



Carolina Population Center

In 1966, the Carolina Population Center was founded at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. To celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2006, a project was conducted to document the history of the Center. This transcript is an excerpt from an oral history interview.

Interviewee: Don Thomas

Interview conducted by: Grace Camblos

Interview date: November 16, 2005

Don Thomas was a CPC Predoctoral Trainee studying Epidemiology from 1974 – 1977, CPC International Programs Office Research Assistant from 1976 – 1981, and Training Program Coordinator and Training Program Director from 1981 – 1999.

DT: The strengths of any center are the people. And if you've got a core of outstanding people, both faculty members and hopefully staff members, you can get an awful lot done, no matter what you're trying to do. I think the Center has been fortunate in having a number of very good people. I don't know how different that is from almost any successful research center. I think you've got to have some - for a good research center, you've got to have some people who are doing good research. And to do good research, you've got to have some good support staff. The Center has both of those.