

PHILOTHEAN FELLOWSHIP COLLECTION
1947-1961

FINDING AID

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Administrative Information

Title:

Philothean Fellowship Collection, 1947-1961

Creator(s):

Fuller, Grace (Payton) Mrs.
Fuller Theological Seminary
Students' Spouses

Collection Identifier:

CFT00137

Extent:

4 Boxes, 3.46 linear feet

Repository:

David Allan Hubbard Library
Fuller Theological Seminary
135 N Oakland Ave
Pasadena, CA 91182

Acquisition Information:

Institutional record retention. Materials originally housed in the basement of Slessor Hall on the Pasadena campus.

Conditions Governing Access:

Access copies of the scrapbooks are available in Box 1 of the archival collection and digital scans are available upon request from the Archives. Scholarly use with parameters of copyright law.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Language:

English

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of Item], Philothean Fellowship Collection, Archives and Special Collections, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California.

Name of Cataloger/Date Completed:

Collection cataloged and finding aid written by Nancy Sanders Gower, June 2013. Collection reprocessed and finding aid revised by Alyson Thomas, June 2019.

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Administrative History

The Philothean Fellowship was an organization initiated by Grace Payton Fuller and Mary Jane Smith for the training, community, and spiritual growth of the women at Fuller Theological Seminary. The original community in 1947 consisted of student, staff, and faculty wives, and grew to include all women of the Seminary staff and student body by the 1960s.

Philothean Fellowship membership included active members and associate members. Active members consisted of the wives of students of Fuller Theological Seminary. Associate members included the wives of the faculty, the wives of the staff, and female Seminary staff members and student body. Officer positions included a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer elected by active members.

Regular Monday night meetings alternated between general meetings at the Seminary with a featured speaker or panel discussion and smaller group meetings for prayer and bible study. Yearly events included holiday parties, children's parties, and Baccalaureate celebrations.

Members of the Philothean Fellowship also advocated for women's inclusion in academic programs as early as 1947-1948. By 1974, wives of full-time students were permitted to audit classes at the Seminary without charge, or register for classes at one-quarter the regular tuition and pursue degrees. The group stayed active until 1974-1975, when its name transitioned to the "Women's Institute." The Women's Institute continued to provide intellectual and spiritual growth and fellowship for Fuller Seminary student wives through a variety of workshops and special interest classes.

The Office for Women's Concerns opened in August 1976 with the support of Roberta Hestenes and Libbie Patterson. The Office for Women's Concerns monitored all programs and decisions concerning female staff, students, and faculty at Fuller Seminary. The Office provided career counseling and advocate support for women on campus at all levels as well as coordinating all women's activities. The Woman Students Committee was also created, consisting of members from all three graduate schools, which addressed the planning of programs, workshops, and services for women students. The Women's Lectureship series was hosted by this office from 1983-2001 to expose the Fuller community to academic work being done by and about women. The Office for Women's Concerns and Committee of Women's Concerns were incorporated into the Student Engagement and Success department (as it was known in 2019).

The Women's Institute disbanded by 1980 as it folded into the short-lived Team Ministry (for all spouses of Fuller students), and a steering committee of Fuller spouses to link student wives to the Seminary community. A second community support group, FOCUS (1990-1999), helped student wives "who have an important and unique role as individuals and as part of married team going through the rigors and joys of graduate school" in small-group settings. The steering committee also sought to help student wives determine their own ministry through directed study, social events, and support programs. By 1993, the steering committee became the "Fuller Wives Fellowship," renamed "SUPPORT" in 1994. SUPPORT transitioned in name to CONNECT c. 2015, and operated with the support of Nancy Sunquist, wife of former SIS Dean Dr. Scott Sunquist.

Related Collections

Charles E. and Grace Payton Fuller Collection, Fuller Theological Seminary

David Allan Hubbard: Presidential Papers, Fuller Theological Seminary

Cataloger's Note

During the original processing in 2013, the materials were integrated into Collection 138: Early Institutional Papers, 1947-1975. In 2015, the Philothean Fellowship materials were separated into their own collection. The materials were processed into its own collection in 2019.

Scope and Content

The Philothean Fellowship Collection, 1947-1961 consists of access and original copies of scrapbooks kept by members of the Fuller Theological Seminary student wives' group, the Philothean Fellowship. The scrapbooks include photographs, postcard invitations to Seminary social events and lectures, Fuller Seminary convocation and commencement brochures, and the newsletter *The Broadcaster*.

Subjects

Fuller, Grace (Payton) Mrs.
Fuller Theological Seminary
Students
Students' Spouses
Women
Women in higher education

Arrangement

The collection has been organized according to format. The file folders of access photocopies and photographs retain the original order of the pages within the original scrapbook materials.

A single file folder was added at the end of Box 1, Folder 40 at an unknown date. The folder's provenance is unclear.

Container List

Box 1: Philothean Fellowship Scrapbook, 1947-1953

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Invitation to Seminary Christmas party	13 December 1947
1	2 letters from Betty, Dick and Dave Soderberg	1948
2	Constitution of Philothean Fellowship	n.d.
3	Photos at Highgate and with children, Mildred Salmon with Salmon, Carlston, Hill, Wenzel and Gwinn children. Easter Egg Hunt at Highgate.	1948
4	Thank you notes from Lois Friesen and Mildred Salmon, photos at Highgate, invitation to a reception held by President and Mrs. Harold John Ockenga Feb, 1948	May 1948
5	Philothean Fellowship calendar for 1948/49. Charles E. Fuller letter about Fuller Seminary	22 September 1948
6	Second Annual Convocation program. Invitation post cards: Philothean Meeting, Seminary Christmas party – to Dale E. Fisher	30 September 1948
7	Seminary wives' chorus practice notice	
8	Installation of new officers, photos, a thank you letter from North China Theological Seminary	1949
9	Installation service, 4 pages	January 1949
10	Valentine Party, photos. Clippings of Payton lecturer and Livingstone Hotel purchase for dorms. Teacher training class post card invitation.	January – February 1949
11	Post card invitations to meetings, events. Henrietta Mears speaker at tea in honor of Mrs. Ockenga. Christian schools vs. Public schools forum. Edward Dunn, Director of Music and Productions NBC TV lecture on broadcasting.	March 1949
11	April Showers Philothean Banquet	April 1949
12	2 photos: Installation & a children's event, copies made for Mrs. Smith	May 1949
13	Installation service. Photos	May 1949
14	Philothean Fellowship Garden Party	26 September 1949
15	Third Annual Convocation program. The Broadcaster	27 September 1949
16	Philothean newsletter, The Broadcaster. Fellowship Meeting and Missionary Meeting post cards,	November 1949
17	Invitation post cards, The Broadcaster	December 1949
18	Invitation post cards, The Broadcaster	February 1950
19	Invitation post cards, The Broadcaster. Naomi Johnston speaks at Mission Covenant Church	April 1950
20	Robe & Tassel Philothean Banquet, 1st Annual Baccalaureate	April-May 1950
21	4th Annual convocation, theme song, clippings	Fall 1950
22	First Philothean meeting photos	Fall 1950
23	November meeting photos. Woodbridge, Ruth Fuller	November 1950

24	Invitations to hear Mrs. Vasady, Miss Mears	November 1950
25	Philothean Directory belonging to Laura Wiebe	1950/1951
26	Christmas Social invitations and photos	December 1950
27	Children's Christmas party invitations and photos	December 1950
28	Letters from cookbook committee chair Elouise Corwin and Philothean Fellowship Alumni committee chair Blanche Buegler	January 1951
29	Philothean Fellowship Cookbook	1951
30	Payton lecturer Gordon Haddon Clark clipping, Philothean meeting post cards	January – February, 1951
31	Invitation post cards, The Broadcaster	February 1951
32	Missionary committee invitation: India Meeting. Invitation post cards, The Broadcaster	November 1952
33	Photo of 4 women, including Mrs. Wilbur Smith	c. 1953
34	Fuller Theological Seminary Auxiliary Prayer Fellowship booklet and photo: Mrs. E. Wilfred Wiegel; Mrs. Roy Johnston, President; Mrs. John McGill; Mrs. Harold J. Ockenga; Mrs. Herman Hosier; Mrs. Edward Carnell, Mrs. Peter Geddes; Mrs. Wilbur Smith; Mrs. Charles E. Fuller; Mrs. Robert Eby; Mrs. James Gorton; Mrs. Cyrus Nelson; Mrs. Philip Johnson.	n.d.
35-36	The Broadcaster	1948-1953, 1963
37	Philothean Fellowship minutes of executive meetings	1952-1958
38	Handbook for Seminary Women	c. 1961
39	Philothean Fellowship miscellaneous	
40	Invitation to Philothean Fall Fellowship	1954

Box 2: Philothean Fellowship Scrapbook II, 1953-1958

Box 3: Philothean Fellowship, 1953-1958

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Philothean Fellowship programs	Fall, Spring 1957/1958
2	Medieval Memories Banquet	10 April 1958
3	Invitation post cards	1958
4	Display on the founding of FTS	
5	Class of '50 photocopied photo page from Reunion of Schooldays	1950
6	Schooldays dinner party program	1951
	Pages and cover of original Scrapbook I	
	PF - Philothean Fellowship Aims and roster booklets	1951-1956
	<i>The Broadcaster</i>	
	Photocopies of "Philothean Publicity Chairman's Notebook"	1952-1960

Box 4: Philothean Publicity Chairman's Notebook, 1952-1960