July/August 2019
The Summer Institute is Upon Us

Director's Column, July/August 2019
In his latest column, OHC Director Martin Meeker asks, “How can one best teach oral history?” It’s this question that drives the OHC staff each year as we prepare to welcome participants to our annual Advanced Oral History Institute, held the week of August 5th this year.

Oral history is many things — a research methodology, a mode of inquiry, a field of study, a way of engaging with people — so how does one approach communicating a viable path toward the completion of successful interviews? Martin Meeker tackles these questions and explains the concept of the Summer Institute in his July/August 2019 column.

An Evening with Liam O'Donoghue, Creator of the East Bay Yesterday Podcast
Each year, we invite the public to join us for our Summer Institute keynote speaker presentation. This year, we are pleased to feature East Bay Yesterday podcast creator, Liam O'Donoghue, who will talk about his work making podcasts and how he uses oral history. (Check out the episode that includes our SLATE interviews!) Check out our Q&A with him here.
Please join us on Tuesday, August 6 from 6-7:30pm for his presentation in Anthony Hall on UC Berkeley's campus. We hope to see you there!

Summer Institute Speaker Spotlight: Q&A with Dr. Robert Keith Collins

We sat down recently with one of our Summer Institute guest speakers, Dr. Robert Keith Collins, who will be talking about project planning with OHC historian Paul Burnett.

Learn more about him and his work here.

The Berkeley Remix Launches 4th Season! Fresh Episodes in Your Podcast Feed

This season of the Berkeley Remix we’re bringing to life stories about our home — UC Berkeley — from our collection of thousands of oral histories. Please join us for our fourth season, Let There Be Light: 150 Years at UC Berkeley, inspired by the University’s motto, Fiat Lux. Our episodes this season explore issues of identity — where we’ve been, who we are now, the powerful impact Berkeley’s identity as a public institution has had on student and academic life, and the intertwined history of campus and community.

The three-episode season explores how housing has been on the front lines of the battle for student welfare throughout the University’s history; how UC Berkeley created a culture of innovation that made game-changing technologies possible; and how political activism on campus was a motivator for the farm-to-table food scene in the city of Berkeley. All episodes include audio from interviews from the Oral History Center of The Bancroft Library.
New Releases!

George Leitmann: Engineering Science, Risk, and Relationships at UC Berkeley and Beyond

We are proud to announce the launch of Leitmann's oral history, which was recorded over twenty-three hours. From February 12, 2018 until February 12, 2019, Paul Burnett spent eleven sessions with Dr. Leitmann at his home talking about everything from his childhood in Vienna to Adolf Hitler and Sigmund Freud—both of whom he saw up close—to reconnaissance during World War II, rocket science, UC Berkeley administration, the riots at Berkeley in 1969, mathematics, the evolution of science and engineering instruction, the importance of family, and the kindness of dogs, among many other subjects.

For more on this interview, read Paul Burnett’s blog post about his time with Dr. Leitmann.

OHC in the News!

The OHC is in the New York Times and the Berkeley News!

How a Bay Area Explosion Pushed the Military to Desegregate

New York Times California Today used our new oral histories for its article about the Port Chicago explosion and 'mutiny' and talks about the oral history release.

‘This base is going to blow sky high.’ Port Chicago, 75 years later
The Oral History Center partnered with the National Park District to preserve, digitize, and release 8 new oral histories about Port Chicago, as recently reported in the *Berkeley News*.

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**Want More?**

Like what we're doing? Stay connected with us on social media, listen to our podcast (and don't forget to rate us on iTunes!), or consider a donation to support our work. See you next month!

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The Oral History Center
http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/oral-history-center

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