



## Carolina Population Center

In 1966, the Carolina Population Center was founded at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. To celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> 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.*

GC: What was CPC like after you left the directorship?

DU: After I left it, I had already determined, when I took my last appointment, my third five-year appointment, that I wasn't going to be reappointed; that fifteen years was enough, and I had my program worked out, my own research and activities, so that would be a good time for me. So the Center had a little trouble deciding exactly how they would want to replace me, but finally they decided that [Ron] Rindfuss should do it, which everybody in the whole population community in the United States thought was so self-evident that they couldn't figure out why we were taking all the time we were. And so it worked out swell. And Rindfuss established a new Spatial Unit, to which I said, "I don't know what you want one for." But it turned out to be a colossal success! And I used it, and everybody used it. And so it just went on as though I... it was a seamless operation. The new director came in, and he just ran the Center. It worked swell.