Overview of the Collection

Creator: Delta Chapter, American Association of University Professors (AAUP)
Title: American Association of University Professors, Delta College Chapter Records
Inclusive Dates: 1953-2001
Bulk Dates: 1962-1997
Abstract: Collection consists of correspondence, member lists, minutes, financial statements, chapter letters, handbooks, bulletins, and newspaper clippings of the Delta College Chapter of the American Association of University Professors. Topics include academic freedom and tenure, faculty salaries and the Bergstein Awards Banquet. Includes materials relating to the national organization.
Quantity: 4 linear feet.
Repository: Delta College Archives, L118, 1961 Delta Road, University Center, MI 48017
Preferred Citation: [Description of item], Series, American Association of University Professors, Delta College Chapter Records, Delta College Archives, University Center, Michigan.

Administrative History

The Delta College chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) began during the college’s first academic year. They adopted their constitution on March 8, 1962. The first President was Dr. Carlton Mabee, followed by Dr. Louis Doll, John Kostoff, Calvin Hoerneman, and Don Laughner. Each President serves a two year term.

Among many issues the chapter dealt with was faculty salaries. A number of salary studies were conducted early on in support of the Faculty Salary Committee that negotiates salaries with the Board of Trustees. Other important issues have included tenure, academic freedom, collective bargaining, incentive/merit pay for faculty, rights of students, retirement, race and sex discrimination, grading, and changing Delta to a “learning-centered institution.”

Membership began strong with about forty-five to fifty members. Numbers vacillated between thirty and sixty in the seventies and eighties, as interest grew and diminished at times, and enlarged to nearly seventy members in the nineties. However, by the year 2000, many faculty lost interest and membership dwindled to less than a dozen. The chapter considered closing. A few determined professors fought to rebuild the membership and institute regular meetings between the President, Board and Delta Senate.
AAUP award ceremonies began in March 1965 with distribution of AAUP Recognition awards, as well as the Bergstein Award for Teaching Excellence at a celebratory dinner. The first awards winners were Don Carlyon, Oscar Anderson, Dr. Louis Doll, and Harvey Wichman.

The Bergstein Award for Teaching Excellence is the highest honor for any faculty member at Delta College. The Bergstein Family of Midland has sponsored the award since 1965. Bergstein was a charter member of the Delta College Board of Trustees (1957-1964) and he and his wife Ester were very active in the community in a number of volunteer activities. Their son Stuart was a Board of Trustees member from 1974-1984 and a Foundation Board of Directors member from 1979-1982 and 1993-1996. Awarded to two faculty annually, the first winners were Dr. Carlton Mabee and Dr. Edward Stry.

AAUP also presents the Service Award and Governance Award annually at the Employee Awards Banquet. Nominees need not be employees or AAUP members and the same person can be nominated for both awards. The Governance Award is given for leadership or exceptional involvement in the shared governance of Delta College that benefit the faculty, staff or students of the College. The Service Award is given to an individual or group that has given service of exceptional value to Delta College.

Many new awards were added over time to the ceremony and eventually it went on to gain much participation from the faculty and staff at the end of the academic year.

Scope and Contents

The American Association of University Professors, Delta College Chapter Records documents the organization and history of the AAUP Delta College chapter. The collections consists of material related to initiatives of the chapter over the years, a significant amount of material related to the chapter’s teaching award (The Bergstein Award) and material related to the chapters connection with the Michigan Conference and National Conference.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series: The chronological series (1962-present) and the topical file series (1953-1987). The majority of the collection is in the chronological series.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Open to all users

Restrictions on Use
None

Index Terms

This record series is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons

Organizations
- Delta College (University Center, MI).
- American Association of University Professors.

Places
- University Center (MI).

Subjects
- College Teachers.
- Academic Freedom.

Document Types
- Brochures.
- Bulletins.
- Correspondence.
- Handbooks.
- Minutes.

Related Material
- Donald J. Carlyon Papers
- Photographs Record Group

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection was acquired from storage in the Social Science department in 2017.

Accruals

Future accruals are not expected.

Processing Information
Detailed Description of the Collection

Chronological Series, 1962-present

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