

**Mary Louise Hirsh Burger Papers,**  
**1958-1990, n.d.**

**Creator:** Burger, Mary Louise Hirsh (1932- )

**Extent:** 8.5 Linear ft.

**Location:**

**Processor:** Jeanelle Bergen, BVM and Carole Heath. Updated by Elizabeth A. Myers, 2007.  
Updated by Becca Smith, 2011.

**Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** None

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**Provenance:** Mary Louise Hirsh Burger donated these materials to the Women and Leadership Archives on 9 July 1999 (WLA1999.45).

**Separations:** Approximately 7 inches of duplicate materials were removed.

**See Also:** Mundelein College Archives.

**Biographical History**

Mary Louise Hirsh Burger was born November 3, 1932 in Chicago to Robert Stanley Hirsh and Margaret Agnes (Brennan). She married William Bronson Burger on March 16, 1968. Through her career Burger gained increasing influence and prominence in the field of childhood education at the local, national, and international levels. As a teacher in the Chicago Public School System between 1954 and 1968 she dealt with the education of children directly. Although this connection with children continued through her career, her focus took a more theoretical turn as Burger continued her own education through becoming increasingly involved in the development and accreditation of educational programs for children at both local and state levels. For example, she served for six years on NCATE where one responsibility was as Chair of the Constitution Committee of the Executive Board. Burger also was involved with curriculum design for the Education Department while at Northeastern Illinois University.

In addition to teaching for the Chicago Public School System, Burger also was an instructor at DePaul University in the Education Department and Roosevelt University in Chicago in the Department of Creative Arts. In 1968, Burger joined the faculty of Northeastern Illinois University (NIU). She was professor in the Department of Childhood Education of NIU from 1968 – 1973, serving as Chairperson from 1972-1980. From 1986-1995 she was Early Childhood Coordinator in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. After 1985, she was a

professor in the Department of Teacher Education/International-Intercultural. At NIU, Burger developed new courses including developing and presenting a graduate level course entitled “Curriculum in Early Childhood Education” which was broadcast over WBEZ-FM in Chicago.

Other professional experiences include working as a psychologist for Worthington, Hurst and Associates (1972-1974), Owner/Director Childhood Education Center, Evanston IL (1974–1985), and Educational Counselor, Burger Associates, Ltd., Schaumburg IL, from 1983 on.

Burger led many workshops and presented numerous papers at meetings of professional societies around the world on subjects such as coping with stress through children’s literature, creative activities for young children, and toy safety. Although active in many international, national, and local professional organizations such as Zonta International, Delta Kappa Gamma International Society, North Shore Association of Nursery Schools, and the National Association for Education of Young Children, Burger was deeply involved in the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). She served the organization in many facets including several committees (such as the Infancy Committee, the Teacher Education Committee, as Co-Chair of the ACEI/Children’s Book Council Committee (1981)), as Vice-President and member of the Executive board between 1983-1986, and as President between 1988-1992.

Burger has been listed in editions of *World Who’s Who of Women*, *Dictionary of International Biography*, *Who’s Who of American Women*, *International Who’s Who in Community Services*, *Who’s Who Biographical Record of Child Development Professionals*, *Who’s Who in the Midwest*, *Notable Americans of the Bicentennial Era*, and *Personalities of the West and Midwest*.

Burger received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Mundelein College (1954) and her Master of Education degree from Loyola University Chicago (1957). She was awarded her Doctor of Education degree from Northern Illinois University (1972).

## **Series Listing**

### **Series 1: Personal/Biographical Materials, 1972-1989, n.d. Box 1**

The materials in this collection include Mary Hirsh’s Curriculum Vitae, biographical information and materials for Who’s Who, writings and publications by Mary Hirsh (including her dissertation, papers, book reviews, and handwritten materials), photographs, information about her daycare and consulting endeavors, and personal correspondence.

**Series 2: Northern Illinois University Materials, 1973-1995, n.d., Boxes 2-3**

The materials in this collection reflect activities at Northeastern Illinois University: not all the materials reflect activities in which Burger was involved either directly or indirectly. The papers include materials regarding general administrative and organizational activities at NIU, materials reflecting curriculum development, NIU news publications (including press releases, alumni news, and newsletters), and materials related to professional advancement at the university (many of these documents pertain to Burger).

**Series 3: Childhood Education International, 1958-1995, n.d., Boxes 3-8**

The materials in this series pertain to the professional organization, Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). ACEI is an organization of teachers and education leaders that promotes the interests of children and their education through research, workshops, and publications. The materials reflect organizational activities and materials such as budgets, board meeting minutes, by-laws, newsletters, and committee reports. There is also information reflecting international tours taken by members of ACEI where other schools and professionals were visited or observed. The series includes professional conference materials, primarily programs from the ACEI conferences. In addition, there are ACEI published materials including the organization professional journal, newsletters (particularly of smaller groups within the organizations such as the Division of Infancy), and the ACEI Exchange.

**Series 4 Correspondence, 1970-1999, n.d., Boxes 9-11**

This series contains correspondence written and received by Mary Burger. The subject of the correspondence reflects Burger's professional career, activities, and interests. Much of the correspondence pertains to ACEI and NIU, but not exclusively. There are greeting cards that have been housed in the series as well. The correspondence is arranged chronologically.

**Series 5 Radio Course, 1971-1973, n.d., Boxes 12-14**

This series contains materials pertaining to the course offered on WBEZ Radio by the Early Childhood Education Department of Northeastern Illinois University in cooperation with the Chicago Board of Education. Mary Louise Burger organized and conducted the course. According to the study guide the course "focuses upon various innovative curricular patterns involved in creative programs for young children designed to encourage individual progression in all areas of skill development." The course was broadcast on the radio Monday and Wednesday between 4:00 and 4:30 p.m. In addition there were seminars one Thursday each month. The series includes relevant documents for the course including a study as well as copies of all the sessions on reel-to-reel tapes.

**Series 6 General Professional Conference, Organizational, and Publication Materials, 1977-1999, n.d., Boxes 15-16**

This series contains materials from educational professional conferences and other organizations, with which Mary Louise Burger was involved.

**Series 7 Awards, 1966-1994, n.d., Box 17**

This series contains awards, certificates, and distinguished merit citations given to Mary Louise Burger primarily for professional service.

**Subjects:**

Association for Childhood Education International  
Curriculum Development  
Delta Kappa Gamma Society  
Early Childhood Development  
Early Childhood Education  
Loyola University Chicago  
Northeastern Illinois University  
Mundelein College  
Women in Higher Education  
Zonta

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b>Series 1: Personal/Biographical, 1972-1989, n.d.</b>			
1	1	Vita – Mary Lou Hirsh Burger	n.d.
	2	“Who’s Who”	n.d.
	3	Mary Lou Hirsh Burger – Dissertation: A Comparative Study of Self-Esteem Among Young Black, Spanish, White Children	1972
	4	Creative Educational Systems	n.d.
	5	Childhood Education Nursery and Day Care Center	1983-1989
	6	Handwritten Materials – Odds and Ends	n.d.
	7	Descriptive Analysis of Submission for Publication – “Literacy Activities for Teachers to Use with Parents on their Pre-school Children” – MHB	n.d.
	8	Perspectives on Early Childhood Education: Growing with Young Children toward 21st Century – NEA	1989
	9	Comparative Study of Self-Esteem among Young Black, Spanish, White Children	n.d.
	10	Present and Future Concerns for Children – MHB	1992
	11	Piaget: Cognition and Meta-Cognition Implications and Practices – MHB	n.d.
	12	Speeches – MHB	n.d.
	13	MHB Paper – Drama in Opera	n.d.
	14	Reviews of Books, Pamphlets – MHB	n.d.
	15	Photos	n.d.
	16	MLB - Letters to her mother	1980
	17	Letters regarding MLB’s mother’s estate	1990
	18	Correspondence regarding death of MLB’s brother	1980
	19	News clippings	1976-1988, n.d.

**Series 2: Northeastern Illinois University,  
1973-1995, n.d**

2	1	Interdepartmental Correspondence	
	2	NIU Commencement Program	1973
	3	Child Care Positions	1978
	4	Evaluation of Dr. John Cownie, Provost	1980
	5	ML Hirsh’s effort to take State Psychologist’s Test	1980
	6	Assignment of Advisers	1981
	7	Council of Faculties	1981-1982

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Ann Ida Gannon, BVM Center for Women and Leadership*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

8	Recommendations	1981-1982
9	Faculty Accomplishments Survey	1982
10	Student Teaching Evaluation Forms	1982
11	Travel Authorizations	1983-1995
12	Outside Employment approved by NIU	1985
13	State University Retirement Program	1986
14	Meetings Attended	1988-1989
15	NIU State of University Address – Gordon Lamb, Pres.	1989
16	Grant Personnel Assignment	1990
17	School Age Series – Workshop Proposal	1993
18	Evaluation of Tenured Faculty	1994
19	Work Load Assignment	1993-94
20	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education – NCATE	1995
21	News Clips	1981-1996
22	News Clips	n.d.
23	Correspondence with Doctoral Student helped by Burger	n.d.
24	Planning Guide – Dept. Early Childhood Education	n.d.
25	Department Strategic Planning Report	1988
26	Correspondence re: Courses and State Requirements	1988
27	Competencies for Pre-service Early Childhood Majors	n.d.
28	Goals/Achievements – Dept. Early Childhood Education	n.d.
29	Requirements for Early Childhood Education Program	1989
30	Personnel Training Materials – Early Childhood Certification – Agenda	1990
31	Proposal between Early Childhood, Foreign Language Depts.	n.d.
32	Dept. of Early Childhood – Program Statement Materials	1982
33	Planning and Program Review Statement – Early Childhood – College of Education	n.d.
34	Piaget	n.d.
35	Piaget Seminar – Notes from students	1980
36	Reggio Emilia Approach	n.d.
37	Pre-Kindergarten at Risk	n.d.
38	Froebel’s Gifts – Kindergarten	n.d.
39	Revised Kindergarten Resource Material	1978
40	Elementary Education Objectives	n.d.
41	Model Cities Competencies	n.d.
42	Competencies of Early Education	n.d.
43	Class Project – Science Exposition – ML Burger and M. Lindman	n.d.
3	1 NIU – News Press Release	1982

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*Ann Ida Gannon, BVM Center for Women and Leadership*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

2	Northern Illinois Alumni News	1983
3	NIU News – Announcement of MH Burger’s Presidential Merit Award	1983
4	NIU – Publication – Newsletter “For your Info”	1984
5	NIU Newsletter - FYI	1985
6	NIU Newsletter – FYI	1986
7	Publications – FYI – Northern Now	1989
8	NIU – Presidential Nomination Merit Awards	1984-1985
9	Submission for Presidential Faculty Excellence Awards	1986
10	Nomination Materials Faculty Excellence Awards	1988-1989
11	Appeal re: Promotion, Related Materials	1979-1979
12	College of Education – Evaluation of Tenured Faculty	1994
13	Professional Advancement: Research ( Articles, Presentations), Creative Activities	n.d.
14	Professional Advancement A: Educational Background; B: Teaching, Related Experiences – Evaluations	n.d.
15	Professional Advancement: C: Research, Creative Activities (Performances, Exhibits)	n.d.
16	Professional Advancement D: Service Activities	n.d.
17	Professional Advancement E:Other: (Honors, Awards, Grants)	n.d.

**Series 3: Association for Childhood Education International, 1958-1995, n.d.**

4	1	Notary Public Signature Sheet re: ACEI Activities	1958
	2	ACEI Constitution – By Laws	n.d.
	3	ACEI May Luncheon – Chicago Branch	1977
	4	ACEI Yearbook – Chicago Branch	1977-1978
	5	Appointments and Acknowledgements	1981
	6	ACEI May Luncheon	1982
	7	ACEI Leader Letters	n.d.
	8	ACEI Executive Board – Bahamas	1985
	9	ACEI President’s Manual	1985
	10	ACEI Candidates	1985
	11	ACEI Executive Board Candidate Bio Sketch	n.d.
	12	ACEI Budget	1986-1989
	13	ACEI International Conference – Great Britain – Participant’s Travel Journal and Reflective Papers	1986-1986
	14	ACEI Executive Board Agenda	1921-1986
	15	ACEI – PSA Release Forms	1987
	16	ACEI Executive Board Meeting Minutes	1921-1989
	17	ACEI Field Action Guide	1990

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Ann Ida Gannon, BVM Center for Women and Leadership*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

	18	ACEI Executive Board Meeting Materials – Pittsburgh, Pa..	1990
	19	The Activist Newsletter	1990
	20	News clippings announcing MH Burger International President of ACEI	
	21	ACEI Activities – Ill. Branch	1970-1978
	22	President’s Message – MHB – “Events in our lives shape our thinking”	n.d.
	23	Critique of President’s Education Program as “Bush League” – by MH Burger (Pres. Of ACEI} and Verl Short (Past Pres.)	1985
	24	Infancy Committee Report	1984
	25	ACEI Centennial Celebration – 1893 – 1993	1993
	26	ACEI Heritage Committee	1976-1993
	27	Invitation to ACEI Conference Room Dedication and Open House	1998
	28	Tours	n.d.
	29	Professional Travel	n.d.
	30	Kindergarten Summer Seminar in Tokyo (Materials)	1985
	31	ACEI Trip to Australia – New Zealand	1991
	32	Heartland of Europe Tour	1993
	33	Switzerland Trip	1993
	34	Swiss Kindergarten Materials	1970
5	1	ACEI Study Conference – “I Am Somebody”	1974
	2	ACEI Mini-Regional Conference – “The <u>You</u> in Humanizing”	1974
	3	ACEI Study Conference – Salt Lake City, Utah	1976
	4	ACEI Study Conference – Charlotte, N.C.	1978
	5	ACEI Regional Conference – Children’s Literature – “Bushels, Pecks, and Wild Geese”	1978
	6	ACEI Study Conference– “Let’s Join Hands for Children”	1979
	7	ACEI Center – State and Province Presidents’ Conference	1979
	8	ACEI Fall Study Conference	1979
	9	ACEI Study Conference – “Building Bridges”	1980
	10	ACEI Study Conference – “Opportunity Beckons”	1981
	11	ACEI Study Conference – Atlanta, Ga. - “Gateways for Children”	1982
	12	ACEI Study Conference – “Landmarks into the Future”	1983
	13	ACEI Study Conference – “Under One Umbrella”	1984
	14	ACEI Mini-Conference – “Diversity in the Classroom”	1984
	15	Conference Early Childhood Education – Japan, Europe, USA – Program	1985
	16	ACEI International Conference – Great Britain	1986

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Ann Ida Gannon, BVM Center for Women and Leadership*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

	17	ACEI – Study Conference – “Children our Future Investment”	1986
	18	ACEI – Taiwan Conference – Presentation Montessori Panel – MH Burger	1987
	19	ACEI Study Conference – “Exploring the Crossroads for Children”	1987
	20	ACEI Study Conference - “The Child and Family”	1988
	21	ACEI Study Conference – Indianapolis	1989
6	1	Invitation to ACEI Summer Conference	1989
	2	ACEI Summer Conference – Taipei, Taiwan – Materials	1989
	3	Proceedings of ACEI Summer Conference – Taipei, Taiwan	1989
	4	China Booklets	n.d.
	5	Taipei Summer Conference – Materials	1989
	6	Pacific Cultural Foundation – Republic of China – Taipei -	1989
	7	ACEI – Study Conference	1990
	8	ACEI Study Conference - “Priorities for Children – Agenda for the 90’s”	1991
	9	Assn. for Childhood Education Centennial Celebration –“Celebrating a Century of Concern for Children”	1992
	10	Conference Correspondence – Perth, Australia	1994
	11	ACEI Conference Program – “Circle of Inclusion: Families, Children, Schools, Community	1994
	12	ACEI Conference Program – “Our World Nurtured by and for Children”	1995
	13	IACEI Conference	1990
	14	IACEI Conference – “Focus on the 90’s” – Chicago Teachers’ Center	1990
	15	IACEI International Conference – “Childhood Education, International Perspectives”	1995
7	1	History of ACEI 1892 – 1967	n.d.
	2	<i>Childhood Education Journal</i> (3)	1976-1977
	3	Journal of ACEI	1984-1987
	4	Journal of ACEI	1988-1990
	5	Journal of ACEI	1991
	6	Journal of ACEI	1992-1995
	7	Reprints <i>Childhood Education</i>	n.d.
	8	ACEI Yearbooks	1977 -1978, 1986-1987
	9	Manual of Ill. State Assn. for Childhood Education	1980
	10	Children’s Book Council Joint Committee – Regional Conference Brochures	1980

*Women and Leadership Archives  
Ann Ida Gannon, BVM Center for Women and Leadership  
Loyola University Chicago*

	11	ACEI Yearbook Chicago Area Branch	1980-81
	12	IACEI Branch Handbook	1981
	13	Article in ACEI <u>Exchange</u> “Developing Self-Esteem in Young Children”	1983
	14	<u>Exchange</u> Columns – ML Burger – V.P. Representing Infancy	1985
	15	ACEI Newsletter	1984-1990
	16	ACEI Newsletter – Division of Infancy	1989
	17	ACEI Newsletter – Division of Later Childhood/Early Adolescence	1989
	18	ACEI Newsletter – Division of Leadership for ACEI	1989,1990
	19	ACEI Newsletter – Division for Early childhood	1989
	20	ACEI Illinois Member Contact info	n.d.
	21	ACEI Publication Schedule	1994-1995
	22	ACEI Position Paper – “Preparation of Early Childhood Teachers”	1981-1982
	23	ACEI “Kindergarten” by Patty Hill Smith (from American Educator Encyclopedia)	1992
	24	Infancy Newsletter	1982-1984
	25	Music Educator’s Journal	1986
8	1	ACEI <u>Exchange</u>	1982-1983
	2	ACEI <u>Exchange</u>	1984-1985
	3	ACEI <u>Exchange</u>	1986-1987
	4	ACEI <u>Exchange</u>	1989-1990
	5	ACEI <u>Exchange</u>	1991
	6	ACEI <u>Exchange</u> Columns (3)	

**Series 4: Correspondence, 1970-1999, n.d.**

9	1	Correspondence Prior to 1970	
	2	Correspondence Follet Publishing Co.	1980
	3	Correspondence	1970-1975
	4	Correspondence	1976-1979
	5	Correspondence	1980-1985
10	1	Correspondence	1986-1988
	2	Correspondence	1989
	3	Correspondence	1990
	4	Correspondence	1991
	5	Correspondence	1992
	6	Correspondence	1993

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Ann Ida Gannon, BVM Center for Women and Leadership*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

	7	Correspondence	1994-1999
	8	Correspondence	n.d.
11	1	Greeting Cards 1 of 2	n.d.
	2	Greeting Cards 2 of 2	n.d.
	3	Greetings Cards and Notes	n.d.

**Series 5: Radio Program, 1971-1973, n.d.**

12	1	Radio Program – Related Correspondence	1981
	2	Study Guide for Curriculum and Instruction in Early Childhood – Course offered on WBEZ Radio 91.5 FM – Conducted by ML Burger; Monthly Radio Program – WBEZ – 6/73 - Script	1973
	3	WBEZ Audio Tape 1 – Psychology	n.d.
	4	WBEZ Audio Tape 2 – Mental Ability	1973
	5	WBEZ Audio Tape 3 – Physical Aspects	1973
	6	WBEZ Audio Tape 4 – Goals #1	1971
	7	WBEZ Audio Tape 5 – Goals #2	1972
	8	WBEZ Audio Tape 6 – Self-Esteem	1973
	9	WBEZ Audio Tape 7 – Play	1973
	10	WBEZ Audio Tape 8 – Disney Magnet School	n.d.
	11	WBEZ Audio Tape 9– History of Early Childhood	1973
	12	WBEZ Audio Tape 10 – Text Review	1973
13	1	WBEZ Audio Tape 11 – Spanish Culture	1973
	2	WBEZ Audio Tape 12 – Black Culture	1973
	3	WBEZ Audio Tape 13 – Spanish Culture	1973
	4	WBEZ Audio Tape 14 – Indian Ethnicity	n.d.
	5	WBEZ Audio Tape 15 – Middle Class Ethnicity	n.d.
	6	WBEZ Audio Tape 16 – Stockton Schome	n.d.
	7	WBEZ Audio Tape 17 – Math (Boone School)	n.d.
	8	WBEZ Audio Tape 18 – Pre-Reading	1973
	9	WBEZ Audio Tape 19 – Language	1973
	10	WBEZ Audio Tape 20 – Curriculum	1973
	11	WBEZ Audio Tape 21 – Science	1973
	12	WBEZ Audio Tape 22 – Social Studies	1973
14	1	WBEZ Audio Tape 23 – Art	1973
	2	WBEZ Audio Tape 24 – Music	1973
	3	WBEZ Audio Tape 25 – Movement	1973
	4	WBEZ Audio Tape 26 – Drama	1973
	5	WBEZ Audio Tape 27 – British Infant School	1973

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Ann Ida Gannon, BVM Center for Women and Leadership*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

6	WBEZ Audio Tape 28 – Evaluation	1973
7	WBEZ Audio Tape 29 – Dental Hygiene	1973

**Series 6: General Professional Conference,  
Organizational, and Publication Materials,  
1970-1999, n.d.**

15	1	Delta Kappa Gamma Society – History (Bulletins, Song)	n.d.
	2	Delta Kappa Gamma Correspondence	1976-1993
	3	State Biennial Report Commission on Children	1981
	4	National Safety Council	
	5	Northwest Assn . of Nursery Schools – Yearbook	1974-1975
	6	Chicago Assn. for Education of Young Children	1974
	7	Handbook Review Committee – Starting a Day Care Center – City of Chicago	1976
	8	NCATE – U.S. Dept . of Education	n.d.
	9	Ill. State Bd. of Education – “Building the Program”	1990
	10	Ill. State Bd. of Education – Correspondence	1988-1989
	11	Zonta – Correspondence - Newsletter	n.d
	12	IASCO – Ill. Assn. Supervision and Curriculum Development	n.d.
	13	Ill.Assn. Supervision and Curriculum Development – Program	1976
	14	Day Care Action Council – Policies for Children	1984
	15	Early Child Development and Care – v. 40	1988
	16	Early Child Development and Care – v.70	1991
	17	Early Child Development and Care – v.149	1999
16	1	Focus on the 1970	1970
	2	Focus on the 1990 - Donations	1990
	3	Chicago Assn. for Education of Young Children	1974
	4	IAEYC – A Conference for Parents and Other Educators	1975
	5	Model Cities Chicago – Committee on Urban Opportunity	1975
	6	IBC – Who’s Who at the International Biographical Centre	1976
	7	ACEI I – State Drive-In Conference NIU	1979
	8	Report on Illinois 1980 White House Conference on Children	1980
	9	“Families, Friends, and Fantasies” – Children’s Literature Conference	1981
	10	Lambda State Organization – Delta Kappa Gamma Society – 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	1985
	11	5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Illinois State Kindergarten Conference	1986

*Women and Leadership Archives*  
*Ann Ida Gannon, BVM Center for Women and Leadership*  
*Loyola University Chicago*

12	Zonta – District VI Fall conference	1987
13	Cognitive Curriculum for Young Children - Workshop Materials	1988
14	“Taking Language to Heart” 78 <sup>th</sup> Annual Convention National Council of English Teachers	1988
15	National Assn. for Education of Young Children	1988
16	“Making a Connection – Paving the Way from Kindergarten to First Grade”	1991

**Series Seven: Awards, 1966-1994, n.d.**

17	1	Master of Communications by Educational Facilities	n.d.
	2	Certificate of Appreciation from Holocaust Memorial Museum	n.d.
	3	Certificate of Merit from Austin Human Relations School	1966
	4	Unframed Awards	1968-81
	5	Certificate of Merit for Distinguished Service in Early Childhood Education from Dictionary of International Biography	1973
	6	Notable Americans of Bicentennial Era	1976
	7	ACEI – Outstanding Member	1988
	8	NAECE – Appreciation	1989
	9	Significant Contribution ACEI Summer Conference in Taipei	1989
	10	Certificate of Appreciation ACE	1993-1994