

Frances Tyau
Personal Reflections

June 6, 1984

SMJ: I have with me in the library conference room, Frances Tyau, Associate Professor of Education who is now teaching at the College Learning Lab. Well, Frances, I have looked forward to this for a long time. You told me that you have taken a lot of notes and are ready!! We are just going to talk. You have a unique position in a sense that you are from the Far East, aren't you?

FRAN: Yes in that sense!

SMJ: You have had experiences that 99 percent of us have not had. I want to make sure that I have this on record. We will start from the beginning. I have the questions before me, and we will start with number one. Could you give me some background information on yourself, family, education as a child, life experiences as a child.

FRAN: I was very fortunate to be born and educated in Honolulu, Hawaii of Chinese and Polynesian parents. I came from a family of six children. We had many opportunities to spend time in the country with Aunts, Uncles and cousins. Swimming was our favorite pastime as the average temperature was 74 degrees. We planted vegetables and flowers and the trees were always green. When it wasn't green, we knew it was probably dead and needed to be cut down. The sun was out most of the year, except for a few rainy

days. Sometimes it was like a vapor and we called it liquid sunshine. People smiled a lot and were full of color.

SMJ: Don't you think that your environment had a lot to do with your disposition?

FRAN: Yes, I think so. The fourth of July was always a special day, when we went to the country and had a "Birthday Luau". It was a festive time when everyone helped in preparation of the pig and the hole in the ground where it was going to be cooked. The rocks and the pig were covered with tea and banana leaves, with a burlap bag then covered with soil and cooked for about four hours. During that time, other things were being done. The tarro root was boiled and pounded into poi. The salmon was prepared with onions and tomatoes for salad; cakes were baked; tables decorated. It was a very festive time. It was fun to see all of the decorations.

SMJ: What language did you speak?

FRAN: Hawaiian, Chinese, and English.

SMJ: So you were bi-lingual? No, you would have to be tri-lingual?

FRAN: Right. i spoke mostly Chinese, then Hawaiian and English. We went to Sunday school in the country, on Christmas, we had two presents. One from the city and one from the country.

SMJ: What did your father do?

FRAN: Dad, in the early days, came from China. Our uncles lived on the island of Hawaii too, where the active volcanoes are. To perpetuate that Polynesian race, congress approved an act so they could live there for 99 years. We were fortunate to go by

plane or boat on a vacation. The climate was a cool 60 percent, and our uncle's home was near Parker ranch which is the second largest ranch in the United States. That would be after King's Ranch, yes. Flowers and vegetables grew so profusely, I saw snow on Mt. Acara, but I really did not know about snow until I came to the continental United States. It was fun to go horseback riding on the ranch; the turkeys would go and roam the fields; I pulled berries, and then there were insects!! Our uncles would mail us 4 dozen eggs in a special carton, and send us turkeys to the city of Honolulu. Sometimes we would take the 18 mile ride to the seashore for a picnic with our friend. He would catch fish for us. We would build a fire, cook the fish and eat... what a treat! On the way to Quihi, we would see the cowboys with a flower lai on their hats. They were called panni-olas. They led the cows to the beach where they were lassoed, taken into water, horns tied on the boats and rowed to the ship. The cattle were hoisted on a sling up to the ship where they were sent to the slaughter house. We watched the branding of the cattle and other cowboy activities. Now, there is a pier and the cattle just walk right onto the ship. May Day is called Lai Day in Hawaii and everyone would wear a real red flower lai. Our Aunt would sent us ice flower and the sea ___?___ flower lai. We would have the most unique flower lai on. The elementary schools, high schools, universities, and city hall would have lai contests.

SMJ: Did you make them yourself?

FRAN: Yes we did. Every child would have a real flower lai. They would have a prize for the most beautiful red one, blue one,

etc. June 11th was another holiday where we had floats, horses, etc. The Chinese New Year festival, in Chinatown, is celebrated in February according to the lunar calendar. There are firecrackers, dragon dances, lots of Chinese food. It was time to pay up all of your debts, clean your house, and visit with relatives. We would have money wrapped in red paper called lee-she as gifts. That is what we loved as children. The Japanese New Year is on Jan. 1st. People's stores were closed. Bamboo and pine tree branches were tied to the doorways, and people would open house feasts. That's the time we all ate the Japanese food like seaweed, fishcakes, etc. In August was the bond dances, which is still being practiced. They honor the dead with a dance. The Buddhist priests, the drummers, and the people sit in tiny boats late at night with food and candles out at sea.

SMJ: Now that must be a beautiful sight?

FRAN: It is interesting to watch.

SMJ: It is thought provoking isn't it? I mean you sit there and meditate on what you are seeing, and it makes thoughts come in your mind, that otherwise might not have come.

FRAN: But, at night, down at the beach, the other things that comes is the mosquitoes. During the Easter time, we would wear our bonnets and lovely outfits to church, and our Portuguese neighbors would bake for us some malasada with sugar or honey and sweet bread with an egg in the center, So, those were some of the interesting experiences I had. Our Korean neighbor would make us kingche and mundoo, you know, all the foods we would exchange. As children we went to Chinese school after English school. So our Japanese

friends wore a black coat and went to Japanese school. Late in the afternoon, we would see the Japanese people with towels over their shoulders walking to the common bath house. That was interesting. Of course, on Saturdays after housecleaning and washing, we would walk to town to meet Dad and his friends at the Sun-Yan restaurant. Rev. Davis was the only Caucasian person, and we had a delicious Chinese Diem-sum lunch. There was dumpling with pork, sweet rice cakes, 7 layer cakes, cakes with bean stuffing. That was another treat! Sometimes during recess we would wander far from the Chinese school to pick a sour bean that could be eaten, made into a drink or made into candy. Boy, we would get the dickens when we returned to school. We would regularly go to church and Sunday school. I sang in the choir, taught Sunday school, I became the church organist. I am an Episcopalian.

SMJ: Review again. How many sisters and brothers did you have?

FRAN: I had five sisters and one brother. The Episcopal bishop was our advisor in college. My childhood was a beautiful time, rich with experiences and varied culturally. Our friends were of all races and religions: Mormons, Buddhists, Shintos, Confusionists, Christians. Since Hawaii was the stopping point for the military as well as the artists, we were fortunate to have them here in hawaii for concerts. I was exposed to many of the famous educators here at the University when they lectured. When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, our lives changed. We were busier than many people, and people were frozen to their jobs. We carried gas masks; we enumerated everyone. Thirty of us were selected to

be trained in classifying finger prints. Schools were closed; we had a passing grade in college. Cars had to have blackened out headlights and homes were blacked out. We had a curfew and could not venture out. We even had to stand in line for the purchase of food.

SMJ: How old were you, may I ask, during this time?

FRAN: I was in my early 20's, because I was in college. Dad was a wise man, and he helped us see what was happening. We wanted to go to Pearl Harbor to work and make a better salary. He then tried to help us understand that money was not always the way of life. If we did work at Pearl Harbor, we would have to get up at 5 AM, drive to work, and return late. Then there was a possibility of another attack, accidents in traffic. Where we were doing finger prints, we could walk to work, maybe even go to a movie before coming home to dinner. So, I recall, as a child, that I would walk to and from school with my mother. We had a set of bells in that school that I recall fondly. I also went to a laboratory school sort of like the one I taught in (like I'm teaching in now). We raised silk worms and made silk threads. I walked to and from intermediate school. I went to high school at St. Andrew's priory. It was a girl's school, with a class of only 21 students. It is amazing that we still keep in contact with one another. I was treasurer of the class. Then I went to a one room Chinese school next door, St. Peter's which was very loud and noisy. It is really a great privilege to have all the possible education in America, both public and private, state university schools, ivy league schools, etc. We should be one number two now.

SMJ: Alright! I am aware that your father meant a great deal to you. Would you like to tell more about him? From what you have already told me, he must have been a most unusual man.

FRAN: Yes, I could describe Dad as a gentleman. He was a remarkable, unique, creative, thoughtful and unusual man who cared for others. He believed in setting an example to be honest with his dealings with all people and treat others as he would like to be treated. He always talked about living simply, you know, about being thrifty and investing in the future. We had respect for the older generation, to which he was a member. We helped one another and learned from one another. As he always says "To whom much is given, much is expected."

SMJ: You were aware of his love?

FRAN: YES!! We lived it, you know. He came to Hawaii from Canton, China on a sailing ship that took about 104 days to get here.

SMJ: Did your mother come with him?

FRAN: No, he came with an uncle, I think. His relatives here took him to a barber to cut off his queue.

SMJ: Was he a young man when he came?

FRAN: Yes. He was baptized as an Episcopalian and attended St, Peters church. He did say that Grandfather was a Lutheran who used to walk some distance to another village in order to attend church on Sundays.

SMJ: Well, was he a Christian when living in China?

FRAN: I suppose, that if his Father was Lutheran, he would have been. He was exposed to all of the other religions that were

there.

SMJ: Was he the only one from his family to come to Hawaii?

FRAN: His brothers went abroad to other places. One uncle worked on a ship, so he lived in Mexico, New York, England.

SMJ: It was good, then, that they did leave China, wasn't it? They did not leave under terrible suffering, or persecution did they?

FRAN: At that time, I think, they felt that in order to do things, they would have to go abroad. Otherwise, I suppose they would have stayed in the country. I think they were looking ahead, you know!!

SMJ: Was there ever any thought of going back?

FRAN: He has gone back many times, yes. He went to school on Maui and later to Ealani Episcopal Boys School. This is the school that Sun Yat Sen attended. Then, there was a great fire and the bubonic plague. He was working in a grocery store as a collector for Hawaiian Electric Company. He, then worked in a clothing store. Later he organized the National Clothing Store. Usually the Chinese are noted for restaurants and laundries, but in Hawaii they did all sorts of businesses. Later Dad, and the corporation organized National Drug and National Building, and they built new offices for dentists and lawyers, and other professional people. The Grand Rapids Company of Los Angeles helped with other plans. He was president and manager of three corporations until he was 78 years old.

SMJ: So he did alright!

FRAN: I recall his buying trips to California, Chicago and

New York. He always needed his passport in his travels. The album I organized showed many passports until he was 75 and took mother around the world.

SMJ: He took her around the world?

FRAN: Yes! He could not be a citizen because of the McClaren Act. This is after the 2nd WW. The exclusion laws and the Gentleman's Agreement between Asian nations was to restrict Oriental immigration. In Hawaii, there was a feeling that those of Asian ancestry were second class citizens. Children of immigrants were not really expected to achieve. One was to be loyal to your parents, then your employers, one thought that the majority would be an employee!

SMJ: Did you feel that discrimination?

FRAN: We never did in one sense because home protected us to the soul. I was very naive about a lot of things. [Dad's trips were meaningful because as little as I did know that some day I would be in New York to work and his trip down south, his being asked to sit in the back was like his story of a visit to Shanghai where Chinese and dogs were not allowed in the parks, I was exposed to it and told about it you see.] Dad was active in church, he was a Jr. and Sr. Warden and treasurer.

SMJ: He provided quite well for his family, didn't he?

FRAN: And I felt that we lived simply too.

SMJ: Your mother never did work , did she? She was at home.

FRAN: Yes, Dad was also with the Chinese United Society. He served on the board of Directors at the liberty Bank of Honolulu. He was also in the Hawaiian National Guard. He retired in 1977

from Staff Sgt. to Lt. Col. you know the home guard. And I remember the nice brunches and lunches we had at the officers club at the (Triple E or) Tripoli General Hospital. It was on the ridge of the mountain, overlooking the city. He was also President of Home and Ice Cream. We had the opportunity to eat warm ice cream already mixed to be frozen. That was another great treat.

SMJ: Is that right? There is a distinct taste difference isn't there?

FRAN: Yes, there is. You know I had many wonderful opportunities. He was also president of the United Way Organization. There has been changes, and now women are invited to live there. It is a beautiful Chinese architectural building with hook roofs in the valley of Pololo. You can really see a beautiful view of the mountain and the ocean. He did this on his own Peace Corp work before President Kennedy. He brought three cousins to Hawaii. I recall paying tuition for one cousin to go to the University of Hawaii, he later became Dean of a Teacher Training University in Hong Kong. He built a school in the village of Bukat in Guang Dung Province, China. Later on, the Japanese used it as part of their airfield. Dad was active in getting donations for the roast pig Chinese New Year's party. He used to sell apples and oranges for Sunday School. He wanted us to be active in church, and I was suppose that helped us in our youth and growing up. When I played the organ for the church, he suggested that I return the salary that I was paid to the church because my salary from my regular job as a school teacher was ample.

SMJ: My goodness, and you did?

FRAN: Yes!! He felt that the church needed the funds for other things.

SMJ: You never questioned that?

FRAN: Oh no, I had my salary as a teacher. When he was treasurer and president of the building of the parish house committee, he got us to donate \$100 each, three sisters.

SMJ: I'm sure he told you in such a way that you almost felt that it was your idea?

FRAN: Yes, I suppose this is why one lives that way. Because we volunteered, we met many interesting people. Even today too, as an organist, met one of Elliott Roosevelt's wives. She married an Episcopal minister and came to our church. She later invited us to the Royal Hawaiian Hotel for dinner. At that time, local people never visited the hotels. It was only for caucasians and the tourists. I still have her thank you note in my scrapbook. My father was observant too and brought back many interesting experiences. He never used abusive language. He also knew when to use a helping hand. He always mentioned "honor your father and mother, that your days mat be long." He had a long and successful life... imagine 100 years!

SMJ: He was a 100 years old?

FRAN: Yes. And we have great memories of him. As Dr. Bruce Johnstone wrote: "It is a time for celebration knowing the life he led and it's time to reflect what life can be."

SMJ: Did Dr. Johnstone write you that? How beautiful.

FRAN: Yes. You know, the Chinese celebrate their 61st and 71st, 81st and 91st birthdays with a nine course dinner, with

friends and relatives, and you have a long string of fire crackers before the party. In 1978, Dad and I talked about the idea of a scholarship in celebration of his 91st birthday instead of a party. So my share of the party was donated to State University College Foundation. The interest was to be used towards a scholarship. Dr. E.K. Fretwell and I discussed about my interests, which are teacher education, campus ministry, higher education, and international education. He thought the most appropriate would be an International Scholarship. So, in 1978 on Dec. 19th a check was presented and a picture was taken to Dr. Fretwell and I sent it to Dad. So, it was with George Evangelo and the College State Foundation that the funded was organized. My friend Louise Luftahand (?) who used to show me Chicago, went to a Presbyterian home in Washington, Iowa to live. I met Mary Drake through the telephone. She was a teacher who lived there also. she informed me that Louise was dying. I used to send Mary the college international newsletters and other papers of activities. She called me one day to ask about the scholarship, sending me \$200, to add to it. It was in memory of Loise Luftahand. I couldn't believe it you know.

SMJ: But it was very appropriate.

FRAN: Then my friends, Helen and Sam Costello sent \$25 in Dad's memory. So I added it to the scholarship in Buffalo, N.Y. Now in the 1983/85 Undergraduate Catalog in Finances and Financial Aid on page 28 has the rules about the scholarship. DR. Gene Gounard and a committee of professionals came up with the following for the Frances Tyau International Student Scholarship: One annual

scholarship awarded to an international student meeting the following criteria 1. Must have spent at least three semesters and earned at least 45 credit hours at Buffalo State. 2. Junior standing 3. Must be scheduled to graduate in May or August of the following year 4. Must have earned a 3.0 GPA 5. Have the financial need. The candidates are screened by a selection committee in March of each year. Further information is available from the International Students and Affairs Director. To date we have presented five scholarships. In 1981, it went to Somolian and a student in the Netherlands. In 1982, it went to a student from Japan; 1983 to a student from Hong Kong. In 1984, to a student of the Cameroon Islands. So, each year we used to take a picture of the student and the president of the college and send it to my Dad. He was very pleased to know that we would carry on his ideas of education.

SMJ: Did he have a peaceful death? Or should I say, an easy death?

FRAN: Yes, I saw uncle in Hong Kong and he was ready to go.

SMJ: As an adult, where did you get your education?

FRAN: I went to the University of Hawaii, Land Grant College. I recall one of the courses had a requirement to plant a vegetable garden, caring for it from beginning to end. That was an accomplishment. I had many speech courses because of the pigeon English on the islands. I had all caucasian teachers and got an EDB degree in Education and a Fifth year diploma in my graduate year. The fifth year was a semester of internship in an elementary school. We were paid as a first year teacher, and in the second

semester we went back to college to do a semester of course work. Then we were assigned jobs. I never knew how to find a job. The jobs always found me!! Because I played piano, I managed to get the summer session jobs.

SMJ: When you were a child you took music, or do you play...

FRAN: I took some, but I play it very simply.

SMJ: Are you a natural? Do you play by ear?

FRAN: No, I need music.

SMJ: But did you take music lessons? At the college did you play for your job?

FRAN: When you teach, you need the piano for the children. You do musicals like the "Three Bears" for the children. It was fun. I took graduate courses at the University of Hawaii. After the second WW, we were invited to teach at the University of Hawaii. In 1956, I took sabbatical leave from the Department of Education at the University of Hawaii. I traveled around the world with the National Education Association at Western Illinois University, it was a group of teachers. Then I studied at Teacher's College, Columbia University. There I received my Masters Degree in Teacher Education. I studied another year, finished my Doctoral course work in Teacher Education, and received a professional diploma as a college supervisor (?) of laboratory experiences.

SMJ: But you did not complete the PhD? Did you get it?

FRAN: I did not do the research, because I came here to work.

SMJ: Now, how did you get here? Were you going to say more, though?

FRAN: Yes, I did a research on Travel Study of Teachers on a bus trip to Mexico with the National Education Association with Professor Elvin B. Robinson of Western Illinois University. I had an article published in the National Association Journal. During the summers of 1963 and 1964, I had a study grant to study Chinese at San Francisco State College. During that time, the government was very interested in having more people learn the critical languages of Russian and Chinese. Living in NYC for two years was an education in itself!!

SMJ: Quite different from Hawaii.

FRAN: Oh yes. The city is full of activities for learning; the cultural experiences were fabulous. Living in the International House, a home away from home, with people of 19 nations at that time provided many happy experiences. It was especially interesting during meal time!! Today we have so many friends around the world.

SMJ: Oh, my goodness! Yes, you had a lot of experiences professionally before you came to Buffalo State College. What brought you here?

FRAN: I am going to do "the experiences" before coming to State College. During the second WW, we were taught by the FBI to classify fingerprints. An article and our pictures were in the National Geographic Magazine in detail.

SMJ: Do you have a date of when that was?

FRAN: I don't. But I know our picture is there on a table. It was in the early days, 1940 or 1941, I think. When the schools were open, we were unfrozen from print classification work, and

then I taught the elementary schools. It was an English Standard School called the Lincoln School. Later I went to a suburban school called Kaloahloah which was near the airport. Then, I taught at the English Standard School on the sugar plantation of Wiapaho. We commuted. The manager was very nice to show us about the plantation, so that was interesting. Later, I taught at Iaella Plantation School, which was at a small plantation refinery. They refined the sugar there. I remember buying a piano through Dad at cost for the school. We had musicals to earn some money to pay for the piano. I came back to Lincoln School in Honolulu to teach. Children who attended there were screened. At that time, we had pigeon English. Later, I was invited to supervise college intern teachers. We were paid by the Department of Education and the University of Hawaii. This was the fifth year program that I had mentioned earlier. The college graduates who interned got paid as a first year teacher. During the second semester, they went back to do more course work. I had six intern teachers in grades 1,2,3,4,5, and 6.

SMJ: You were a critic teacher then?

FRAN: In a sense, yes. Each week, we had a semester in different centers. Each center took turns with refreshments. The Director at the University of Hawaii did the seminars. Around 1958, I took my sabbatical. I was invited by Professor Elvin Roberts of Western Illinois to teach in the laboratory school for one year. I was the first non-European on the faculty. We did team teaching with television cameras in the classroom. In the following months, Prof. Roberts invited scholars to teach at the

college for a period of 2 to 4 months. Those scholars came from Cairo, Hong Kong, India, and Mexico. At that time the Black college students were not allowed to live in the dormitories. It was fun to be there and speak about Hawaii. While in Illinois, I played the organ at St. George's School Church. Many years later, while here in Buffalo a member of that church sent an issue of the Macon Journal to me. That banker's wife still keeps in touch with me. Prof. Roberts and other friends are still in touch with me. What an experience it was to get to know Chicago and the mid-west!! Once a month, we used to take the train into Chicago to visit friends. I then taught two summers at the University of Hawaii and a summer at Western Illinois University. Again, classifying fingerprints was very interesting because we enumerated the people, it was to help identify them in case there was another attack. I was also an organist for St. Elizabeth's Church and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. I enjoyed the tea houses at the wedding receptions. I also was an officer manager for three corporations that kept books.

SMJ: So, you were really busy!?! You have seen most of the large cities though, haven't you?

FRAN: Yes.

SMJ: Have you been to Washington, D.C.? St. Louis? Have you been down South? Have been to Atlanta and Florida?

FRAN: Yes, I have been to all those places mentioned. Being here at the college gave me the opportunity to go to meetings. I have also been to Philadelphia and Boston.

SMJ: Each city has it's own personality and history and

flavor.

FRAN: People ask me "What are you doing here!" Look at the opportunities I have had being here.

SMJ: Well, just how did you get here?

FRAN: What brought me here? Well... the Director of the University of Hawaii, Dr. Rosmond Porter who invited us to supervise intern teachers, encouraged us to go abroad to do more graduate work so we would not be so insular. After the second WW, we were afforded more opportunities. Some went to the South Pacific to Micronesia. I was encouraged to take a sabbatical leave. Each year, Dr. Porter would write me and ask me if I was coming back, that my job was still there. I studied two years at Teacher's College, Columbia, traveled around the world with other teachers from all over the United States, while living at the International House in NYC. The trip around the world was a great experience. That is the time I met Elvin Roberts of Western Illinois University. He was the director of the travel courses at the university there. He encouraged me to stay on the continent. Dr. Hubert Park Beck of City College felt that I could teach as well as help people understand other people. I was offered a bus trip to Mexico and which was sponsored by the National Education Association at Western Illinios University. I did a study of teachers travelling to Mexico. Later, an article was published in the "National Education Journal". Professor Roberts helped me to go about the necessary procedure of trying to locate a job in the United States. You see, at that time, I did not know how to find a job!!

SMJ: Yes, because, as you said earlier, the jobs seemed to come to you!

FRAN: I applied at Buffalo State, Fredonia State and Smith College. I flew to Buffalo for an interview. Thelma Haynes came for me at the airport. They were not so sure how I would react if a man greeted me at the airport. It is amazing, how later on, we became good friends. I then went to NYC and met Dr. Paul Bulger. He was then Provost at Teacher's College, Columbia. I was told to stick my neck into his office what he looked like, that is how I met Dr. Bulger!

SMJ: You were impressed, I am sure!

FRAN: Yes I was. He looked at my credentials and made me feel very important and qualified. I wish I hadn't an appointment at that time, because I could have had lunch with him. Of course, it was good to be back in New York and to see friends. When I returned to Western Illinois University, Dr. Ruth Sugarman called to say the phone call was a contract and that I would receive the written contract in the mail shortly. I did not realize then That I could not teach everywhere in the United States. Three colleges had offered me jobs. However, my advisor mentioned that I should take the State University job because it was my field of teaching education. This was in 1959.

SMJ: 1959. You did not mention Smith College. Did you go there? You Smith is really more prestigious?

FRAN: Dr. Stratemeyer suggested Buffalo State because of my field of study.

SMJ: And have you not regretted your decision?

FRAN: Oh no. I feel part of this college. What an interesting red carpet reception I had. An interesting article was in the newspaper entitled: "Mixed up Hawaiian is Teaching in Buffalo". Catherine Smith, a blind reporter from the Courier-Express and her dog interviewed me at the YWCA. She is a tremendous woman.

SMJ: I have met her, also. Yes, she is something.

FRAN: I invited her to dinner. Where she is now, I do not know. She took a picture of me in a Chinese brocade dress. We looked around for a lai for me to wear. Soon after, I had many lectures about children around the world, teacher education in Hawaii and about Hawaii in general! I was asked to talk about my most embarrassing experience. I mentioned going home to Hawaii. At the gathering, I looked down at my feet and realized I still had my shoes on. I was the only one. You know I had forgotten the custom. The people at the function were kind enough not to bring it to my attention and make it an embarrassing situation for me. It is just like going to China. People give you gifts... you don't open those gifts in front of the person who gave it to you. There are certain customs about certain things. When you travel extensively, sometimes you forget the various customs. I did have housing problems too! I asked the Episcopal Church to help me out. The church secretary just said it was an odd request. People would always ask me where I originated. I would tell them to guess. You know I come from Japan, China and the Philippines!

I was asked if I were Indian or an Eskimo!! So thanks to Dr. Bulger, Dr. Beck and Dr. Roberts, my Dad and the rest of my family

for encouraging me to take the plunge! I did not know anyone, so when I came in November, Dr. Harriet Northrup saw the article in the newspaper and invited me to Jamestown. We are now wonderful friends.

SMJ: Goodness, You have so very many friends. Now, are you ready for the sixth question? What did you find when you got here?

FRAN: I found a great administrator, who made me feel at home. The faculty was smaller, and I got to know everyone. There were four buildings. The students were interested in their work and worked hard. We also worked hard and felt a part of the college.

SMJ: You were in Bacon Hall, weren't you?

FRAN: Yes, and I have always felt apart of this college. I have been involved in the freshman convocation, and the academic processions. This was the time of the fastest growth of the college. The Burchfield Center was organized, and we got to meet Mr. Burchfield shortly thereafter. It was wonderful for him to know to know that he had a museum named after him while he was still alive. Such great foresight on the part of Dr. Bulger, Dr. Edna Linderman, and others who organized it and made it happen. The best function at the end of May was the retirement party. We got to meet everyone and it was a fun time. I recall being in charge of one when 5 faculty members retired. I had funds in the amount of \$50. per retiree, \$80. for flowers. I had flowers sent in from Hawaii.

SMJ: Oh, you didn't? How wonderful. I bet they were so excited.

FRAN: Dr. Fekete was then President of the Faculty Association. Now, we have grown so that there are so many more who will be retiring all at once.

SMJ: As Dr. Sugarman said once "When I came I knew everyone, faculty, staff and students. Now, I don't even know everyone in my own Department.'

FRAN: Yes, that is right. At the time the Campus School was busy place with an emphasis on Teacher Education under Dr. Lorraine Lang. To date I still hear from her at Christmas time. She is in Iowa now. One knew what was happening throughout the college. Dr. Sugarman was the Director, and children were interviewed to enter school. We had observations of Jr. and Sophomore participation. In 1963, the new Campus School was dedicated and we moved to the new \$5.5 million dollar building, where we had lovely facilities for observation. Dr. Surwill was then the Director, and the school expanded to an exceptional education class grades kindergarten through highschool. Later, it was cut to grade 9, then to grade 8. We did some teaching, mainstreaming children into the classroom. Then the name of the school was changed to College Learning Laboratory, Campus West, and we included into a magnet school with two sets of faculty from two payrolls. It was diagnostic/prescriptive mainstream school in 1978. The faculty changed from older and more experienced faculty members with many degrees to the younger faculty who were working on their degrees. We have had many babies born to new faculty members!! Young graduate students became teaching assistants which took several faculty lines. There was a Child Development Center under Dr.

Donald Trettinger who taught the college classes on gifted education. We also added the toddler group and the 3 and 4 year nursery group. We had two libraries with an excellent an excellent collection on the Blacks. We had a lovely cafeteria, gym facilities, music rooms, industrial arts, and art rooms. Each music room had a new piano. Each of the other rooms had huge bay windows, toilet facilities, and telephones in each office. All children had access to art, vocal and instrumental music and physical education. They also had a television production facility. Children had experiences producing television shows. Now, there is a free and reduced rate breakfast and lunch program. Children are bused in at 8 am and leave at 2:30 pm and are issued badges for identification purposes. Children who exhibit appropriate behavior are licensed. The College Learning Laboratory, Campus West, is now a research development and demonstration school committed to serving the college community as a laboratory for the study and advancement of knowledge about children, learning and teaching. It is an open, flexible school environment which lends itself to providing instruction, individualized instruction using a diagnostic and prescriptive program.

SMJ: My goodness. Do the students then who go to college here, go over to observe classes?

FRAN: they do student teaching over there, also. We have many visitors from all over the country who come to observe. The children who attended are drawn by lottery now. Earlier, it was interesting to teach the college student and the children. Parents

were interested in our welfare, and very supportive of the school. During the summer, we had the intensive teacher training program to train the college graduates to teach in the classroom. I noticed one change. The campus school was included in the ELMS, the college yearbook. I looked through this year's Yearbook, and I don't see any College Learning Lab faculty pictures. I don't know why.

SMJ: I don't know either, because you are part of the faculty. Of course, the library is not included either. Even so, you are most likely because you are educators. Sometimes they think we are service people... you know... support group. I guess they are stymied for pages.

FRAN: It is so interesting, because during Dr. Bulger's time it was expanding by leaps and bounds. I recall a sign that said to graduates: Get your MUD as a memento of your college years before graduation!

SMJ: Then they cut right back, didn't they?

FRAN: Yes, that is right.

SMJ: They expanded then cut back because they began to realize that it was too much. You have seen a lot of changes then through the years. Do you have any more to add to this question or does it lead to the next one?

FRAN: During Dr. Fretwell's time, we had to change deans. That was a difficult time during the student unrest. At that time, I had the opportunity to represent the college at President Nixon's inauguration. It was an exciting experience to see history in action. I lived at the Corchoran Galleries director's home in

Georgetown. It was interesting to go to the festivities at the Smithsonian buildings. The theme was international education at that time. We had to wear a red button which let us in. Our chauffeur was a sailor from Kentucky. We were escorted to the party with Julie and Mrs. Nixon. It was fascinating to see the FBI all around us, guarding the important people. Dr. Johnstone came during the difficult time concerning the budget. We had our first exchange graduate student from China. We too had the exchange professors in Dr. Hank Mann. We had a committee to help Liu Tau adjust to college. The VIP suite was prepared for him, we brought a bicycle and television, pictures from the Albright Art Gallery. The president gave us a fund so we could purchase dishes for his kitchen. You know it is great to be involved and organize a reception.

SMJ: Now was he a student or a professor?

FRAN: He was the graduate student. The professor has not come yet. Through Liu Tau, I met Karl Nesiar, the famous Norwegian sculptor who designed the ice fountain that was given to the college by the Butler family, formerly of the Buffalo Evening News. At that reception I met Dr. Vern Bullough who invited me to go to China with a group of public health nurses. At that time, I did not realize he was the dean of the college. Mrs. Bullough who is dean of nurses at UB also went. What a fabulous trip! They are such beautiful people, to help us see China, to see the splendor of living in the early days- The Ming tombs, the palace, all the museums.

SMJ: Had you been there before?

FRAN: No. I never realized that I could go to China in my lifetime. I didn't realize that China would be open in my lifetime. So, just being here at the college is just fabulous, with the experiences that one has available.

SMJ: What positions have you held since you came? Have you changed positions at all?

FRAN: For the past 25 years, I have had many kinds of positions, teaching in elementary grades. Sometimes depending upon various research studies, I would take a classroom for three years to experiment on a non-graded room. That was Dr. Ruth Muck's doctoral study. Then, there was change in emphasis in teacher education study, so we worked with various professors in the jr. and sophomore participation program. At times, the emphasis was on science or social studies. We worked with an intensive teacher training program, where the older graduates students came and worked. They had a liberal arts degree and we helped them with the early education program.

SMJ: Did you just supervise teachers, or, did you actually teach the children yourself?

FRAN: We did the teaching together.

SMJ: I see. You were teaching the children while they were observing you.

FRAN: There were some classes that observed. Sometimes they came to participate also. It actually depended upon the course.

SMJ: In some cases was it like team teaching?

FRAN: Yes, and working with college students. Sometimes it was reading emphasis with the college students. They took the

reading groups with which to work.

SMJ: I suppose too, the College Learning Lab is so unique because it is an open school. It is almost experimental in a sense. You have been exposed to many techniques, and you have been open to that.

FRAN: Yes, it is exciting, too, because professionally, you can teach the way that you professionally feel that you can teach. This year, I came to Butler Library and had a computer print-out of some programs, with little information. You have to do a lot of reading, research and try-outs. I am going to work with Dr. Perez and see if we can write this up. We know what will work, and we want to put this knowledge down so we can share it.

SMJ: But, of course, that means that you have to remain innovative, creative and willing to start out. As you get older, there may be a tendency just to stay on the same treadmill and do the same thing as always. But you have not, and that is what I am saying. That is what is unique about you. You just keep going and opening new doors and doing new things. That is what is incredible about you, Frances. OK, go ahead!!

FRAN: One summer, I taught a course on "Travel with Children." It started from the New York World's Fair to Buffalo, to Chicago to San Francisco, Hawaii and Japan. It was fun to encourage the administration to buy 4 ukelasees, which they did buy. We had orchids sent from Hawaii. The college students were very interested in the multicultural curriculum that summer. We even learned how to eat noodles with chopsticks, and the art program had a Chinese dragon for the children. When we moved into

the new building, new programs were experimented so some of us worked with team teaching. Mrs. Brown and I had the self-contained classroom for children whom we felt could not deal with the masses of other children all at once. There were children with many problems. I remember Mark, who did not talk but worked with a therapist and a college student and at the end of the year he would talk. It took a lot of effort and experimenting with various materials to do the job. This family moved to Boston. I have received a note from the Mother saying that no one today could believe that there was a time when mark did not talk at all. That is the kind of accomplishment that we can do. Judy Jones, Arlene Kirshgeshner and I experimented with the team teaching for three years. We had a suite of 3 second graders. We also mainstreamed several children into regular classrooms, last Friday several of those children graduated!! It certainly was a three-ring circus, highly structured with multi-aged children. We have written about our experiment and are in the process of having the book Living Together, Learning Together published. I have worked with Dr. Archball in the HL Swan project of School Community Education in Action. It is called the Buffalo Unified Learning Approach in Science, the development of a systems approach to education which utilizes the key to social concerns of energy, material resources, environment and health in an integrated program. We have had the comprehensive math program at our school from the mid-west and the Fennell method of teaching reading for selected children and enrichment programs for children. we went on trips to the library. We combined a trip with Vern Zimmer's classes to the power plant in

Niagara Falls and to the Schoellkopf Museum. I worked with Dr. Donald Treffinger in developing activities in teaching gifted and talented in the classroom with intermediate cluster students. We shared our experiences at the laboratory meeting in Huston, Texas and also in Detroit, Michigan. We have written an article about it. we did the contest on the "Olympics of the Mind", it is held each year in a suburban school. We also worked on the learning styles of children. This year I have the opportunity to work with children the ages 3 through 7 in the gifted and talented program. It is exciting to work with the thinking activities, having the children stretch their minds while playing games. It is also gratifying to see that children want to keep at their task, not wanting to stop for lunch or to go home at the end of the day. I hope to write an article about this exciting year working with Dr. Perez and the young children. we have also helped children with the Computer Literacy Program. I think now we can go on to question eight.

SMJ: Alright! What changes have you seen? Well, you already have mentioned a lot of changes.

FRAN: Yes, in item six I listed the changes, such as the implementation of the lottery. Also changed was the length of the school year. We used to have the school coincide with the college calendar. The oldest children used to go to camp in Franklinville, NY. The faculty is larger now but not as active. In the entire college, people are busy studying for their degrees. the students now have updated their mode of dress. The graduation exercises are not so radical as they used to be. There are a few girls with

balloons on their heads, and a few Greek signs, and someone blew some bubbles.

SMJ: But you might say the early 70's was quite different from the 80's. Ten years has really made a difference.

FRAN: I helped at the receptions after graduation exercises. I find that not as many students attend the receptions and I don't know why. We only had three tables at this time. This last time a nicely dressed young man came by and said "You are the lady who helped me with my income tax." I made a fuss about his graduation, and I could see how happy it made him. It is also nice to have an opportunity to congratulate the parents.

SMJ: Yes, I recall two of my students coming in to work for me on the day of the graduation ceremonies. They both told me they could not be bothered to attend the exercise. I found that attitude to be different, you know.

FRAN: We went to graduation on Friday for the 8th graders because we taught the children from first grade. They mentioned all the teachers who came, and I think it would have been nice if they would of had asked us to stand up and to be recognized. At times, some of the niceties are forgotten. The playground that we had is now a parking lot! So much for great changes! It is difficult to know everyone unless you are involved in a committee. That is why I like to be involved. I don't know if people are to busy or just not committed. Our faculty is closed after school.

SMJ: Do you recall any outstanding faculty, any that have made an impression upon you?

FRAN: Dr. Porter, Univ. of Hawaii; Prof. Roberts of Western

Illinois Univ.; Dr. Beck of City College; and Dr. Florence Duranemeyer of Teachers College Columbia all encouraged me to stay on the continent. They were my mentors. Dr. Bulger answered every note that needed to be answered and he made me feel at home. Dr. Sugarman was very supportive and she suggested that I begin the Kappa Delta Pi Alumni Group a counselor. Dr. George Sherrie and Dr. Anna Burrell, took me under their wing and helped me understand the ways of life in the continental US of A. Dr. Marion Carroll worked with the campus ministry in higher education and I and I have been at it since I have been here on campus. When Dr. Lorraine Lang interviewed me she gave me opportunities for attending educational meetings in many cities. She was supportive to my style of teaching. Dr. MacVittie was dean and made arrangements to have my salary returned to me for day I had attended meetings. He had a great insight to the faculties insight to education. Dr. Fekete is great to work with on the Faculty Association. He was president then and is interested in college affairs. Dr. Richard Collier was a great organizer, Dr. Rosilie Turton was Director of Alumni Affairs and it was great to volunteer on committees with her. I enjoyed her leadership very much. On the 23rd of June the Alumni Dinner at the Sheraton East, three of us are going to be honored for our volunteer work, I suppose. Meta Norenburg was an English professor, a great friend who helped me understand the ways of college, and even helped me find a place to live. I still correspond with her. She is living in Freemont, Nebraska. She just lost her sister who was 90 years old. Marian Bode, the Art professor, is a great friend who helped me understand

the art world and the ways of the college. She introduced me to blueberries. I never knew how they grew. She also introduced me to life on a freshwater lake in Wisconsin. Dr. Russ Macaluso treated us as college faculty and was great in allowing us to attend meetings. There were great opportunities during his time, of teaching changes and getting perspectives on new developments. He wrote deserving notes for deserving tasks. Mary Jamison was my very early education professor. We exchanged ideas in teaching young children. She was also a good friend. We would have dinner together and then exchange materials. Dr. Edna Linderman added much to my art knowledge and gave me an understanding of the Burchfield Center. Then, there was Dr. Gene Gounard in the International Students area; Susan Earshen with her excellent retirement seminars; John O'Day who helped me understand the new field of computers; Diane Salvamoser and Roberts Sandstone who are great secretaries.

SMJ: Salvamoser and Sandstone, I was going to say that I didn't recall the names as faculty.

FRAN: I just wanted to list some of the people who had been very helpful. Also, the people of the library- you, too, Sister.

SMJ: Me too, huh? Oh, you are a doll, Fran. What are your feelings toward the college now?

FRAN: Well, the college has grown and I still am a part of the college. We can still carry on our teaching ideas to a certain extent. With many changes in the program and personnel, some of those talents could be used and given more an opportunity to do more and not be hindered. We need the young people for the new

spirit, freshness and wisdom of the experienced. We can have more feelings and respect for others to make them feel important and build up strength for everyone. Some are given the opportunities while others can be tapped and invited. They are tremendous assets in resources and how we could concentrate to build these resources! There are many ways to say NO. Those are just my thoughts about it!!

SMJ: Yes, that is good. Of course, I know that you have just casually mentioned, but I am sure you have more detailed interests outside the classroom. What are they?

FRAN: I enjoy being really active in the community, especially the Alumni, the Carnivals, the Phonathons, Monte Carlo. It was work, but I didn't realize this because we did it for the fun to meet people and keep their interest in college. I did very well one night working the Phonathon... I even had a push telephone!! It was fun to do. At the President's Christmas Party, you meet people as well as at the Graduation Parties. I think It is a good attitude to take when you become involved.

SMJ: Well you certainly have been a good example of that! It is really remarkable in the interest you have shown.

FRAN: But you see, I think it all stems from the way that Dad brought us up!! Being involved makes you feel good!!

SMJ: Well, you know a lot of people. When you first attend something, you meet people. The next time you attend some affair, you meet more people and that alone encourages you to attend again and again.

FRAN: But you learn that way. I learned that there is a

place called Mexico, NY. It is a dairy town north of Syracuse, I learned this just the other night. This father was happy to give the addresses of both daughters. I called them and both daughters gave me \$25. for the college. I told them that I had just spoken with their Dad and he was the one who gave me the phone number. We had fun, I was told, I was skilled in doing it (raising Funds). Those are not sensitive to the need will not be sensitive no matter who approaches them. I think I am blessed. As Father would say "Thank the Lord for your blessing". So I am blessed. The Chinese Club of Buffalo is fun too. The Chinese New Year celebration is something special, so I usually take people. I start out by asking how they would like to be a minority for the evening? At the heritage Festival in Convention Center, You get to see other people, not just the Chinese. We make a lot of money to give to scholarships too.

SMJ: The thing that I have not mentioned through all of this, is that with all the activities you attend, you do not drive a car! Do you go by bus or by foot.

FRAN: Well people always offer transportation to me. For example, at graduation I have gone by bus, but usually there are people go take me. I think we should all have interest of the college student and support the graduation.

SMJ: You are beginning to make me feel like a run-down heel for not doing all of these things myself, Fran.

FRAN: You can't do everything , Sister.

SMJ: Well, you seem to do it all, Fran! It is remarkable.

FRAN: Then there is the volunteer Income Tax Program. I have

learned a great deal from that.

SMJ: Now where did you learn about that, Fran?

FRAN: Well, we are trained by the Tax People. I got the idea from my friend who is in Hawaii. She was a classmate of mine and I thought "Gee why not?" Like the International Host Program of the college, that is nice. There is the Jamaica Partners of Western New York which we do with Jamaica. we exchange ideas and other activities. Through Dr. Alan Korn, the other evening I met two gentlemen, and we had a lot of fun. I participate in the activities of the Burchfield Center and the Art Gallery, also the Symphony and Studio Arena. From the United Way committee, I just received a note asking if I would do it for next year. Being on the agenda and by-laws committee for the faculty, Applied and Professional Studies, you get to meet people from various departments. Through the Advisory Committee on China, we met Liu Tau our first graduate student. When you meet them, you try to make them feel at home. I think we help build a good relationship with China and America too. In the lectures that we have at the college, the plays, the altar guild of St. John's Grace, you have a common job with each other and you do it unobtrusively as your service. You can take advantage of new courses like computers!! There, too, is the Campus Church Coalition which is the organization of volunteers engaged in campus ministry of the university.

SMJ: I will say one thing, too, that you have, and what I would call an advantage in your favor, is that you do not have the responsibility of children or a family which does give you much

more free time. You do not have to schedule your time for them.

FRAN: Our responsibility is our family too. I am going home this summer.

SMJ: But I mean right here in Buffalo, 24 hour responsibilities. You do not have to go home to fix dinner, take care of your children, etc. You have gone out to people and have not become a recluse. You have shared yourself which is a wonderful thing.

FRAN: I think the Lord had given me the skill.

SMJ: You have mentioned a great deal about your travels already. Did you want to repeat any of that?

FRAN: Dad always wanted us to travel with a purpose in mind. So as a child, I was lucky to go to outer islands by boat or plane. As I mentioned, travel was restricted during the war. During my sabbatical, I did go around the world and made many friends in the United States.

SMJ: You did not get to china at that time, did you? You had to by-pass China.

FRAN: I only got to Hong Kong because China was closed. Living in NYC at the International House with representatives from 90 other nations was an experience. While there, we met Kruma, Tom Moboya, Henry Kissinger, and David Rockefeller. We even had a picnic with Mrs. Roosevelt in her Hyde Park home. She was such a beautiful, lovely woman. Even Mr. Dodge, of the Dodge cars, had us over for a picnic. I still support the International House because I believe in it. There are other International houses in Berkeley, Chicago, France and Hong Kong. I have traveled to many other

cities by way of memberships in other organizations and committees. I planned and saved for many of these visits and trips.

SMJ: Have you been to Europe often?

FRAN: Yes, on that trip around the world. Then, in 1977 I went to Brighton, England and went to Norway and Sweden. My early visit to Hawaii helped me understand Hawaii much more. My most recent trip to China with Dr. Vern and Bonnie Bullough and the public health nurse was a fabulous and fascinating one. We visited Shanghai, Beijing and Canton.

SMJ: Do you want to say anything more about your travels? I did want to ask one question though. In your travels around the world can you recall immediately the one place that really stands out as incredible and you would like to go back. Or have gone back?

FRAN: I have been back to Hong Kong. It is fabulous and interesting. Every where i have traveled, there are so many similarities of other things, I saw elsewhere. I remember asking Dad if he would go back to Hong Kong to see his brother. Dad has since done it. As you travel in different, it is similar to other places.

SMJ: In your travels, were you impressed by the different types of beauty? You know, with the different forms that beauty takes, the countryside, the people, the cities, etc.

FRAN: Yes, I have had very pleasant experiences and I suppose it depends upon how you sense the people and how you say certain things as you first meet them.

SMJ: Did you ever get to Jerusalem?

FRAN: Yes, I went to the Holy Land. When I first got there, I felt so good because being a church organist, I asked myself if this is where music first came? I was happy that I did get to Jerusalem.

SMJ: What about Rome, Italy?

FRAN: Yes. There are just different areas and parts of the world that you feel was really wonderful that you could make it there.

SMJ: Is there anything else you would like to add to this interview?

FRAN: I appreciate the opportunity to help build the State University Archives! I feel honored to be a part of your fine work in the collection of college personalities. I hope I can add more in the Campus School materials for your files too. What a beautiful experience and privilege to teach at State University at Buffalo. My life has been enriched so many times and I am happy that I left a legacy in the Frances S. Tyau International Scholarship. Thank you Sister Martin.

SMJ: I thank you too Frances!!

