Guide to the University of Chicago Friends of the Library. Records 1933-1945

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Descriptive Summary

Identifier                         ICU.SPCL.FRIENDSOFLIBRARY
Title                              University of Chicago. Friends of the Library. Records
Date                               1933-1945
Size                               0.5 linear feet (1 box)
Repository                         Special Collections Research Center
                                    University of Chicago Library
                                    1100 East 57th Street
                                    Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract                          The Friends of the Library Records consists of papers pertaining to the initial organization of the Friends of the Library of the University of Chicago, which was an organization comprised of faculty, staff, alumni, and other individuals interested in developing the resources of the University Libraries. The collection includes the correspondence, minutes, membership lists, and financial records of the organization, all organized chronologically, also included are invitations, speeches, and correspondence pertaining to Friends' meetings.

Acknowledgments

Information on Use

Access                             No restrictions.

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

Historical Note                    The Friends of the Library of the University of Chicago (1933-1942) was an organization comprised of faculty, staff, alumni, and other individuals interested in developing the resources of the University Libraries. The idea for the Friends was originally conceived by M. Llewellyn Raney, then Director of the University Libraries, as a means of obtaining money to supplement a dwindling library budget. The University Administration approved Raney’s idea, seeing the organization as, additionally, a valuable public relations tool. Officially, the Friends group was inaugurated in 1933, and was governed by an elected Executive Board; however, the Board seldom met in the years 1934-1937 and not at all after 1937. Raney willingly shouldered primary
responsibility for Friends’ activities -- he planned meetings, suggested purchases, and wrote and edited the group’s publication, The Courier. The Friends of the Library faded into inactivity after Raney’s retirement as Director of the Library in 1942.

**Scope Note**

The Friends of the Library Records consists of papers pertaining to the initial organization of the Friends of the Library of the University of Chicago, which was an organization comprised of faculty, staff, alumni, and other individuals interested in developing the resources of the University Libraries. The collection includes the correspondence, minutes, membership lists, and financial records of the organization, all organized chronologically, also included are invitations, speeches, and correspondence pertaining to Friends' meetings.

**Related Resources**

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

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

**Subject Headings**

- Raney, M. Llewellyn (McKendree Llewellyn), b. 1877
- University of Chicago. Friends of the Library
- Libraries -- Societies, etc.
- Friends of the library
- Academic libraries

**INVENTORY**

**Box 1**

**Folder 1**
- Foundation documents
  - Proposals relative to formation of Articles of Association
  - Constitution and Draft 1 and 2
  - Purpose and Plan
  - Constitution and By-Laws

**Box 1**

**Folder 2**

**Box 1**

**Folder 3**
- Correspondence. (January 1933-November 1935).

**Box 1**

**Folder 4**
- Correspondence. (January 1936-September 1942).

**Box 1**

**Folder 5**
- Membership Lists.
Box 1
Folder 6
Financial Records.
Box 1
Folder 7
Publications about the Friends.
Box 1
Folder 8
Programs. (January 1933-January 1938).
Box 1
Folder 9
Programs. (March 1938-April 1945).
Box 1
Folder 10
Beaumont Collection. Photographs of Friends meeting.