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Lea K. Bleyman Papers

1958-2006

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[About SCUA](#)

[SCUA home](#)

[Credo digital](#)

[Scope](#)

[Overview](#)

[Series 1. Conferences](#)

[Series 2. Laboratory and Lecture Notes](#)

[Series 3. Professional Organizations](#)

[Series 4. Publications](#)

[Inventory](#)

[Series 1. Conferences](#)

[Series 2. Laboratory and Lecture Notes](#)

[Series 3. Professional Organizations](#)

[Series 4. Publications](#)

[Admin info](#)

[Download](#)

[xml version](#)

[print version \(pdf\)](#)



[Read collection overview](#)

The protistologist Lea Bleyman has conducted research into the genetics, mating systems, and life cycles of ciliates, including *Paramecium*, *Tetrahymena*, and *Blepharisma*. After completing a dissertation under Tracy Sonneborn in 1966, Bleyman spent many years on the faculty of the Department of Natural Sciences at Baruch College, serving as an officer and President (2001-2002) of the Society of Protozoologists.

The Bleyman Papers contain conference materials, lab and research notes, abstracts of talks and papers, along with some correspondence, photographs, and personal materials. The earliest materials in the collection relate to her years as a student in Sonneborn's lab.

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Protistology

Women

Background on Lea K. Bleyman

Lea Kanner Bleyman was born into a Jewish family in Halle, Germany, on November 9, 1936. As an infant, she and her family fled Germany to France, where they remained for the duration of the war, even as her older sisters, Eva and Ruth, were evacuated to the United States by the Kindertransport Program of the humanitarian organization OSE (*Oeuvre de Secours aux Enfants*).

Reunited in the United States in 1946, the Kanners settled in the Midwood section of Brooklyn. Entering the local public schools, Lea found her first brush with science leavened by her first experience with gender bias, but undeterred, she pursued biology as an undergraduate at Brandeis University. After graduation in 1958, and marrying Michael A. Bleyman, a philosophy major, then studying law at New York University, Bleyman relocated to New York for two years, earning a master's degree from Columbia University. During her first forays as a graduate student into the world of protozoans, she encountered the work of her future mentor, Tracy S. Sonneborn, and was drawn ever deeper into ciliate genetic research.

In 1961 the Bleymans moved to Indiana University, where Michael returned to his studies in philosophy, while Lea pursued a doctorate under Sonneborn in the Department of Zoology. At the time, Sonneborn's lab was one of the nation's most vibrant centers for study of the biology and evolutionary genetics of ciliates, and Bleyman fell in with a remarkable community of graduate students, including Akio Miyake and Koichi Hiwatashi, with whom she would later collaborate. Her dissertation research centered on selfing in *Paramecium aurelia* with relation to macronuclear differentiation, and developing a new medium for culturing *Paramecium*.

Moving to the University of Illinois in 1964, Bleyman shifted course to study reproduction in *Tetrahymena*, even as she was completing her dissertation. Hired as a research associate in the lab of David L. Nanny (himself a former Sonneborn student), Bleyman formed a range of intellectually advantageous relationships with fellow protistologists, including John Corliss and Jerome Paulin (both past presidents of the Society of Protozoologists), Eduardo Orias, Peter Bruns, and Ellen Simon.

After a brief stint at the University of North Carolina, and her divorce, Bleyman returned to New York in 1973 to join the Biology faculty at Baruch College. Active in several professional organizations, she was a regular contributor to conferences and symposia on ciliate biology and served on the Executive Committee of the Society of Protozoologists (1981-1986 and 1999-2004), as Secretary (1991-1997), and ultimately President (2001-2002). At Baruch, she took up work on the mating patterns of a different genus of ciliates, *Blepharisma*, and beginning in 1975, she spent her next ten summers at Cornell, working with her old colleague Peter Bruns on *Tetrahymena* genetics. The author of dozens of papers on protists, Bleyman is currently Professor Emerita at Baruch.

Scope of collection

Consisting chiefly of materials relating to Bleyman's participation in professional conferences, laboratory and lecture notes, and published works, the Bleyman Papers offer Lea K. Bleyman's research on a range of ciliate taxa. The collection is organized into four series: Conferences; Laboratory and Lecture Notes; Professional Organizations; and Publications.

Series descriptions

Series 1. Conferences

1962-2006

40 folders

Materials deriving from Bleyman's participation in professional conferences, including programs and schedules, press materials, abstracts, participant lists, maps, itineraries, and travel ephemera. Correspondence, notes, and relevant papers from conferences are included in the appropriate folders.

Series 2. Laboratory and Lecture Notes

1958-1985

20 folders

Laboratory and lecture notes encompass bound and loose materials drafted or drawn during formal lectures as well as at various research facilities. Where laboratory records pertain expressly to published writings, they have been collocated therewith.

Series 3. Professional Organizations

1972-2004

2 folders

A small assemblage of materials relating to Bleyman's professional organizational commitments, particularly her service as an officer of the Society of Protozoologists.

Series 4. Publications

1959-2003

16 folders

Bleyman's articles have been organized into two sub-categories: shorter articles and abstracts versus longer works (e.g., book chapters, theses, and comprehensive studies). In some cases, these are accompanied by substantial supporting research material, correspondence, drafts, copyright agreements, or other records.

Inventory

Series 1. Conferences

1962-2006

40 folders

Symposium on RNA Coding, Bloomington (Ind.)

1962

Box 1: 1

Society of Protozoologists, 19th Annual Meeting, Shelter Island (N.Y.)

1966

Box 1: 2

MT Conference, Estes Park (Colo.)

1967

Box 1: 3

International Cell Cycle Conference, 3rd Meeting, Wrightsville Beach (N.C.)

1969

Box 1: 4

Invertebrate Model Systems for Aging Research, Memphis (Tenn.)

1970

Box 1: 5

Genetics Society of America, 40th Annual Meeting, Rochester (N.Y.)

1971

Box 1: 6

Society of Protozoologists, 25th Annual Meeting, Minneapolis (Minn.)

1972

Box 1: 7

Ciliate Genetics Conference / Sonneborn Festschrift, Madison (Wis.)

1976

Box 1: 8

Ciliate Genetics and Cell Biology Meeting, Santa Barbara (Calif.)

1979

Box 1: 9

Genetics Society of America, 49th Annual Meeting, San Diego (Calif.)

1980

Box 1: 10

Conference on Origins and Evolution of Eukaryotes, New York (N.Y.)

1980

Box 1: 11

Ciliate Conference, Aurora (N.Y.)
1980
Box 1: 12
Society of Protozoologists, 34th Annual Meeting, Dallas (Tex.)
1981
Box 1: 13
Society of Protozoologists, 37th Annual Meeting, Athens (Ga.)
1984
Box 1: 14
International Ciliate Molecular Genetics Conf, 1st Meeting, Cold Spring Harbor (N.Y.)
1984
Box 1: 15
Midwest Protozoology Conf., 17th Meeting, Cincinnati (Ohio)
1985
Box 1: 16
Asian Conference on Ciliate Genetics, 1st Meeting, Sendai (Japan)
1985
Box 1: 17
International Congress of Protozoology, 7th Meeting, Nairobi (Kenya)
1985
Box 1: 18
Asian Conference on Ciliate Genetics, 2nd Meeting, Shanghai (China)
1986
Box 1: 19
Society of Protozoologists, 39th Annual Meeting, Kingston (R.I.)
1986
Box 1: 20
Society of Protozoologists, 41st Annual Meeting, Bristol (England)
1988
Box 1: 21
East Coast Regional Meeting, Soc. of P, 1st Meeting, Hempstead (N.Y.)
1989
Box 1: 22
Society of Protozoologists, 44th Annual Meeting, Bozeman (Mont.)
1991
Box 1: 23
International Conf. on Ciliate Mol. Biol., 4th Meeting, Pacific Grove (Calif.)
1991
Box 1: 24
East Coast Conference on Protozoa, 2nd Meeting, Hamden, (Conn.)
1991
Box 1: 25
East Coast Conference on Protozoa, 3rd Meeting, Washington (D.C.)
1992
Box 1: 26
East Coast Conference on Protozoa, 4th Meeting, Oneonta, (N.Y.)
1993
Box 1: 27
Gordon Research Conference on Molecular Biology of Ciliated Protozoa, Henniker, (N.H.)
1993
Box 1: 28
International Congress of Protozoology, 9th Meeting, Berlin (Germany)
1993
Box 2: 1
International Congress of Protozoology, 10th Meeting, Sydney (Australia)
1997
Box 2: 2
East Coast Protozoology Conference, 9th Meeting, Smithfield (R.I.)
2001

Box 2: 3
International Congress on Protozoology, 11th Meeting, Salzburg (Austria)
2001

Box 2: 4
Society of Protozoologists, 54th Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City (Utah)
2002

Box 2: 5
Society of Protozoologists, 55th Annual Meeting, Gleneden Beach (Ore.)
2003

Box 2: 6
East Coast Protozoology Conference, 11th Meeting, Catonsville (Md.)
2003

Box 2: 7
Society of Protozoologists, 56th Annual Meeting, Smithfield (R.I.)
2004

Box 2: 8
East Coast Conference on Protozoology, 12th Meeting, Richmond (Va.)
2005

Box 2: 9
East Coast Conference on Protozoology, 13th Meeting, Troy (N.Y.)
2006

Box 2: 10
Correspondence and personal material

Box 2: 11
Figures, tables, illustrations

Box 2: 12
Series 2. Laboratory and Lecture Notes
1958-1985
20 folders
Laboratory and lecture notes
Undated

Box 2: 13
Laboratory and lecture notes
1958

Box 2: 14
Laboratory and lecture notes
1960

Box 2: 15
Laboratory and lecture notes
1961

Box 2: 16
Laboratory and lecture notes
1961

Box 3: 1
Laboratory and lecture notes
1964

Box 3: 2
Laboratory and lecture notes
1970

Box 3: 3
Laboratory and lecture notes
1971-1972

Box 3: 4
Laboratory and lecture notes
1974

Box 3: 5
Laboratory and lecture notes
1975

Box 3: 6

Laboratory and lecture notes
1976
Box 3: 7
Laboratory and lecture notes
1976
Box 3: 8
Laboratory and lecture notes
1977
Box 3: 9
Laboratory and lecture notes
1980
Box 3: 10
Laboratory and lecture notes
1980
Box 3: 11
Laboratory and lecture notes
1980-1981
Box 3: 12
Laboratory and lecture notes
1982
Box 4: 1
Laboratory and lecture notes
1983-1984
Box 4: 2
Laboratory and lecture notes
1985
Box 4: 3
Laboratory and lecture notes
1985
Box 4: 4
Series 3. Professional Organizations
1972-2004
2 folders
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
1997
Box 4: 6
Federation of Societies for Parasitology
1993
Box 4: 7
Genetics Society of America
1972-1980
Box 4: 8
Hebrew University of Jerusalem
1978
Box 4: 9
New York University
1976
Box 4: 10
Society of Protozoology
1994-2004
Member directories and by-laws
1994-2001
Box 4: 11
Meeting minutes
2003-2004
Box 4: 12
Ballots
2003-2004
Box 4: 13

Series 4. Publications

1959-2003

16 folders

Articles and abstracts

1959

Box 4: 14

Intracolonal Conjugation in Early-Maturing Clones of *Tetrahymena pyriformis* g

Undated

Control of Maturation Time in *Tetrahymena pyriformis*

Undated

Articles and abstracts

1959

Box 4: 15

Genetic Control of Maturity in *Tetrahymena pyriformis*

1967

Determination and Inheritance of Mating Type in *Paramecium aurelia*, Syngen 5

1967

Clonal Analysis of Nuclear Differentiation in *Tetrahymena*

1968

Aging in Early Maturing Mutants of *Tetrahymena pyriformis*

1971

Mating Type Frequencies in Early and Late Maturing Clones of *Tetrahymena pyriformis*

1972

Articles and abstracts

1976-2003

Box 4: 16

Gamones and Mating Types in the Genus *Blepharisma* and their Possible Taxonomic Application

1976

Genetics of Cycloheximide Resistance in *Tetrahymena*

1977

Temperature-Sensitive Motility Mutants in *Tetrahymena thermophila*

1977

Food Vacuoles and Life Cycle Duration in *Paramecium* and *Tetrahymena*

1977

Mapping the mat Locus of *Tetrahymena thermophila*

1980

Long-Term Maintenance of *Tetrahymena* Spp.

1980

The Accidental Protozoologist: My Journey through the World of Ciliates

2003

The Link Between Excitation and Contraction in Muscle (thesis)

1959

Box 4: 17

Selfing in Relation to Macronuclear Differentiation in Syngen 5 of *Paramecium aurelia* (master's thesis)

1966

Box 5: 1

Temporal Patterns in Ciliated Protozoa (in *Developmental Aspects of the Cell Cycle*)

1971

Box 5: 2

The Early Mature Phenotype: A Comparison of Spontaneous and Induced Mutations in *Tetrahymena pyriformis*

1972

Box 5: 3

Enhancement of Nuclear Instability by Growth at High Temperatures in *Tetrahymena pyriformis*

1972

Box 5: 4

Inhibition of the Mating Reaction in *Tetrahymena* by Concanavalin-A

1975

Box 5: 5

Genetics of Cycloheximide Resistance in *Tetrahymena*

1977

Box 5: 6

Chromosomal Localization of an Exocytosis Mutant in *Tetrahymena thermophila*

1984

Box 5: 7

Control of the Immaturity Interval in the Ciliate *Euplotes crassus*

1986

Box 5: 8

Non-Mendelian Inheritance of Early Maturity in *Euplotes crassus*

1990

Box 5: 9

Use of *Tetrahymena* and *Paramecium* in Studies of Exocytosis

1990

Box 5: 10

Ciliate Genetics in *Ciliates: Cells as Organisms*

1990

Box 5: 11

Meiotic Linkage of *mat* to the Ribosomal RNA Gene

1991

Box 5: 12

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Acquired from Lea K. Bleyman, January 2008, through Michael F. Dolan.

Processing Information

Processed by Emily Toder, December 2010.

Related Material

For other materials related to Bleyman and the history of protistology, see:

Seymour Hutner Papers; Call no.: MS 549

David L. Nanney Collection; MS 592

Language:

English

Copyright and Use (More information)

Cite as: Lea K. Bleyman Papers (MS 548). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

Search terms

Subjects

Baruch College--Faculty.

Ciliates.

Developmental biology.

Paramecium--Genetics.

Protozoans--Genetics.

Protozoology--Conferences.

Society of Protozoologists.

Tetrahymena--Genetics.

Contributors

Bleyman, Lea K. **[main entry]**

Nanney, David Ledbetter, 1925- .

Sonneborn, Tracy Morton, 1905-1981.

Genres and formats

Ephemera.

Laboratory notes.

Link to similar SCUA collections

Protistology

Women



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