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Guide to the University of Chicago Central Administration Letterbooks 1927-1957



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Descriptive Summary

Identifier	ICU.SPCL.CENTRALADMINLTRBKS
Title	University of Chicago. Central Administration. Letterbooks
Date	1927-1957
Size	39.5 linear feet (119 volumes)
Repository	Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.
Abstract	The University of Chicago Central Administration Letterbooks contain carbon copies of outgoing correspondence of university presidents, vice-presidents, and other officials, between the years 1927 and 1957. This correspondence covers academic and administrative matters.

Information on Use

Access

The collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: University of Chicago. Central Administration. Letterbooks, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Historical Note

The University of Chicago Central Administration Letterbooks cover the administrations of Max Mason (1925-1928), Robert Maynard Hutchins (1929-1951), and Lawrence A. Kimpton (1951-1960). Mason was the first President to come from outside the University. He oversaw a period of expansion, including the creation of a hundred new faculty positions, the completion of the hospitals, and a new football stadium. Under his successor, however, varsity football was eliminated; Hutchins sought to focus on cementing the University's reputation for intellectual rigour, particularly at the undergraduate level, where he championed a liberal, non-specialized education. Despite his involvement with government projects on campus during wartime, notably the Manhattan Project, Hutchins was a defender of academic freedom who protected his faculty against post-war charges of communism. Kimpton's administration was similarly ambitious, presiding over a controversial urban renewal project in Hyde Park to boost declining enrollment.

Scope Note

The University of Chicago Central Administration Letterbooks contain carbon copies of outgoing correspondence of university presidents, vice-presidents, and other officials, between the years 1927 and 1957. Each volume includes an index. The correspondence covers academic and administrative matters.

Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html>

University of Chicago. Office of the President. Mason Administration. Records

University of Chicago. Office of the President. Hutchins Administration. Records

University of Chicago. Office of the President. Kimpton Administration. Records

Subject Headings

- Hutchins, Robert Maynard, 1899-
- Kimpton, Lawrence Alpheus, 1910-
- Mason, Max, 1877-1961
- University of Chicago. Administration
- University of Chicago. Presidents

INVENTORY

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May 1-July 31, 1927

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August 1-October 31, 1927

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