

REED COLLEGE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE PAPERS

- Provenance:** The Reed College Women's Committee Papers, 1956-2006, were gathered over many years but primarily collected in 2005/06 from various members, past presidents, and the liaison office personnel in the Reed administration.
- Ownership:** The Reed College Library owns these materials. The intellectual content of the correspondence is owned by the author.
- Access:** The papers are unrestricted, unless otherwise noted. Please consult the Special Collections Librarian for further information.
- Size:** This collection consists of 23 manuscript boxes (11.5 linear feet).
- Processed by:** Emily Ford '02, 2006 summer intern, and other student archive workers.
- Date:** 2005 and 2006; completed 10/06.

Historical Note

Under the leadership of Carrie Hervin and Cheryl Scholz MacNaughton as the first chairwomen (1956-1959), the Reed College Women's Committee (RCWC) was founded in 1956. The group's philosophy was both to serve women who had good minds, used them and had regard for intellectual concerns and to support Reed College, its goals and students. On the Reed side, several presidents' wives such as Nancy Bragdon were staunch supporters, and many of the organizational details were handled by special programs staff, most notably Antoinette Menashe for over 20 years (1974-1995) and, more recently, Dawn Thompson. The summer of 2006 marked the final year of the Committee, celebrated in a 50th Anniversary Gala Banquet and library exhibition.

The RCWC sponsored many important programs that impacted the Reed community in very positive ways. Although members did not, as a rule, have any formal affiliation with Reed, monthly meetings were often held at the college and their best-known program, the lecture series, was closely linked. Held on campus, the annual lecture series treated a wide range of topics, most focused on contemporary public and political affairs. The RCWC also organized the Lay Scholar Visiting Lecturer Program and other public forums. Money raised from these lectures funded several scholarship programs, including scholarships for outstanding international students, and, later, for students of special need.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of the presidents' annual notes and minutes, organizational papers for the lecture series and other forums, some correspondence, clippings, publicity flyers, and administrative documents including handbooks and guidelines. These materials cover 1956 through 2006.

Box Index

BOX 1

25th Anniversary Celebration documents
50th Anniversary Celebration documents
Chairwomen 1985-1990
Chairwomen 1991-1993
Chairwomen 1994-1997

BOX 2

Women's Council 1943-1949
Women's Council 1950-1957
Correspondence 1975-1979
Correspondence 1980-1981
Correspondence 1982-1986
Correspondence 1987-1988
Data Tape
Endowment Information
General Files 1984-1986
Governor's Volunteerism Award 1990
Brief History of RCWC

BOX 3

Lecture Chairperson's Notebook (1987)
Lecture Chairperson's Notebook (1998)
Lecture Series Complete Lists (through 2005)
Member Guidelines

BOX 4

Membership Handbooks 1987-2004

Member Lists and Memoranda

Member Surveys:

Interest

Opinions

Profiles

Directional

BOX 5

Minutes 1953-1975

BOX 6

Minutes 1976-1986

BOX 7

Minutes 1987-2004

BOX 8

Miscellaneous 1982-2004

Organizational History

Photographs (RCWC and Lecturers)

President's Notebooks 1985-1986

BOX 9

President's Notebook 1987-1989

BOX 10

President's Notebook 1990-1996

BOX 11

President's Notebook 1997-2001

BOX 12

President's Notebook 2002-2004
Speaker's Publications

BOX 13

Scholarship Files
 Lay Scholar
 Scholarship Fund
Speaker Publications
Sponsored Events
 Teppola (Melody)
Ticket Sales 1985-1995
Ticket Sales 1994
Ticket Sales 1994-1995

BOX 14

Treasurer's Notebook 1985
Treasurer's Notebook 1987
Treasurer's Notebook 1988

BOX 15

RCWC Forums 1958- 1975

BOX 16

RCWC Forums 1976-1982

BOX 17

RCWC Forums 1983-1985

BOX 18

RCWC Forums 1986-1991

BOX 19

RCWC Forums 1992

BOX 20

RCWC Forums 1993-1994

BOX 21

RCWC Forums 1995

BOX 22

RCWC Forums 1996-1998

BOX 23

RCWC Forums 1999-2005