

## George Kagiwada Papers Finding Guide

### Collection Summary

**Creator:** George Kagiwada (1931-2000), Kagiwada Library

**Dates:** 1970s-1990s

**Extent:** 3 boxes

**Dimensions:** 11 x 14 x 12

**Genre Format:** photographs, journals, notes, pamphlets, fliers, newspapers, papers

**Language:** English

**Organized By:** Stacey Salinas

### Abstract:



“George Kagiwadawas born on July 4, 1931 in Los Angeles to Eiho Frank and Sachiko Kagiwada. George with his parents and brother, David, were evacuated from their home in Los Angeles, and arrived at the Poston internment camp, block 325-2-D on August 8, 1942. The family left Poston on June 20, 1944 and relocated to the Ann Arbor, Michigan area. George served in the U.S. Army in Tokyo during the Korean War.

In the late 1950s he married Nina. George received his bachelor's degree and a Ph.D. in sociology at UCLA. He taught at California State University, Northridge in Southern California and the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. He directed the Asian American Studies program for 23 years at the University of California, Davis until his retirement in 1993. He was a pioneer in the field of Ethnic Studies and Asian-American Studies, and a tireless promoter for social justice and community activism.

George Kagiwada passed away on October 15, 2000 at the age of 69. He was preceded in death by his brother, Reverend David Tamotsu Kagiwada (1985), and his father, Eiho Frank Kagiwada (1995).”  
Biography courtesy of *BIOGRAPHIES OF PEOPLE AT POSTON- ONE OF AMERICA'S CONCENTRATION CAMPS*.

George Kagiwada (1931-2000) was the first professor hired by UC Davis to help develop Asian American Studies before it became an official department and major. The items in this collection are from donations from Kagiwada's family as well as items that were once housed in his office at the Asian American Studies department. Resources and paraphernalia Kagiwada used during his lectures from the 1970s-1990, as well as materials that he gathered with the local Asian American communities for his numerous student engaged activist and outreach activities, are part of this collection. Lastly, the materials and letters that went towards Kagiwada's fight for tenure at UC Davis are also part of this collection.

**Repository:** University of California, Davis  
Kagiwada Library, Hart Hall  
Asian American Studies Department

**Identifier/Call Number:**

George Kagiwada Papers BOX 1  
George Kagiwada Papers BOX 2  
George Kagiwada Papers BOX 3

## [Access Restrictions](#)

All records in this series are open. If you would like to review the items for research and educational purposes, please submit requests for materials at least 10 business days before visiting the library to allow time for this review to the Asian American Studies department's coordinator. An archivist will respond within 10 business days to let you know if the materials are available for review.

## Scope and Contents

Box	Years	Item Types	Details
1	1969-1980s	Papers, photograph slides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kagiwada's dissertation, "Ethnic Identification and Socio-Economic Status," 1969 (2 copies)</li> <li>• Photograph slides for lectures</li> <li>• Files and Papers, letters of support, correspondence, meeting notes for Kagiwada's tenure support</li> <li>• Chinese American History syllabus</li> </ul>
2	1969-1980s	Loose papers, film reels, photo reels, library cards, bibliographies (index cards, research), cassette tapes, photograph film (used and unused)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tule Lake, Manzanar photo slides, pilgrimage, evacuation and relocation, maps, newspaper headlines (1969-1970s), two metal bins</li> <li>• "Locke Conference Rec Pool Lodge, 1979" photograph slides.</li> <li>• "Early Japanese, Chinese, Wakamatsu," 2 metal containers of photo slides.</li> <li>• I-Hotel photograph slides</li> <li>• Kodak film and slides for Asian</li> </ul>

			<p>American Studies lectures, of historic events and student activist movements and events on campus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Developed photographs of 1980s Asian American Studies student activities and events on campus</li> <li>● Developed photographs of Isao Fujimoto and Geroge Kagiwada with students, 1970s</li> <li>● Cassette audio tapes, “ASA Slideshow” and “White Racist Love”</li> <li>● Unused film reels</li> <li>● “Scrapbook” of papers, newspaper articles, letters, pamphlets, ASA fliers and student organizations. Collected by Kagiwada from the 1970s</li> </ul>
3	1977	Papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kagiwada’s fight for tenure papers and files: committee hearings, meetings, notes, funding, pamphlets, leaflets, letters of support for Asian American Studies program and department</li> </ul>

			and for Kagiwada's tenure at "AAS" (Asian American Studies)
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