

planning at the academic level, and with Project administrators achieving a coordination of Indian and non-Indian personnel and the services of academic and non-academic divisions of the university. Furthermore the objectives laid down early in the Project included the collection of a wide variety of Indian oral testimony, so that many research interests might be served, including the inquiries that Indian people themselves might have concerning their own history and culture. The nature of the American Indian Institute's governing board facilitated this cooperative approach to the building of an Indian oral history collection. Both in regular meetings and in special conferences individual board members have contributed consultative and administrative services. The present board members are listed in Table 1 and all of these have served through the duration of this Project.

Especially active in formulating the theoretical and operational guidelines to the building of the Duke Indian Oral History Collection were Dr. W. E. Bittle and Dr. Arrell M. Gibson from the disciplines of Anthropology and History. Both Dr. Bittle and Dr. Gibson have long specialized in the study of the American Indian from the vantage points of their respective disciplines and have published materials based on original research. Both were convinced that a collection of Indian oral history materials from the various tribes of Oklahoma would be of immense benefit to historians, anthropologists, and other researchers working on American Indian subject matter. Each contributed substantially to discussions among Project personnel as to the nature of oral history, and the particular features of Indian oral history worthy of concentration. Each contributed also to the administering of certain phases of