



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: Dick Udry

Interview conducted by: Grace Camblos

Interview date: October 11, 2005

Dick Udry was CPC Demographic Research Unit Director from 1973 – 1977, CPC Director from 1977 – 1992, and has been a CPC Fellow since 1992.

DU: The training program was to – remember, the Pop. Center never had the authority to award any degrees. But it held the grants for the training programs. So the training program that we organized was a program to teach young researchers how to do population research. Well that's pretty easy to figure out, what courses they ought to take. And so all the departments had to do was to acknowledge that the Pop. Center could appoint the people who were going to receive the training grant. It couldn't give them a degree, and it couldn't require them to take any courses. But if they wanted to receive the training grant stipends that the Population Center controlled, then they had to meet our requirements. And our requirements were set by the very faculty who ran the programs in the departments, so it just became a hand in glove operation that just worked swell.