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Facilities (A3-K) contents

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Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean (A3)

The position of Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs did not exist early on. Rodney Briggs upon the founding of UMM was the campus' chief executive officer, and he also performed the functions of the academic dean. According to the catalog for the 1961-62 year there was an Administrative Committee in place, and the Committee members, it would seem, collectively performed roles later formally assigned to the Dean. When Briggs resigned in 1969 John Q. Imholte assumed the position of "Academic Dean and Acting Provost." Two years later Gordon Bopp was named "Academic Dean." Bopp remained in that role until the 1979-81 academic year at which time Elizabeth (Bettina) Blake was named to replace Bopp. Blake resigned in 1995 and was replaced by Samuel Schuman. Meanwhile, the title changed in the 1987-1989 academic year, and the office was renamed "Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Dean." When Schuman became acting Chancellor in 1998 he appointed a series of so-called "Baby Deans" to administer the functions of that office. John Schwaller was then named Dean in 2002, and he was succeeded by Judith Kuechle on an interim basis in 2006 and Roland Guyotte in 2007. Cheryl Contant followed Guyotte in 2008.

Facilities (A3-K)

These materials go beyond a narrow focus on facilities and instead engage myriad administrative issues for various offices and administrative units. The majority of these records date from the 1980s and Elizabeth's Blake's tenure as academic dean.

Most of these records are in the form of brochures and pamphlets, correspondence, memoranda, newsletters, hand-written notes and reports.

Of special interest is the large number of files that document the founding of the Computing Center and its problems and challenges during its early years. The small file labeled "Health Services is also noteworthy, especially in the inclusion of statistics representing student demand for specific services. The series contains a number of files on the Rodney Briggs Library, mainly from the 1980s and first half of the 1990s, and these involve funding issues, personnel problems and cut-backs to periodicals and work study monies. Materials also speak to "automation" and the early efforts to provide electronic access to information. The files of the West Central Minnesota Historical Research Center speak to its early years and the eventual cut-back in funding. Finally, the materials from the Records Office and the Women's Center (Women's Resource Center) are of some importance.

Correspondents: Wilbert Ahern, Elizabeth Blake, Gordon Bopp, Angel Lopez, Thomas McRoberts, Samuel Schuman

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