, to be crass, which offered me the most generous kind of research assistantship and other perks [perquisites], as it were.

CAC: That's how you got here. Before we get to Minnesota—we will very soon—it's so often said that to have been part of an all women's college provided this kind of opportunity for initiative, and field learning, and practical experience that a coed school would not. Reflecting back on that, would you think that was the case in your instance?

BS: Oh, very definitely because I was thrust in some positions of leadership that I'm sure would never have come my way had it not been for the fact that it was an all women's college. When I was in grade school, I was well-known as an athlete and I played on the boys' baseball team.

CAC: Heavens.

BS: But, when I got to junior high and high school, I hid that because it wasn't the thing . . .

CAC: And there was no opportunity for girls' athletics?

BS: There were opportunities and from physical education classes, the teachers tried to get me to go out for these teams and I always declined.

CAC: For that reason?

BS: For that reason. Girls, to be popular, had to have other attributes.

CAC: Obviously, you were smart, also, and that was another strike against you.

BS: [laughter] As I said, I sort of drifted through high school but I did a lot of reading. My mother had been a school teacher. She taught me. She had a great deal of influence in interesting me in books and I was an only child. I soon discovered that the library was my best friend.

CAC: Good.

BS: When I didn't have anything else to do, I'd walk over to a branch library in Evanston. Sometimes, I'd take the bus and go to the main library and sort of spend the day; so, I did a lot of reading. I know my high school teachers were surprised parents' day when my mother would say that Barbara is reading thus and so, and thus and so. She is? It just never got communicated in the classroom. When I got to MacMurray, the dean of the college called me in—we'd taken all of these tests—and he explained very carefully to me that my aptitude exceeded my performance and he would expect better of me at MacMurray. [laughter]

CAC: Bravo.

BS: That was another incentive that I had.

CAC: I'm just going to say one other thing. Sometimes, it's a conversation not a regular interview.

BS: Of course.

CAC: I've interviewed a large number of people and, almost without exception, voluntarily, they have brought forth a teacher or two that really steered them toward the academy eventually. Frequently, it was the kinds of persons you're talking about here that gave responsibility to a student to learn. How important that is. I'm glad to see it in your case.

BS: Yes. Back to the University of Minnesota?

CAC: Right.

BS: I came up here to do graduate work. I was very apprehensive about whether or not a small women's college in Illinois would prepare me adequately for graduate work at a large public institution.

CAC: Sure.

BS: But, it turned out okay and I struggled through. I remember vividly the faculty members. I remember Lloyd Short, who was head of the School of Public Administration and a very nice gentleman. He did a lot to shape my career in the course of my life. I remember William Anderson from whom I took . . .

CAC: Ohhh.

BS: . . . many classes. One time, he caught me, on a beautiful day like this, staring out the window in a classroom in Burton Hall. He asked . . . it was a class on constitutional law so I felt sort of comfortable because I'd taken this independent study course. I heard about the last word and "Barbara?" I didn't know what the question was and I was too embarrassed to ask.

He said, "The answer is the 'Interstate commerce clause.'" I learned the answer without knowing the question. [laughter]

CAC: [laughter] There were no women on the faculty in Public Affairs, I'm guessing, at that time?

BS: No, there were not.

CAC: Did you find that a difficult adjustment to make as a young woman?

BS: No, not particularly. There was one woman. Myrtle Ecklund was the librarian for the School of Public Affairs and she was sort of a mother hen with the women in the program.

CAC: There were women in the program?

BS: Partly because this was in the aftermath of World War II. This is 1945, 1946. The men were just coming back. There were a lot who had to finish undergraduate school before they could go . . . The participants in that class were many women and some older men because the school encouraged people to come back in mid careers. We did have, for example, a man who was the minister of the First Baptist church, that big church in downtown Minneapolis. We had an older woman—she was probably forty—who was head, I think, of what we might now call human services in North Dakota. We did have this middle group of people who had had some experience and were returning for an advanced degree. I also remember vividly Asher Christianson.

CAC: Oh, my. So many do, yes.

BS: What a dynamic teacher he was. He and his wife opened their home to us. We played baseball and they sang all of the songs from the two Englishman who did *Pinafore* and all of those, Gilbert and Sullivan. They knew every song Gilbert and Sullivan ever wrote. They were just wonderful. They entertained us. We had wonderful times.

CAC: Asher opened himself to me, as a junior faculty member, when I came in 1950. He was just a very generous, hospitable person, right?

BS: Yes.

CAC: How important that is in learning. That's a nice story.

BS: He was always kind of looked down upon in the academy.

CAC: Sure, he didn't publish much.

BS: He didn't have his Ph.D.

CAC: Yes.

BS: He'd done all of his work but he had not gotten his degree.

CAC: And he didn't publish much.

BS: And he didn't publish, but he was a super teacher and a very nice person.

CAC: Yes. That was a real challenging program.

BS: Yes. I was having a great time. The most important thing that happened, and one of the highlights of my life, was there's an organization called the National Institute of Public Affairs, which was started by Franklin Roosevelt in the 1930s, and he got John D. Rockefeller to fund a program of bringing to Washington [D.C.], as interns, college graduates and people who were working on advanced degrees to try to demonstrate to some of the best and the brightest, as it were, that public service could be an interesting, challenging career. I was in the thirteenth group of interns. The process of selection was very interesting. They took about thirty some interns each year from around the country. They went to different places, and students would come from that region, and we'd have dinner together so they could sort of see you in a social situation. Then, we'd have a discussion after dinner in which questions would be directed at you, but you could join in on all of the rest of it. I'll never forget the question which was posed to me, which was, "What do you think the future will be for Harold Stassen?" [laughter]

CAC: You didn't predict he'd run for everything forever?

BS: No, I didn't. I don't remember anything that I said.

CAC: It was a good question.

BS: I was one of the fortunate ones to be chosen and went to Washington.

CAC: Good.

BS: We had three weeks of orientation in which we went to the Supreme Court and we went to . . .

CAC: This is 1946, is it?

BS: Yes, the fall of 1946. We went to a number of the Executive Branch offices and the Congress. People spoke to us and gave us an orientation. Then, we went out to apply for positions, just the way you would as if you were . . .

CAC: Bravo.

BS: I went to a couple of places. I'd been influenced by Asher Christianson so I was poking around in what we then called welfare, social security and so on. I got to this one place and there was this woman by the name of Gladys Friedman and we talked for awhile. She said, "What is it exactly that you think you can bring to this position?" I thought that was really a challenging question. They were kind enough to want me to be there; so, I was part of what was the program of unemployment insurance . . . unemployment compensation, it was called then. Not surprisingly, many of the people in that office and operation were women. Part of that may have been fallout from the war, but part of it was because . . .

CAC: Part of it was fallout from Frances Perkins.

BS: Yes, and social work training.

[telephone rings - break in the interview]

BS: Then, later, I went to the Bureau of the Budget, which is now the OMB [Office of Management and Budget] and was on the other side of the fence working with this package of welfare programs; so, I saw . . .

CAC: What a unique experience.

BS: . . . it both from those who were putting their case together and, then, on the other side with the ones who were examining the bottom line and other kinds of considerations. Every Monday night, we had a session somewhere. I always remember the time we went to the *Washington Post* and Phil Graham was there, and fed us corned beef sandwiches and beer, and brought in Ferdinand Kuhl who was the foreign correspondent for the *Washington Post*, who was in this country, and a couple of other journalists. We'd have sessions like that every Monday night. Then, we were expected to do reports of our activities.

CAC: But you were on regular salary or you were on fellowship salary?

BS: I was on some money that Lloyd Short . . .

CAC: But, also the fellowship that made the internship possible?

BS: They were unpaid internships.

CAC: Ohhh.

BS: They covered sort of living expenses, but it was really a minimal kind of thing.

CAC: The university really kicked out some through Lloyd Short who made it possible?

BS: Yes, that's exactly what happened.

CAC: Good.

BS: That was the year of the infamous Eightieth Congress.

CAC: Sure.

BS: Everybody was being fired rather than being hired. At that point, the people who had interned on the Hill were really the fortunate ones because they tended to keep those jobs or get another job on the Hill. But, those of us who had interned in the Executive Branch were way down on the pecking order of those to be hired.

CAC: Otherwise you might have stayed in public administration?

BS: I might well have. Instead, I found a job at the University of Virginia.

CAC: You had qualified for your master's degree by this time with the internship?

BS: I had not done a thesis. In those days, you had to do a thesis.

CAC: Plan A.

BS: Yes, Plan A.

CAC: But, you had done all the rest?

BS: I had done all the rest, that's right. I went to the University of Virginia to work in the Bureau of Public Administration at that institution as sort of a research associate. One of my colleagues there was Bill Rogers.

CAC: I see. He was there in what capacity?

BS: He was also in the Bureau of Public Administration. He had gotten his Ph.D. in international relations at the University of Chicago; but, he had worked at this institution that was also referred to in public administration circles as 1313. It's like 1666. It was 1313 East Sixty Street in Chicago and it was the headquarters of the State Association of Attorney Generals, the State Association of this, and that, and the other thing, all public administrative types. It was, I think, the brain child of Louis Brownlow, who was the father figure in the field.

CAC: Sure, you bet.

BS: He was commissioner, which would be now called mayor, of Washington, D.C. during the [President Woodrow] Wilson Administration. Bill and I met there. I kind of kept my public administration credentials together because I was elected a junior member of the Executive Council of the American Society for Public Administration. There, again, I think Lloyd Short had something to do with that.

CAC: Your own quality and initiative had something to do with it.

BS: [laughter]

CAC: How long were you at Virginia?

BS: Just a year.

CAC: They have a beautiful campus. I don't know any more beautiful campus in the country.

BS: I know. It was just beautiful; but, I didn't like it at all. The [unclear], the whole atmosphere was pretty bigoted in Virginia in 1947 and 1948. It was sort of hard to crack the southern social milieu. I had a room in a home with a widow and I just didn't have a whole lot of friends. I met some students. I always remember being startled the first day I was there. I thought, gee, there must be some big event going on because all the men were in coats and ties. That's the way they dressed every day. You had to wear a coat.

CAC: There's a dress code.

BS: A dress code, yes. I remember going to the football games in this beautiful football stadium where you walked from sort of the top down. They all brought mint juleps in mason jars . . .

CAC: [laughter]

BS: . . . and you had to dodge the vomit as the game wore on because they really indulged. The environs were beautiful and the history was fascinating. I got a letter—again, inspired by Lloyd Short—from Mildred Hargraves, who was president of the Minnesota League of Women Voters, inviting me to come to Minnesota to work on the staff of the League. I didn't know anything about the League; but, I did know that I really liked Minnesota when I had been here in graduate school. I liked it because the size of the community seemed right and I liked it because it seemed politically interesting.

CAC: You bet.

BS: It was just a nice community. I just jumped at the chance to get out of Charlottesville, Virginia. I came back and worked for the League. One of my jobs for the League, the first job, was organization secretary; so, I got to travel the state of Minnesota.

CAC: Oh, good.

BS: I did ask one of the board members if there was a League at International Falls and she said, "No." She said, "Do you want to start one there?" I said, "No. I just didn't want to go that far." [laughter]

CAC: That's as far as you can go.

BS: I did see a good deal of the state and that was an interesting experience. I met these wonderful women and I began to understand, I think a little dimly, all this talent that existed. These were women who were, for the most part, educated and they were being housewives. There were a few who were professional women, but, by and large, they were mostly . . .

CAC: What a rich reservoir.

BS: . . . the non-working homemaker—non-working in the sense of out of the home. One of the women who was then on the national board of the League of Women Voters, whose name was—I'm now getting to the university—Thelma Burgess. She was a trained economist. She was married to the vice-president in charge of labor relations for General Mills. He was a labor economist. She came up to me one day and she said, "We're looking for someone on the national staff to do international relations. Do you have any suggestions?" I said, "Yes, I think I do." I suggested Betty Getz, whom I had met. She was working on her Ph.D. in international relations at the university and was a graduate assistant to Bill Rogers who had, subsequently, come to the University of Minnesota from the University of Virginia. Lo and behold! the national staff hired Betty. Then, Bill had persuaded the dean, by this time, that there should be a full-time assistant to him in the World Affairs Center. Bill was saying to Betty, "Do you have any ideas—you're leaving—who might take your place on a full-time basis?" She said, "Oh, what about Barbara Stuhler?" He said, "Why didn't I think of that?" So, Betty and I sort of got each other our jobs. Betty went on to become the first woman head of staff of a senate committee when she directed Hubert Humphrey's subcommittee on arms control and disarmament. She became an expert and in one of the international conferences, she met the ambassador from India. He had ambassadorial status as a delegate to these arms control negotiations and she married him. They've lived in New York City ever since. That's how I happened to come to the University of Minnesota in October of 1950.

CAC: That's a good story.

BS: Yes, it is kind of a fun story.

CAC: You came with a lot of practical experience and a lot of formal education as well.

BS: I'd been away from the international field; but, I still had that interest and the connection from my college days in the United Nations. The great advantage that I had was that I knew

something about the community. My job was to relate to the university and community organizations that had some interest in international affairs.

CAC: The World Affairs Center was reasonably recent in its origin when you came, right? Did Bill Rogers inherit a going institution? Did he create it?

BS: No. President [James Lewis] Morrill received a visitation one day from representatives of the United Nations Association, United World Federalists, and Foreign Policy Associations of Minneapolis and St. Paul. This was sometime after the war—I don't know what year. They said they hope the university would make a commitment to help organizations like them prevent Minnesota from returning to the isolationist outlook that it had had prior to World War II. Apparently, Lewis Morrill took this seriously and he must have had a conversation with Julius Nolte, then dean of the General Extension Division [GED], because it did seem like an outreach kind of activity. At this same time, Julius Nolte had this idea of organizing a unit that would provide administrative services for voluntary organizations. He felt that so much richness has emerged in the United States from the voluntary associations but they get bogged down in administrative detail. He conceptualized this thing called the State Organization Service [SOS].

CAC: Was there any model for that in other states or did Dean Nolte really dream this one up?

BS: I think he really dreamed it up.

CAC: Isn't that interesting?

BS: Yes. We would get inquiries from a lot of places.

CAC: Once established, then you became a model for other places?

BS: That's right.

CAC: That's a remarkable original idea.

BS: He was that kind of man . . . a very creative guy.

CAC: Yes.

BS: The State Organization Service and the World Affairs Center were both directed by Bill Rogers. These organizations, the UN Association, the Federalists, and the Foreign Policy Association, became members of the State Organization Service but the State Organization Service over time . . . Organizations would move in and move out depending upon their circumstance. Many of those organizations had domestic interests, or professional interests, or other kinds of orientation, but there was always a group that also had this international interest. The World Affairs Center developed its own advisory board and as the World Affairs Center

expanded from these initial four organizations to thirty some over the years, there was an advisory board which met quarterly . . .

CAC: From the community?

BS: . . . and representatives from those organizations constituted that advisory board with some representation, as well, from the university and from the community at large.

CAC: That was your portfolio?

BS: Yes, that was my primary portfolio.

CAC: Did you do much with the SOS?

BS: Yes, I also had some responsibilities there, but I would say they were minimal.

CAC: How large a staff was there in all then? There was Bill Rogers who directed it.

BS: And a secretary and myself. We were keeping track of memberships. We were doing finances and we had to add staff for this State Organization . . .

CAC: But you were able to?

BS: Yes, we were able to. Then, we hired an office manager. The person who occupied that position over the years—we had one woman who was there for quite a long time—really ran the State Organization Service and Bill and I spent more of our time on the World Affairs Center.

CAC: Who was this woman?

BS: Louise Mitchell by name.

CAC: This was all financed internally by the Extension Division?

BS: Yes.

CAC: Did you get income from these groups that you were serving?

BS: No.

CAC: It lost money then? There was no income?

BS: No. Let me go back and say something about the General Extension Division. Over the years, the General Extension Division has supported itself in varying percentages. I'd say roughly

form 80 to 90 percent of all of the money that has been spent by the General Extension, or Continuing Education and Extension [CEE] in its later incarnation, derived from the income essentially from evening classes.

CAC: So, any extras had to come out of that fund basically?

BS: Yes. There were a lot of things . . . correspondence study generated some income. Conferences generated income; but, I don't know that it was covered 100 percent.

CAC: Was there a legislative appropriations for overhead, for the basic cost of the operation or not?

BS: I don't really know because this is all in the general fund in the years that I became familiar with the operations; but, I know that Julius Nolte orchestrated all of this. I think he was very clever.

CAC: That's some trick.

BS: I think he was a very clever man.

CAC: It gave the GED elbow room to initiate programs such as you're talking about?

BS: Exactly, exactly.

CAC: That's a remarkable story.

BS: The organizations that were affiliated with the World Affairs Center helped us a lot programmatically. If we were doing a conference, they would come. That's the important thing. They would pay the conference fee and be there. They would help promote it, and generate additional participants, and that sort of thing. There was a lot of interaction between those organizations and the World Affairs Center—some, of course, more than others, but that's to be expected.

CAC: How long were you yourself in that program?

BS: I was there twenty-five years.

CAC: Did it change much within that period? What kind of initiatives . . . Obviously, you would address different issues as the diplomacy changed.

BS: Yes, that's right.

CAC: The basic structure and mission was pretty well-established?

BS: Yes, it was. There were two, I think, things that contributed to its exodus from the University of Minnesota. One was, it was becoming a drain on resources when everybody was being pressured to cut . . .

[telephone rings - break in the interview]

BS: There were the budgetary pressures.

CAC: This is the early to mid 1970s?

BS: This happened mid 1970s. Also, by this time, Minnesota had become internationalized. There were lots of groups out there . . .

CAC: Less need for this service?

BS: . . . doing things programmatically. The Minnesota International Center was burgeoning with exchange programs.

CAC: The center was there from 1967 to 1975?

BS: Yes.

CAC: How did they respond to the Vietnam ruckus?

BS: Mostly, we tried to bring . . . Our job was an educational job . . . not taking a position.

CAC: It was difficult to hold to that in those days?

BS: Yes, it was. We simply did what we've always done and, that is, have programs on subjects relating to . . . so people participated in that.

CAC: Did those conferences take on a different tone though as the war became more controversial?

BS: If I look back, I would think that we didn't do . . . Bill always said that the sort of conferencing we should do is the background of the background of the news and leave it to the community organizations to do the current events kinds of things; so, I don't recall our doing a whole lot on Vietnam, as such.

CAC: You weren't under pressure by your constituent groups to do so?

BS: No, by this time, you had the Coalition to End the War in Vietnam and all these other groups out there doing their own thing.

CAC: Did they come in to use your facilities?

BS: No. No.

CAC: The anti-war folks stayed out of the loop?

BS: They were not in that loop, that's right.

CAC: Okay. Did you and Bill feel under pressure? I should think it would have been a very anomalous position for someone of your disposition? I know you were professional and you were doing your job.

BS: Yes. It's hard for me to reconstruct.

CAC: Did it give you the liberty to take your own position when you weren't speaking for the institution itself, for the World Affairs Center?

BS: Yes . . . even then, I think I probably was cautious. I did these weekly commentaries over KUOM radio.

CAC: I was going to come to that, yes. It was in that period?

BS: Yes. I know I did commentaries; but, I'd have to go back and see . . . I think even there, I was cautious.

CAC: Is there any record of these?

BS: Yes, I have copies.

CAC: Script?

BS: Yes, the script.

CAC: Is there any of the reel itself? Was there any recording of that?

BS: No. Marion Watson thinks not. She was hoping there would be.

CAC: But, you kept your scripts?

BS: Yes.

CAC: Do you still have them?

BS: Yes. Yes.

CAC: Do you have something in mind? You aren't going to throw them away?

BS: No. I don't know what's marketable about them.

CAC: Oh, but, just for archiving . . . Either University Archives or the State Historical Society certainly should have them when you are no longer using them.

BS: Yes. I don't really use them.

CAC: It would be a fantastic record! I listened, not regularly, to them and they were a valuable reflection on very important issues.

BS: They were well-received, I think, by and large.

CAC: This was a weekly?

BS: Yes.

CAC: For how many years did you do this?

BS: Fifteen.

CAC: Boy! that's a long assignment.

BS: I know. I did take the summer months off.

CAC: Sure.

BS: Yes, that was a long time.

CAC: How did you yourself select the issues that you were going to have for a given weekly commentary?

BS: Usually, by something I had read, something that was really current and choice. I could do current events on that program. It was easy for me in the days when I was in the World Affairs Center because I had to do so much reading to be kept up. I would try to read things in sources that people wouldn't ordinarily see.

CAC: Good.

BS: I'd bring that dimension or some of those ideas.

CAC: At pretty much the same time—you can correct me—E.W. ["Easy"] Ziebarth and Harold Deutsch had programs on radio dealing with contemporary political, social, and, in Harold's case, foreign policy?

BS: Yes, but didn't "Easy" do his with WCCO?

CAC: They were both on commercial radio. They were both on WCCO.

BS: Right.

CAC: You weren't conscious of providing another commentary from the university?

BS: No, no, no.

CAC: That speaks well of you. That's interesting. Did you ever cover domestic topics on that program?

BS: Yes, I . . .

[End of Tape 1, Side 1]

[Tape 1, Side 2]

BS: . . . in the 1970s, not so much in the 1960s, would be my guess.

CAC: That would be consistent with what was going on elsewhere.

BS: I know. I'm certainly aware of what was happening in the women's community, primarily, because of the beginnings of the Continuing Education for Women [CEW] program at the university.

CAC: Right. Continuing Education for Women came as early as 1960.

BS: Yes, 1959 and 1960 is when that began. This was another case, I must say, of Julius Nolte's creativity. At least, he had the creativity to hire Liz Cless.

CAC: You bet.

BS: She came up with this idea. She and Julius got the support of the important university administrators to undertake this program. Of course, Liz, then, succeeded in getting a sizable three-year grant from the Carnegie Corporation. The Minnesota Plan became another model for the nation.

CAC: There we were first in the country. It was the first formal program.

BS: That's correct. That's right.

CAC: Did this mean you had to go as high as Met [President Meredith] Wilson to stage this?

BS: Who was the vice-president who went to Wisconsin?

CAC: Don Smith?

BS: Yes. I think it was Don Smith who was the one who lent his blessings.

CAC: Now, you were influenced by that but you were not actively part of that in 1963 because you were in the World Affairs Center?

BS: I was part of it because Liz Cless asked me and Sis [Eleanor Salisbury] Fenton . . .

CAC: Ahhh.

BS: . . . then, Sis Salisbury [Fenton], as colleagues in the General Extension Division to sit in on that pioneering seminar and help evaluate it.

CAC: Wonderful. What was the pioneering . . . talk about that.

BS: The pioneering seminar was the one where we had a quarter on the humanities, a quarter on the physical sciences, and I think a quarter on the natural sciences.

CAC: Do you mean the social sciences [unclear]?

BS: I think that first year we did genetics with the [Sheldon and Elizabeth Reed] Reeds.

CAC: I see.

BS: Then, Ralph . . .

CAC: Ross?

BS: No, the physicist. He was head of the Physics Department. He did the physical sciences and I can't remember whether it was Ralph Ross who did the humanities; it could have been. He was very active in the program for many years, as you know. Then, both Sis and I continued into the Arts of Reading, which was the next seminar that was organized. Then, Sis continued being involved, but I sort of dropped off of that part of it. Liz, and Sis, and I were very close in those days. We talked a lot.

CAC: You remained close for twenty-five years. [laughter]

BS: Yes, that's right. That's right. We felt that we made some impact in the organization . . . Sis sort of from the vantage point of the dean's office and, then, with her program, and I with the World Affairs Center. I hate to admit this but we were referred to, in the National University Extension Association circles, as "les girls." [laughter]

CAC: [laughter] After all, it was Rusty Ladies . . .

BS: Yes, that's right. As I say, I was very close to the origins of that CEW program. Then, I also did lots of neighborhood seminars for them in St. Paul and in Minneapolis. Over the years, I did quite a bit of that, mostly in the field of foreign policy. I also became, partly because of my experience then on the National Board of the League of Women Voters, involved in international economic issues. I became sort of self-taught in economics though I'd take economics in college, but I had to bring myself up-to-date. I was sort of learning on the job. I remember doing a seminar in St. Paul on An Intelligent Women's Guide to Economics. [laughter]

CAC: CEW was doing informal neighborhood seminars of that sort, which were very influential, while at the same time they were doing these credit courses for reentry for women?

BS: Yes, exactly.

CAC: So, it was a two-track . . . ?

BS: Yes. The seminars, the global seminars as it were, the over-arching, were ways of bringing women into one track or the other. So many of them then decided they would seek a degree or seek formal study and others pursued their interest in these informal seminars.

CAC: Was that part of the original perception?

BS: No, no, no.

CAC: It just kind of grew?

BS: I think that just emerged. Yes.

CAC: A program like that comes to be very responsive to what the needs of the constituency is.

BS: Yes. I also want to make this point about the General Extension Division and Continuing Education and Extension. Because we had to generate so much of our own income overall, we

were particularly sensitive to market forces. We, in my view, represented an entrepreneurial arm of the university. We had to watch the bottom line very carefully.

CAC: But you did become self-sustaining?

BS: We still receive some subsidy from the university that's locked into this general fund.

CAC: It's the overhead [unclear].

BS: That's the overhead but it mostly funds the dean's office and some of the staff attached to the dean's office. Otherwise, yes, we had this marketing arm so we feel that it is our business not only to be responsive to community interests and needs but also to be innovative . . . to make people aware of needs and interests they didn't know they had. [laughter]

CAC: You work with Liz Cless, and Louise Roth, and, then finally, with Edith Mucke?

BS: Yes, that's right. Then, when I became an associate dean, Edith was reporting to me; so, I had a different kind of relationship with the program, which I maintained until the time I retired.

CAC: Before we go to other issues, are there other things to say about that episode? That's an exciting one.

BS: No, not really. I did help in getting a grant from the Northwest Area Foundation to do that twenty-five year study of CEW, which was conducted by Darwin Hendel and Judy Lutter, who is now head of Melpomene [Institute for Women's Health Research], but at that time, she was a graduate student in that program.

CAC: In American Studies.

BS: I was very much involved in that study, not as an actual doer of the study, but as somebody who helped get it underway and bring it to fruition and publication.

CAC: Would this be a good point to veer off into the Minnesota Women's Center and other related things?

BS: Sure, sure.

CAC: You give me the hook . . . how we're going to go.

BS: One way of doing it is to say that the Minnesota Plan had two tracks. One was this Continuing Education track and the other track was the one for undergraduate women that was really the responsibility of Virginia Senders who was a professor of psychology. She and Liz

had worked together on this proposal. Out of that undergraduate track emerged the Minnesota Women's Center.

CAC: This is the mid 1960s?

BS: Mid 1960s, yes.

CAC: The Minnesota Plan had, again, different routes, did it not?

BS: Yes, that's right, the Continuing Education route and this undergraduate women.

CAC: And a research center. Wasn't Anne Truax, by the late 1960s, somehow within that?

BS: I have to say that I'm not as familiar with that part of it.

CAC: Let's talk about what you are familiar with. What were we doing then for undergraduates?

BS: I don't know enough about the Women's Center to respond to that, except that it never seemed to get off the ground in the same way that the Continuing Education track did. I don't know whether college women were responding then as even today a lot of them respond, which is to say . . . I think they're changing but you still hear, "I don't really have to worry. I'm going to be married and have children and that's sort of going to be my life."

CAC: Of course, by the late 1960s, you get the movement largely coming from undergraduate students for Women's Studies.

BS: Yes, that's true.

CAC: But, you were not part of that yourself?

BS: No, I was not. No, I was not part of that. I knew what was going . . . in a big way, I knew what was going on, but that's all. Over the years . . . I have to credit Sis Fenton who has been very conscious of the discrimination against women, and that was because she had this vantage point of the dean's office, and she could see what people were being paid and what they weren't.

CAC: Ahhh.

BS: I was off in the community doing my little thing, happily, ignorant of all . . .

CAC: Many things.

BS: [laughter] She came to me—I think this was in the 1970s—and said, “You are being underpaid and so am I.” We engaged in this little campaign to increase our salaries. We even persuaded a number of the men on the staff of Continuing Education to support our petition for redress.

CAC: Obviously, this was substantially before Rajender [Shyamala Rajender case]?

BS: Oh, yes, yes. Indeed, we did succeed, not in quite the measure to fulfill what we would have considered full justice; but, nevertheless, it was a significant increment.

CAC: How many women were involved in that particular caper?

BS: This was just for Sis and for me.

CAC: I see. But, it would have a spill-over affect?

BS: That was the point because, then, we made this known to the women in the university community and I think it helped to alert them . . . feeling that they can do it. We can try this, too. I think that started these little eruptions here and there.

CAC: Who was dean of Extension by then?

BS: It was Julius Nolte.

CAC: Still.

BS: He was still dean of Extension when we did this because I remember he was the person who had to respond. We did succeed in that. Sis in particular was, again, more active than I, partly because I still had this community outlook responsibility. Hers was more internal university responsibility. There were things like committees for University Women’s Progress that were formed. We would meet and have discussions. It was all part of this beginning to form a network, raise consciousness, and go through the process that women were going through during those years.

CAC: You found allies outside of Extension, obviously, and in what places?

BS: Oh, yes.

CAC: Where did the good allies come from?

BS: I can’t identify any particular source. I think there were a lot of allies from, what is now the College of Human Ecology, Home Economics.

CAC: I see.

BS: There were women from the humanities who were involved that I remember. Those are some that come to mind. Then, in recent years, I became involved with the Commission on Women at the University of Minnesota. This is jumping ahead to the 1980s.

CAC: That's okay. Let's stay on the theme.

BS: Janet Spector was appointed to address some of these issues concerning women in the university. In that process, she interviewed a lot of people and I was one of the ones whom she interviewed.

CAC: Did she interview with a recorder?

BS: No, it was sort of an informal . . .

CAC: Again, as an historian/archivist, I'm thinking of where materials might come from.

BS: No, I don't think she did. As a result of that, she asked me to be part of an advisory committee. This advisory committee worked to set up, then, the Commission on Women. Once the commission was established, I found myself continuing as a member of the executive committee and a good many of the advisory members spilled over.

CAC: How large a group was that?

BS: Probably six or seven or eight.

CAC: It was a pretty focused group.

BS: Yes, it was a small group.

CAC: What range of issues did you address other than salary discrepancies?

BS: Janet Spector could provide you with more accurate information than I. Let me say what I tried to do.

CAC: Good.

BS: I can speak with more authority on that. I was in responsibilities, not surprising, for external relations. I organized a number of consultations between university women and professional, and business, and volunteer women from the community with the thought that we ought to be able to identify how each could help the other and be of some use. I found this a

very difficult thing to sustain because university women—it's true of a good many university men, as well—are preoccupied with the business of promotion and tenure.

CAC: With their careers and their mission of teaching and scholarship.

BS: The whole notion of outreach is down on their list. Then, when I retired—I was on that executive committee until I did retire—the whole thing sort of collapsed. There were some efforts—this time I was sitting on the other side of the table, on the community side of the table—and I did prepare a statement that was circulated as a result of those conversations. I just had lunch with Janet a month or so ago. She said, "You were the one who had the contacts. When you left . . ." That interaction has yet to take place except on isolated occasions. But, the Commission on Women has worked very hard. It was initially oriented to faculty women only. Then, it brought in the staff component and, now, it has expanded to include the Civil Service as well.

CAC: Good. Did they ever address the issues within the library when you were on it?

BS: No, not specifically.

CAC: That was one of the problem areas of women's authority within the university.

BS: Yes. The Commission on Women was not really dealing with specific problems as they emerged so much as they were trying to develop a climate of attitudes. They did meetings with deans and their staffs.

CAC: I think Janet is still doing a lot of that inside work.

BS: Yes, that's right. That's the kind of thing . . . trying to break down the prevailing attitudes about the role of women in the academy. I think, it has performed a useful but internal kind of service, primarily.

CAC: It's one difficult to document with statistics and figures. When you're trying to change a climate, a culture, it's a little more slippery to document.

BS: Yes, yes, it really is.

CAC: A bit ago, twelve, fourteen minutes ago, you were about to talk about, if not the demise, the slipping away of the World Affairs Center. Part of that would be looking at its long history . . . what sort of an impact it had on the community and on the university. How extensively, for example, did you draw on persons within the university in Agricultural Economics, and International Relations, and Political Science, and History, and so on?

BS: I thought one of the most important things that we did was be to able to identify faculty within the institution who had some kind of interest or expertise and who would be helpful in educational programs. Here, again, I found in the early years of the World Affairs Center that faculty members were eager to participate and willing. They would come to meetings and help us plan programs and conferences and that interaction with the community was really taking place. In later years . . .

CAC: The interaction that your center was facilitating . . . that was crucial?

BS: Yes. In later years, I think it became more difficult. I think it became more difficult because of the same sorts of pressures on promotion and tenure that affected faculty members. I think it became more difficult because, frankly, faculty members wanted to do that sort of thing for money.

CAC: Ahhh.

BS: They wanted compensation for their outreach activities in the community.

CAC: Excuse me. The World Affairs Center didn't have that kind of money to subsidize a generous honorarium?

BS: No, no, no. It would be depending upon the resources of the organization in question. If they wanted someone to come a speak about problems of reciprocal trade, then, they would have to provide the honorarium for that purpose. As you know, non-profits tend not to have the resources that make possible generous honoraria.

CAC: Developments, as you're suggesting now, never have a beginning or an ending date, but what year are we talking about now, approximately?

BS: I think we're talking about 1970 and thereafter.

CAC: With any acceleration through the 1970s of these trends?

BS: Yes, very definitely and on the increase until the end of my time with the World Affairs Center.

CAC: Did the World Affairs Center continue beyond this slump as a unit of the program?

BS: What happened was that the World Affairs Center was no longer receiving support from the university and, therefore, it was terminated.

CAC: That happened when?

BS: I know that this was during Ken Keller's years.

CAC: Oh, that late, okay.

BS: What were his years, do you remember?

CAC: About the mid 1980s.

BS: It was during his presidency.

CAC: That was one of the ways to reallocate?

BS: Yes.

CAC: Although the savings were pretty slim?

BS: Yes.

CAC: Bill Rogers, by that time, was ready to retire?

BS: Close to it. It was a little before he was actually ready to retire.

CAC: So, it's a decline in the 1970s and, then, it ends . . .

BS: In the 1980s, yes. Then, Bill went to the Minnesota International Center. The World Affairs Center's programmatic activity, only in the person of Bill as a volunteer, went to the Minnesota International Center where he's had a desk and clerical assistance and has provided substantive programs that the Minnesota International Center really didn't do prior to that time. Now, this is interesting because Bill, along with people like Gladys Brooks, and Pierce Butler III, and Forrest Moore, who was head of the Foreign Student Office, were the founders of the Minnesota International Center.

CAC: I didn't know that.

BS: It's sort of going full circle for Bill. I played a minor role in this. It's interesting . . . I was invited by Fran Paulu to go to a luncheon, which I can't go to, with some of the people who were involved in the early days in the Minnesota International Center. We were getting increasing requests for assistance in programming international visitors and also to help the Foreign Student Office do programs putting foreign students into community settings.

CAC: Excuse me. Can I back up just a bit on that point?

BS: Yes.

CAC: In the heyday, when things are really going well, was there a use of international students themselves in a program to speak or to speak at neighborhoods, etcetera?

BS: Yes. I was on the senate committee on foreign students.

CAC: That's when Forrest Moore was director?

BS: Yes, that's right. Over the years, Bill and I always had a very close connection with Forrest Moore and Josef Mestenhauser and worked very closely together in that sort of endeavor. Yes, we did put foreign students on programs. We did recommend their use to organizations that wanted to do a program on this country or that area of the world, whatever it might be. That's how the International Center started and that's where Bill is today.

CAC: The things we've been talking about the last five, seven minutes do, in fact, imply an evaluation of what the programs was.

BS: Yes, that's what your question was. I got sidetracked.

CAC: No, no. That's the way these things go.

BS: [laughter] I think it was very important. One reason I have this perspective is because . . . I forget what year I wrote down there when I served as kind of a staff assistant to that committee, chaired by Charles McLaughlin, that had been appointed by Met Wilson to apply for money for the Ford Foundation. No, the other listing . . . this one . . . yes, 1962-1963.

CAC: Oh, my! that's early on.

BS: Yes. Phil Raup was on that committee and he was sort of the scribe for the committee. He and I worked together to put a lot of materials together for the committee. Then, in drafting the proposal, I was asked to do an introductory piece on the history of Minnesota and American foreign policy; but, it was just to be a brief thing. I looked at the academic world, and the business world, and the world of journalism, and politics. I became terribly interested in the influence of Minnesotans on American foreign policy. I wrote a couple of pieces that I sent to the Minnesota Historical Society thinking they might be interested in publishing them in *Minnesota History*. I think one was a biography of Joe Ball and the other one might have been a biography of Walter Judd—I can't remember. I got a call from the Minnesota Historical Society saying, "Would you like to have lunch?" I remember going to the Criterion on University Avenue. I mean, it was not just a few . . . it was Russell Fridley, and it was June Holmquist, and it was Rhoda Gilman. It was a big luncheon. The upshot of that luncheon was, "Would you like to write a book?" Over the next several years, I worked away at what, ultimately, came to be known and published as *Ten Men of Minnesota in American Foreign Policy*. I had the advantage of being intimately involved with the opinions of Minnesotans in the period, certainly, since 1900.

CAC: You had a good deal of background.

BS: That's right. I think that I can say and I know that the *Minneapolis Tribune* has editorialized that the World Affairs Center has made a significant difference in the way Minnesotans have looked at the world.

CAC: Your book was part of that whole . . . a scholarly segment of it.

BS: Yes, that's right. I don't mean to be immodest; but, I do feel that what we did really provided an educational component that has not been equaled in many other places and, of course, we had the resources and prestige of the university behind that. We had the collaboration of influential people in the community. The same thing was happening . . . business leaders were becoming more sensitive to international markets and, certainly, the Minneapolis papers were pioneers in developing activities. Bill Rogers ran their school program, the *Minneapolis Star* program of information on world affairs, for many years. It educated generations of school youngsters in Minnesota about international issues. I think we provided a very significant contribution in that arena.

CAC: As an outreach program of enormous impact, I'm sure. Again, just thinking, let us say, from the mid 1970s, the late 1970s forward, now—that's fifteen years—a lot of that's been lost, hasn't it?

BS: Yes.

CAC: It's difficult for this informal International Center to pick up with the same resources, that kind of educational . . . ?

BS: That's right. It was a loss. I think that Keller . . . I remember seeing somewhere a remark by him, "Do you think I did the right thing?" It may have been a rhetorical question; but, I think part of the problem was he relied on somebody who was not really aware of the history of the World Affairs Center and was judging it only by what was going on at that particular moment.

CAC: A related outreach that the World Affairs Center used with you and others was KUOM . . . a whole series of things and that went down with retrenchment as well.

BS: Yes. There's another element that I want to speak on that deals with Greater Minnesota.

CAC: Please, do.

BS: Luther Pickrel, who came to the Agricultural Extension Service, was a very interesting fellow and I think his talents were overlooked. He, and Bill Rogers, and I, and some of his colleagues in the Agricultural Extension Service developed a collaboration in which we did rural/urban seminars. We brought together people from both arenas to talk about international

things. We would go around, in addition to those rural/urban seminars, the state in teams and address farm forums. On occasion, we would bring in people from Washington and professors from other than Minnesota . . . the prophet with honor. We would drive from community to community and we'd go in and take that community by storm. Some would go to the high school, and some would go to the radio station, and some would go to the newspaper. Then, there would be luncheon meeting. Then, there would be a discussion at a local college in the afternoon. Then, there would be something at dinner. We'd have a full day of activities packed and we'd go out for whole weeks at a time.

CAC: For future scholars again, what years were you doing this? Historians are sticky about dates, you know.

BS: I know and I'm terrible about dates.

CAC: An approximation. Is this a story of the 1960s or the 1970s?

BS: I'd say 1960s and 1970s.

CAC: Who else was involved in going out? Luther Pickrel and you . . . name some others. I assume Bill Rogers?

BS: Yes, Bill Rogers. We did a lot of the speaking ourselves as well. I was doing a lot of talking about trade and [unclear] during that period.

CAC: You mentioned Phil Raup earlier. Was he ever part of these?

BS: Oh, yes, I think he probably was. I remember more that we had people from elsewhere.

CAC: I see. Depending upon what the issue was?

BS: Yes. On the rural/urban seminars—I was not involved in all of those; Bill Rogers was—more of the university folk were involved. I don't have any particular recollection . . .

CAC: Again, to risk repetition, sometime in the 1970s, there is a drawing back of persons whose volunteer labor you could depend upon for these kinds of programs?

BS: Yes. Yes.

CAC: You're attributing this, essentially, to a change in the internal structure of rewards and of the mission of persons who are thinking of their discipline and their careers more than the general outreach of the university.

BS: Yes. In the criteria, I know, in promotions a lot of lip service is given to outreach, but I think the real criteria are the teaching and the research for some departments . . . for a lot of departments.

CAC: For posterity, I should just put in a footnote that when I was chairman, I saw to it that community teaching was put not under service but under that awful term called public pedagogy.

BS: Oh, I see. [laughter]

CAC: But then, we could credit it for merit more heavily because it was teaching rather than service.

BS: Yes, yes, there you go.

CAC: It was a rhetorical trick but it really did work and encouraged the kind of things that we're talking about now.

BS: Right.

CAC: When was it, then, that you left the World Affairs Center to become an associate dean of CEE?

BS: I left initially in, I think, 1974 and became an acting assistant dean. Then, I became assistant dean about a year later.

CAC: What kind of portfolios . . . what position were you expected to fill then? Is it still Nolte?

BS: No, no. The deans that I have served under were Julius Nolte and then, as I recall, for about a month, E. W. Ziebarth.

CAC: I remember that.

BS: Then, he was asked to be dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

CAC: Right.

BS: Then, Willard Thompson and, now, Hal Miller.

CAC: Hal Miller has had a long tenure much like Nolte's.

BS: That's right.

CAC: The others were kind of . . .

BS: Yes, they were briefer. I became acting assistant and then associate dean when Hal Miller was in that position.

CAC: What kind of portfolios did you pick up there?

BS: At that time, we had three associate deans. Don Woods was in charge of instructional systems, which was correspondence, and evening classes, and things like that. Sis Fenton . . . I forget what she was in charge of—it may come to me—and I was in charge of community relations and extension services.

CAC: That sounds like something that was created for you.

BS: No, but it wasn't. It had been created previously and there had been a previous occupant of that position briefly. It was part of a reorganization that took place in 1973. That's sort of when Hal came in and things were changed. Those were things like the Fire Center, which is no longer at the university, and Community Programs, which was a program reaching out to inner-city neighborhoods.

CAC: Non-credit?

BS: No, credit, credit. Reduced tuition . . . first of all, it was subsidized by the legislature. First of all, it was, I think, no tuition and, then, a modest tuition.

CAC: Was this coordinated all through the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs [CURA] or not?

BS: That was part of one of things that CURA, I think, engineered through the legislature and then passed it off to . . .

CAC: To implement through you folks?

BS: Yes, that's right.

CAC: Did you draw on university faculty for these . . . ?

BS: Yes, and in many cases graduate students.

CAC: But, now you could pay them?

BS: We could pay the teachers from the beginning because we had this legislative appropriation. It was tuition free, but then it became a modest tuition charge. I don't know what it is today.

CAC: So, you were in charge of developing that program?

BS: I was in charge of overseeing that program, yes. That's right.

CAC: What other portfolios did you have? These usually have about twenty-nine.

BS: Yes. You're on every committee. [laughter]

CAC: Ah!

BS: The most important responsibility I had from, the time I became associate dean really until the end of my career there, was this chair of the Planning Council.

CAC: Excuse me. But CEW you said earlier . . .

BS: Was another one of the departments that reported to me.

CAC: Because that had such a strong community outreach?

BS: That's right.

CAC: I just wanted to clarify that. Now, go on with your point . . . long-range planning.

BS: Then, all of these Commitment to Focus and all of those things . . .

CAC: Ohhh.

BS: . . . that were happening were really processed in CEE by the Planning Committee or the Planning Council. They gave it both names as some point or another. That was a really important role that I played. I also was the academic personnel officer for CEE. That involved me in all of those nitty gritty personnel kinds of issues and problems.

CAC: Civil Service as well as professional and [unclear]?

BS: No, not really Civil Service. That was the purview of our administrative officer who was also a Civil Service person. Then, we had all of these other governance units, like a Policy Council and the department director's meeting. I was also, over the years, either a member of or chair of the Constitution Committee for CEE. I was also on the Divisional Relations Committee. Those were the kinds of things I did.

CAC: It gave you a wonderful opportunity to observe the relationship of Extension to the larger mission of the university as they related (a) to the departments and programs and (b) as they related to Central Administration?

BS: Yes.

CAC: That's a pretty big question but could you say something about the relationship then of CEE—which it comes to be called when?— . . .

BS: About 1973.

CAC: . . . to the departments and programs, basic disciplines of the university? Can you say something in general about how you saw that?

BS: I think, generally, operationally those relationships were quite good. There might be an exception here and there, but overall, I would say they were quite good. Philosophically, they were not . . .

[End of Tape 1, Side 2]

[Tape 2, Side 1]

BS: . . . that teaching in CEE was a second-rate kind of activity and they did it partly for the income that would come. There are many testimonials—you among them, probably—who say, "It's proved to be a very stimulating experience because these are people . . . "

CAC: You get adult students who have been around the block.

BS: You get adult students, that's right, and who may even have information that you don't possess. [laughter] There was this ambivalence between the experience of faculty who taught in the programs and those who demeaned it because it wasn't the core of the university. It was a peripheral, tangential kind of activity.

CAC: It came from the faculty point of view that, at the end of a busy day, you're pretty tired out.

BS: Oh, yes, I know, and so are the students.

CAC: Yes. Whatever the goodwill and the intrinsic rewards of teaching adults, it was often two exhausted constituencies . . . both sides of the camp.

BS: I can appreciate that. The other component that led to tension between the departments and CEE had to do with the income generation from evening classes. There was considerable pressure on Central Administration, particularly, I would think, beginning with the Keller years, to question the very existence of CEE and to put forth the idea that the departments could program both the day and the evening activities, and there wouldn't be any need for CEE, and that the departments and/or Central Administration would, then, be able to acquire this income

that is now in the hands of CEE. Now, of course, from our vantage point, they overlooked the fact that establishing an evening program requires a lot of marketing. It's not just enough to say, "I'm going to teach course *A*, *B*, and *C* this year, and put it out somewhere, and expect students to arrive. Also, it overlooks the fact that there is more to Continuing Education and Extension than evening classes; albeit, that is the heart of the matter in terms of visibility and in terms of the resources that it generates. When we talk about University 2000 today and they're talking about increasing the intellectual strength of the core university but at the same time maintaining accessibility for the community, some of us have to ask, "CEE, imperfect as it may have been, has been trying to do just that for, lo, these many years; and what is the difference between what has happened in the past and what you are proposing specifically in operational terms?" It's, I think, another way of grasping at this seeming pot of gold that comes from the evening class operation. I may be overstating it; but, nevertheless, I think that there has been, at least since the Keller years, as I indicated, a feeling of dissatisfaction and a feeling there ought to be some way to grasp hold of this and integrate it into the total university operation.

CAC: It's too bad we're not on video tape with all my interviews because there come certain points where body language and facial expression say a great deal.

BS: [laughter]

CAC: I can report to whoever is listening to this that there is a certain skepticism on both of our faces here. To my knowledge, Barbara—my knowledge is very limited—as far as inloading was concerned, which I think was the word that was used— . . .

BS: Yes, it was one of the words that's been used.

CAC: . . . it was done, primarily, by Geography in my experience . . .

BS: Yes, they did.

CAC: . . . [unclear] faculty regularly took on evening courses. Was that a model that anyone else picked up? I know Fred Lukermann in the college tried to encourage this.

BS: Not to my knowledge.

CAC: Isn't it interesting that that would be, at least in the Arts College, the only example? You can't think of one in IT [Institute of Technology] or Biological . . . ?

BS: No. No.

CAC: I can check that out. That would be interesting. It's a strategy, but not many people saw it as productive or rewarding..

BS: Apparently not.

[pause]

CAC: We're pausing because we're looking at ways to change the conversation. You speak here of perceptions of the university and CEE as far as different presidents, administrators, faculty. I guess we've covered that pretty well, except do you want to say anything about presidents or vice-presidents and how they may have perceived, affirmatively or otherwise, the mission of GED and then CEE?

BS: I think over the years, again, presidents find it useful to talk about the ways that the university has worked with the community, or served the community, or in some way related to the community; but, the actual commitment of support doesn't equate with the language that has been used over the years by all of the presidents. I can't really say much about President Morrill, even though I was a graduate student when he was president; but then, presidents are pretty remote from most graduate students I think. In those early years when I was at the World Affairs Center, I was really paying more attention to community affairs. Everyone talks about what a great president O. Meredith Wilson was. He always seemed to me like a very likable fellow, though I never knew him terribly well; but, I always had this sneaking suspicion that one reason he was so well-liked was that those were the golden years of the university . . . of universities everywhere. [laughter]

CAC: You're about the twelfth person that's used the word *golden*.

BS: Oh, really?

CAC: Yes.

BS: Interesting.

CAC: Some have observed that leaving in 1967, he avoided all the raucous and the tumult of student activism that came very soon thereafter.

BS: Yes. Malcolm Moos had to bear the brunt of that.

CAC: You bet, he did.

BS: Every president has his strengths and weaknesses. I think he did a reasonably good job of coping with that student activism. I'm not so sure about other parts of his presidency; but, things could have been worse, I think.

CAC: Not many of us, Barbara, are ever given the opportunity to do even one thing well—we're going to have a conversation instead of an interview—and it strikes me that was Moos's really towering contribution in 1969, 1970, 1971.

BS: Yes, I would have said that, too.

CAC: He was open, and he took the sting out, and he kept things going . . . quite remarkable.

BS: That certainly would have been my impression.

CAC: I'm going to change the subject just a tiny bit. You came to represent in the senate and, then, on senate committees, the Senate Committee on Resources and Planning, and, then, for three years on the Faculty Consultative Committee. Could you say something about your perception of those two committees, and how they functioned, and what they accomplished?

BS: I'm going to have to beg off on Senate Committee on Resources and Planning because I think you will note, at some point in there, I only served one year. When I became elected to the Faculty Consultative Committee, I resigned from both the Committee on Committees and the Resources and Planning Committee.

CAC: Okay. Let's speak on the Consultative Committee then. Your years there were the mid 1970s . . . 1975 to 1978?

BS: Yes. I wish I had served on the Consultative Committee when I had been longer in the dean's office because I didn't know that much about the operations of the university internally.

CAC: It was a learning experience to be on the committee.

BS: It was a learning experience for me and it was a very stimulating experience because my colleagues were interesting and articulate. One of my colleagues on that committee was Ken Keller and I always say, "I knew Ken Keller when he wore cords, and plaid shirts, and tweed jackets." [laughter]

CAC: [laughter]

BS: In his later years as president, he had a London tailor.

CAC: Right.

BS: And Peter Magrath was president.

CAC: Did he meet with you often?

BS: Yes, he met with us quite a bit . . . not regularly, but he did. He was responsive.

CAC: The Consultative Committee is perceived of as a liaison between faculty on the one hand and Central Administration on the other. In those three years, which way do you think the influence flowed primarily or was it an even exchange?

BS: Hmmm. I think Peter listened, but whether he implemented or acted . . .

CAC: That's the effective question.

BS: Yes. My memory doesn't serve me well on that.

CAC: What facilities did the Consultative Committee have in those three years for doing the other function of reporting back to faculty?

BS: We began, then, to have a staff, I think . . . someone who took notes of the meetings and I think they were circulated those to the senate members. Then, of course, the chair usually had something to say at senate meetings.

CAC: Ken himself was chair of the committee for one of those years.

BS: Yes, one or maybe two of those years . . . I can't recall. If I'd been there later on when I knew more about the university, I might have a better recall.

CAC: In those years, we had retrenchment and reallocation, R&R. It seemed to a number of people whom I've interviewed, and to myself as well, that there was an anticipation in R&R of Commitment to Focus. Do you have anything to add or subtract from that general sense?

BS: Yes, I feel that way and I certainly feel that Ken's thinking . . . Again, it was this question of the concentration on the primary mission of the university, of the institution. I think that developed . . .

CAC: Criterion of centrality.

BS: . . . during that time.

CAC: And the notion—I'm making this as a statement but really it's a question—that there were going to be for the foreseeable future limited resources so that you had to really pare down in order to support the basic central missions?

BS: Yes. I would couple that with the reluctance on the part of faculty to accept . . . Some of them felt that there would be a way to overcome legislative resistance.

CAC: I see. So that more things could be of central importance?

BS: There was some frustration, I think, that the faculty didn't have access to the legislature when effort was made to channel the communication through administrative spokesman. No one will know, of course, whether or not the situation would have been helped or hindered by that; although, the Agricultural Extension Service always managed to be an exception to that rule and, for many years, was the beneficiary of legislative largess.

CAC: People cite that and the Medical School, the Health Sciences. I know, because I served on your committee, but I'm reminded by your listing here, that you did chair a search committee to find a director of Women's Intercollegiate Athletics in 1980-1981. You add here that it was Mr. Nils Hasselmo, then vice-president for Administration, who urged you to do that. Does this reflect back to your interest in athletics that you couldn't really exploit when you were young?

BS: I think that may be one reason why I accepted the job. Though, when we had our discussion before I accepted I said, "Nils, I don't want to get involved in the politics of intercollegiate athletics." He said, "Barbara, you've been involved in politics all your life. Don't stop now." [laughter]

CAC: [laughter] That was a wise observation. What did you know about men's and women's athletics at that point when you accepted this position? Why were you chosen . . . because of your experience generally?

BS: I think more that.

CAC: Did anyone on the faculty know anything about women's athletics, at that time?

BS: There was a woman faculty member from the College of Education, I believe—I can't remember her name right now—who was the faculty representative in the same way Bob Stein has been the faculty representative for Men's Athletics. I think there were beginning to be some stirrings of interest. Vera Schletzer and I did a television program on KTCA, a series of about six programs, called *What About Women?* I remember one of the programs we did was *What About Women in Sports?*

CAC: This would have been in the later 1970s before this assignment?

BS: Yes. We had the former head of Physical Education, a woman, who was on the program and someone else. I can't remember all of the participants.

CAC: Did you know anything about the inside of the relationship between the two?

BS: No, no. I didn't. though I suspected.

CAC: It was probably worse than you suspected.

BS: [laughter]

CAC: When you consented to this assignment, did you work with Mr. Hasselmo in composing the committee?

BS: No. It was his composition, yes.

CAC: I often wondered how the hell I got on it.

BS: Oh. [laughter]

CAC: I found it very interesting because . . .

BS: Oh, I did, too.

CAC: . . . we had community representation.

BS: We had Kathleen Ridder . . .

CAC: Yes.

BS: . . . very outspoken.

CAC: Outspoken and well-informed.

BS: Yes, indeed. Kathleen and I have been good friends ever since.

CAC: Good. These committee assignments sometimes lead happily. Do you want to say anything about the process of that search? It was a difficult one because whoever came in wanted to know what the portfolio would be . . . how her job would be described, right?

BS: Yes. I think because the committee had such disparate representation, it was hard to sort of mold it and get it on the same track.

CAC: Almost all of us were equally uninformed.

BS: Yes, including the chair. I just had that feeling at the first couple of meetings that people were very tense. What motive does this person have and what's behind this comment?

CAC: Yes.

BS: But, after awhile, I felt better because, it seemed to me, as is only naturally under most circumstances, as people get to know each other, then it's easier. It did become easier for me. As it turned out, I think, the one who was selected, Merrily Baker, was just a standout compared with the other candidates.

CAC: How long did she stay with us?

BS: She was here for some time.

CAC: Did you have contact with her after her selection?

BS: Yes, we became good friends.

CAC: I see.

BS: As a matter of fact, she and her daughter came up to the cabin and Jean [West] and I went down to Kansas City after she moved there and visited. We see her from time to time.

CAC: Do you know why she left the University of Minnesota?

BS: [pause] I'm trying to remember the circumstances. She got a very attractive offer from the NCAA [National Collegiate Athletic Association] and the man who was going to be the new head of it.

CAC: That's right.

BS: He more or less implied that she would have a starring role in developing the women's component of all of this. What happened is that she didn't. That was a promise that did not materialize.

CAC: Ohhh.

BS: That's why she became unhappy. Do you know she applied for the position for vice-president for Student Affairs at the University of Minnesota?

CAC: No, I didn't know that.

BS: She lost out to the woman who has now gone on to become president . . . Marvalene Hughes. Then, she became athletic director at Michigan State. I do know that there was an opening, the athletic director's position, at Princeton. That's where she came to Minnesota from; she'd been at Princeton. She wanted very much to apply for that; but, she was afraid to apply so soon after she'd become athletic director at Michigan State. She walked into a very difficult situation where the football coach was so antagonistic and she thought, it will look as if I'm

running away from something and she didn't intend to run away. So, she has hung in there. I haven't talked to her recently.

CAC: Barbara, I'm going to turn to the community outreach, which, after all, was the core of your mission, and your personality, and your career. It was not only for things that related directly to the university but so many other things . . . most recently the co-chair of the raising of money for a woman candidate, right, the so called . . . ?

BS: Yes, Minnesota Million.

CAC: I knew about that woman candidate development coalition. You were on the board of the Neighborhood House, presumably because you live on the west side here. I know you've been active in the Minnesota Historical Society in many capacities. I've found, interviewing others, how extensive the outreach has been not only formally, which we've talked about earlier in your case, but also just as a human being . . . the citizen who gets active in things that are relevant. Let's talk just a bit in conclusion about those activities of yours.

BS: All right. I suppose the one activity that has been my longtime commitment has been the League of Women Voters. After I left the staff of the League to come to the University of Minnesota, a short year or so later, I was asked to go on the state board of the League. That started my League career. I worked up to the position of vice-president. I was asked to be president, and I spoke to Dean Nolte about that, and he said, "No." He just thought that would be too time consuming. A year or two later, I was asked to go on the national board of the League of Women Voters. I, again, went to Dean Nolte thinking he would say, "No," and he said, "What's the matter, Barbara? Don't you want to be on the national board of the League?" [laughter]

CAC: [laughter]

BS: That was just a tremendous experience and it led to all kinds of other things: my participation in the Wilton Park Conference in England when I was the first woman; and in the first American Delegation to a conference of Europeans; then that year, Americans to Discuss Issues of Common Concern. It led to a longtime commitment to the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters, which produced my leading a delegation of an exchange to the Soviet Union Soviet Women's Committee and, then, my participation in the Education Fund of the League of Women Voters. In that capacity, I chaired a series of regional conferences on military spending and national security in different parts of the country. I became the League's representative on the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO [United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization] and was elected vice-chair, which was a position I served for two or three years. A lot of things devolved from my work with the League of Women Voters. Even now today, I'm on two national committees and one state committee working on the celebration of the League's seventy-fifth anniversary.

CAC: When is that coming?

BS: It comes in different times; so, we're going to celebrate for a couple of years.

CAC: Does that come out of the Women's Party?

BS: No, it comes out of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. It's the direct descendant. Carrie Chapman Catt, in 1919 in St. Louis, proposed the League of Women Voters. Those states that had suffrage organized the League in 1919; but then, there were a lot of states that didn't have suffrage. Then, the National League was formed in February of 1920 in Chicago. Then, they had to wait until August of 1920 for the ratification of Amendment 19 before everybody had suffrage and leagues could be organized. It was done over a period of time. The Minnesota League was organized in October of 1919. I'm very much involved in that activity.

CAC: That led you into partisan stuff in a way, too?

BS: Yes, it did. I've always been on sort of the fringe of politics. I was the founding director of the Minnesota Women's Campaign Fund in 1982.

CAC: This is for candidates at the state level?

BS: No, this is for candidates at all levels: local, state, and national. It's bipartisan . . . supporting women of both parties as long as they are pro-choice and so long as they subscribe to the general notion of equality. Then, I was on the steering committee of something called Minnesota's Growing, which was an adjunct to the Joan Grove senatorial campaign in 1984 and, then, I helped to form the Woman Candidate Development Coalition, of which I'm still a trustee. Our experience with the Campaign Fund was that we had more money than we had women candidates to give the money to. We'd finally sort of broken through the barrier of getting women to write big checks; but, then, where were the candidates? So, we formed this other organization and we have a staff person who cultivates women and gets them to run for office. Then, the latest activity has been Minnesota Million in which we're trying to elect a DFL [Democratic Farmer-Labor Party] woman to the U.S. Senate and to raise money to support that effort.

CAC: Were there other university women on that committee, the Minnesota Million?

BS: Yes, not on the steering committee but certainly as participants.

CAC: I see.

BS: The women who most readily come to mind are from Continuing Education and Extension. [laughter] There may be others but . . .

CAC: Is that because of your networking?

BS: I think partly. I helped form a Women's Council in Continuing Education. I don't know if you ever watch the *Cagney and Lacey Show*? These two women police officers would plot strategies in the ladies room; that's where they would go to talk. It all happened one day in the ladies room on the second floor of Westbrook Hall when I had a conversation with some of my colleagues there and out of that emerged the Women's Council.

CAC: Bravo.

BS: The Women's Council was nice enough to establish and, then, we met and did a number of activities.

CAC: These were all university women?

BS: These were all women in CEE. It was formed about the same time as the Commission on Women was formed so there was that sort of relationship. They were kind enough to establish a Barbara Stuhler Award on the occasion of my retirement, which . . .

CAC: How wonderful.

BS: . . . they will then award, as the case presents itself, to another deserving woman, I guess. Yes, there is that sort of network that still holds.

CAC: Currently, you're writing a biography of a woman leader in Minnesota for the State [Historical] Society.

BS: Yes, Clara Ueland. Actually, it's been transformed a bit more into a history of the last years of the Suffrage Movement and the leadership of Clara Ueland because there really wasn't enough about her to write a full-fledged biography. Her papers, which Brenda [Ueland] used in this unpublished biography that she did, disappeared.

CAC: Oh, my! I didn't know that.

BS: Nobody knows where they are.

CAC: Did Brenda die?

BS: Yes, she died in 1984, I think. That book, in a way, developed out of my collaboration with Gretchen Kreuter on doing *Women in Minnesota* for the Historical Society.

CAC: Say something about that project.

BS: Actually, that's kind of a funny story because when *Ten Men of Minnesota* was published in 1973, Miriam Seltzer came up to me at an autograph party at the Historical Society and said, "When are you going to do *Ten Women*?" I said, "I'll be glad to but I can't do it all by myself." I talked with Gretchen, and we came up with this idea, and we got some money from the Northwest Area Foundation and the support of the Minnesota Historical Society. That book, Anne Firor Scott, whom I'm sure you know, has been kind enough to say is the best of the state histories of those collections of essays that have been done. To this day, I run across people who speak about it and how much they use it. I'm always gratified, in the reference center of the new History Center building, that *Women in Minnesota* is very worn looking.

CAC: Bravo!

BS: They may have to put a new copy on the shelves one of these days. That's gratifying. The Historical Society will publish this book [*Gentle Warriors: Clara Ueland and the Minnesota Struggle for Woman Suffrage*] next summer because they want to take advantage of the seventy-fifth anniversary of Amendment 19, the prelude period in which they will do it. I'm essentially sort of through with the book. Now, it has to go through the line editing and book reference checking..

CAC: That's such a tedious task for the author as well as for the editor and publishers. You also were director for Norwest Bank and for the National Cattle Industry Advisory Committee. Those seem, one of them, rather far afield but maybe not?

BS: When Orville Freeman became secretary of agriculture, I was, then, on the League of Women Voters National Board and I was doing a lot of things in the field or trade. The cattle industry was very upset about the importation of Australian beef into this country; so, Orville organized a group of cattle industry representatives and citizens like myself to sit down and try to iron out that situation.

CAC: Did you?

BS: We had one or two meetings and the matter, as we often say, was resolved in other circles; but at least, we had a couple of days of conversation and sometimes heated debate. That was an interesting experience.

CAC: And the Norwest Bank?

BS: Norwest Bank was an eyeopener for me. Geri Joseph had suggested me when she became ambassador to the Netherlands. I took her place, in a way . . . the woman's place on this board.

CAC: Were you the only woman?

BS: I was then the only woman, but only briefly because shortly thereafter, they invited Reatha Clark King to come on the board. Then, when Geri came back from the Netherlands, at the conclusion of the [President Jimmy] Carter Administration, she came back on the board; so, at one point, there were three women on the Norwest Bank of Minneapolis Board. Then, in 1987, the bank did away with local boards, the St. Paul board, Duluth board, whatever, and had a only a corporate board. The Minneapolis Board is no longer in existence. They don't have those boards any longer. That was another learning experience for me.

CAC: You had to be pretty nimble, Barbara, to do all of these things we've talked about the last two hours.

BS: [laughter] I've always liked to be busy.

CAC: Busy and nimble. A lot of people are busy, but they stick to their last.

BS: I guess that's right.

CAC: You stuck it to the last to many different things.

BS: Yes. I've enjoyed it . . . enjoyed them all.

CAC: I can't imagine you would find time in your life to do anything else, including this recitation.

BS: Oh, but I do. [laughter]

CAC: I know you do.

BS: I enjoy seeing friends and I still do a little bit of tennis. I try to swim fairly regularly.

CAC: How many weeks can you get up to the northern . . . ?

BS: Not a whole lot actually. Jean [West] is going to sell that cabin; she's trying to sell it. When I was working . . . you just can't go up there for Saturday and Sunday. It takes six hours, seven hours to get there.

CAC: It's too far, yes.

BS: We'd always have to make it long weekends. Part of the problem was you never went anyplace else when you have a summer, second home. Jean thought and I thought it was time we might explore other parts of the country.

CAC: All right.

BS: I've done a lot of overseas travel and I've done a lot of travel in the U.S., too, but there are still places it would be fun to go by car.

CAC: You've had a very rewarding career and the university has been rewarded by it.

BS: I hope so.

CAC: I hope posterity is rewarded by our conversation this morning.

BS: Thank you, Clarke. I've really enjoyed this.

CAC: It was a wonderful, wonderful time.

[End of Tape 2, Side 1]

[End of the Interview]

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