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General files and correspondence: Academic (A3-H-a) 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.

General files and Correspondence (A3-H)

Originally, these materials were organized as a distinct series within the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs record group and categorized as "Miscellaneous." Because of the volume of materials and the range of topics covered, these records were further divided in 2010-11 into a number of different sub-series: Academic, Administrative, Correspondence, Miscellaneous, North Central Association, People, Students, Teaching and Employment. The Record Series was also renamed, "General Files and Correspondence." See the abstracts for the various sub-series for more detailed descriptions.

Academic (A3-H-a)

The "Academic" subseries contains miscellaneous materials on a number of topics related to the Vice-Chancellor's academic role. Records consist of brochures, correspondence, memoranda, newsletters and notes. A number of files contain Vice-Chancellor's correspondence with friends, colleagues and former students and reflect the chief academic officer's diverse range of issues. One file from 1973, for instance, contains correspondence from the Northwestern College of Chiropractic in Minneapolis in support of pre-chiropractic program at UMM. Personal correspondence include wedding invitations, thank-you cards, missives from boosters, letters from other administrators discussing new developments in higher education, etc. Much of the correspondence dating from Elizabeth's Blake's tenure as Dean is reflective of the shifting role of women in college administration.

Also of interest are the two files having to do with the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and included here is a small collection of ribbons and pins.

Correspondents: Elizabeth (Bettina) Blake, Gordon Bopp and Samuel Schuman

Container List

Box 1

Northwestern College of Chiropractic

Occult, Etc.

Off-Campus Correspondence 1983-84, 87-88

Off-Campus Learning – Task Force

Correspondence – Miscellaneous 1973-74 On-Campus

Outside Consulting 1993-94, 94-95, 95-96, 96-97, 97-98

Outstate Academic Officers 1986-87, 87-88, 88-89, 89-90

“Parents” Weekend Feb. 1982

Personal Correspondence 1980-81

Phi Kappa Phi – Honor Society/Students 1980-93

Phi Kappa Phi – Pins & Ribbon

Outside Consulting 1998-99