

# Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

## Finding Aid - Union of Socialist Geographers collection (MsC-188)

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Language of description: English

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<http://atom.archives.sfu.ca/index.php/union-of-socialist-geographers-2>

# Union of Socialist Geographers collection

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## Summary information

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**Repository:** Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

**Title:** Union of Socialist Geographers collection

**ID:** MsC-188

**Date:** 1974 - 1977 (date of creation)

**Date:** 1972-1977 (date of creation)

**Physical description:** 8 cm of textual records

**Language:** English

**Dates of creation,  
revision and deletion:**

**Note  
[sourcesDescription]:**

<https://antipodefoundation.org/supplementary-material/the-union-of-socialist-geographers-newsletter-1975-1983/>

Peake, L and Shppard, E. (2014) "The Emergence of Radical/Critical Geography within North America". *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*, 13 (2), 305-327. Downloaded 11Dec2017 from: <http://www.geog.ucla.edu/sites/default/files/users/esheppard/Peake%26Sheppard%20ACME%202014.pdf>

Union of Socialist Geographers (22-24 Nov., 1974) "Seminar in Marxist Geography". Presentation notes, Clark University, Worcester, MA, USA. Downloaded 11Dec2017 from: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-8330.1975.tb00678.x/pdf>

## Custodial history

This collection was acquired by Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books in 2017

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## Scope and content

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In September of 1974, 12 members of the SFU Geography Department voted to form a Vancouver chapter of the Union of Socialist Geographers (USG). For the first few years this chapter, comprised of both faculty and graduate students, was responsible for collecting, editing and publishing content for issues of the USG newsletter. Eventually, volumes comprised of multiple issues of newsletters were produced and the first few of these were also published from SFU. By 1978, however, support from the Geography department at the University was waning. M. E. Eliot Hurst, a key founding member of the USG, was

replaced as Chair of the Department of Geography and graduate students were leaving, so the Minnesota chapter stepped in to become the principle organizing and publishing collective for volumes 5 and 6. Superseded by a splinter group, the USG fizzled out of existence around 1981. In the years since, several original members of the Union have worked to collect and digitize original published content, though it remains incomplete. SFU Special Collections and Rare Books holds 17 issues of the USG newsletter, representing volumes 1-4 in their entirety and portions of volumes 5 & 6. A few more issues can be found at the website for the Antipode foundation (<https://antipodefoundation.org/2017/06/28/usg-newsletter-archive/>).

This collection is comprised of miscellaneous contextual records that serve to illustrate some of the atmosphere and attitudes towards socialist geography that existed at SFU in the 1970's. There are source project reports that clearly inspired SFU students to develop their own geography project in Vancouver; notes and memos from within the SFU Department of Geography discussing the relative merits of a socialist geography course or agenda; a compilation of collaborative papers generated by USG members for presentation at a conference; and minutes from meetings of the Vancouver chapter of the Union of Socialist Geographers.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title is based on the contents of the collection

### Arrangement

When these records were received there was no arrangement or original order of any kind. Order and arrangement was provided by the archivist. As there were no assigned titles for files a title was created by the archivist based on the contents of the file. With the exception of titles assigned based on proper article or paper names, which can be found in quotes, assigned titles have been placed in square brackets.

### Restrictions on access

No known restrictions

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** draft
  - **Status description:** Published
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## Access points

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- Union of Socialist Geographers
- Department of Geography

- Textual record (documentary form)

## Series descriptions

### Series MsC-188-0-1: Socialist Geography, general records

Date: [1969-1979?] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series is comprised of project reports, academic papers and documentation generated throughout North America in the late 1960's/early 1970's regarding the study and implementation of Socialist Geography.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

Publication status:

draft

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-1	File - [Reports by William Bunge, various geographical expeditions]	1969-1977		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 1
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-1-1	Item - [Photocopy of "Field Notes, Discussion Paper No. 1: The Detroit Geographical Expedition", W. Bunge, 1969]	1969		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 1
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-1-2	Item - ["The Canadian-American Geographical Expedition (CAGE) by William Bunge, Field Notes: 2, January 1977 (2 copies)"]	1977		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 1
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-2	File - [Paperwork generated by the Toronto Geographical Expedition]	1973		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 2
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-2-1	Item - "Field Manual" Locating a Park for Children in the Bathurst-Bloor Region"	1973		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 2
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-2-2	Item - "Field Manual 1: Supplement, Parks"	1973		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 2
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-2-3	Item - "Manual 2: Urban Base Map"	1973		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 2
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-2-4	Item - "The 'Studied to Death' Study"	1973		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 2
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-3	File - [Papers relating to Socialist Geography]	[1970-1979?]		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 3
MsC-188-0-1-0-0-3-1	Item - [Michael E. Eliot Hurst - "Toward a socialist geography: or how to survive and remain human"]	1973		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 3

MsC-188-0-1-0-0-3-2	Item - Eric Leonard - "Isn't that something of a contradiction in terms?" Notes on radical physical Geography"]	[1970-1979?]	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 3
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## Series MsC-188-0-2: Simon Fraser University, Department of Geography and the Union of Socialist Geographers records

Date: 1972-1977 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series is comprised of minutes of meetings, project reports, academic papers, departmental notes and memos regarding the relationship between the SFU Department of Geography and faculty members who were strong followers of Socialist Geography as a field, as well as with the USG. There is also documentation relating to the Vancouver Geographical Expedition, a community project developed by SFU graduate students that was inspired by previous work conducted in North America.

Physical description: 4.5 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

draft

### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-1	File - [The Geography Student Union]	1972		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 4
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-1-1	Item - ["Cuesta" newsletter for the Geography Student Union. Vol. 1, No. 1, October 31, 1972"]	31-Oct-1972		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 4
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-1-2	Item - "Minutes of Geography Student Union Meeting, October 31, 1972, Special Meeting"	31-Oct-1972		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 4
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-2	File - [Student recommendations for Dr. M.E. Eliot Hurst]	1974		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 5
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-2-1	Item - [Student recommendations for Dr. M.E. Eliot Hurst]	1974		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 5
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-3	File - [Paperwork generated by the Vancouver Geographical Expedition]	1974		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 6
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-3-1	Item - [Memo from M.E. Eliot Hurst regarding Geography graduate student project]	1974		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 6
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-3-2	Item - "The Vancouver Geographical Expedition"	1974		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 6
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-3-3	Item - "History and Philosophy of the Vancouver Geographical Expedition"	1974		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 6
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-3-4	Item - "Vancouver Geographical Expedition, Project: Children's Play"	1974		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 6
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-3-5	Item - "Children's Recreation in Cedar Cove: Outline"	1974		MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 6

MsC-188-0-2-0-0-4	File - [Departmental notes on developing courses in Socialist Geography]	1975-1977	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 7
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-4-1	Item - "Discussion on Course Proposal, October 1975"	1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 7
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-4-2	Item - ["Discussion on Course Proposal Revisited" addressed to members of the USG]	1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 7
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-4-3	Item - ["Course Outlines in Transportation Geography", published in the USG newsletter, Vol. 2, No. 1, Nov-Dec 1975]	1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 7
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-4-4	Item - ["Introduction to Economic Geography", published in the USG newsletter, Vol. 2, No. 1, Jan-Mar 1977]	1977	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 7
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-5	File - [Works generated by members of the Union of Socialist Geographers]	1976	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 8
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-5-1	Item - ["Study Papers on Imperialism", collective papers prepared for a workshop on "Marxist Perspectives in Geography" at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (2 copies)]	1976	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 8
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-6	File - [Union of Socialist Geographers and the Canadian Association of Geographers]	1974-1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 9
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-6-1	Item - [Notes for potential members of the Vancouver Local of the Union of Socialist Geographers]	1974	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 9
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-6-2	Item - ["Socialist geographers organize", article from City Magazine, 1975]	1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 9
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7	File - [Minutes of meetings of Vancouver Local of the Union of Socialist Geographers]	1974-1976	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-1	Item - "Minutes of meetings of Vancouver Local of Union of Socialist Geographers, Sept. 10 '74"	10-Sep-1974	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-2	Item - "Union of Socialist Geographers, February 25, 1975"	25-Feb-1974	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-3	Item - "Minutes - June 16th meeting of the U.S.G"	16-Jun-1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-4	Item - "Minutes of U.S.G. meeting held on Mon. Sep. 15. 1975 at 7:30pm in Room CC 6120"	15-Sep-1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-5	Item - "Minutes of U.S.G meeting Sept. 29th."	29-Sep-1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-6	Item - "Minutes of U.S.G meeting; 14th Oct. 7:30"	14-Oct-1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-7	Item - "USG meeting, October 27"	27-Oct-1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10

MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-8	Item - "Minutes of the USG meeting, Monday November 10th, 1975. 6120 cc."	10-Nov-1975	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10
MsC-188-0-2-0-0-7-9	Item - "U.S.G. Minutes - Jan. 26, 1976"	26-Jan-1976	MsC 188 - Box 1 folder 10