

EMORY UNIVERSITY. DEPT. OF BIOLOGY

Department of Biology records, 1930-2004

Emory University
Emory University Archives
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
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Digital Material Available in this Collection



Collection Stored Off-Site

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Descriptive Summary

- Creator:** Emory University. Dept. of Biology
- Title:** Department of Biology records, 1930-2004
- Call Number:** Series No. 93
- Extent:** 4.5 linear ft. (9 boxes) and
- Abstract:** The Department of Biology was established at Emory College in 1911, though courses in biology had been taught prior to that. The Department continued to operate the auspices of Emory University after the rechartering of the school in 1914. The collection consists chiefly of the records, 1930-1993, of the Department of Biology at Emory University. The records include administrative materials, meeting minutes, audiovisual materials, newspaper clippings, and subject files. The records also include materials related to special endeavors by Biology Department faculty such as the Emory Herbarium and the Baker Woodlands. Many materials come from Woolford Bales Baker who served as Professor from 1919-1961. Materials relating to William Dudley Burbank's history of the Department of Biology are also contained within the collection as are materials related to Emory University's chapter of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society.
- Language:** Materials entirely in English.
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Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Special restrictions apply: Researchers must contact MARBL in advance to access audiovisual materials in this collection.

Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact MARBL in advance to access this collection.

Source

Transfer

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Department of Biology records, Emory University Archives, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Lisa Chinn, February 2011.

Collection Description

Administrative History

Biology courses have been part of the curriculum at Emory from its 1836 founding in Oxford, Ga. The first course offering in the biological sciences was human physiology. The biology curriculum quickly expanded as the College grew to include classes in histology and botany. Alexander Means, Emory College's fourth president, held the sciences chair at the College and was the first instructor in the sciences, teaching the school's courses in physiology, as well as in other sciences, including geology, natural philosophy, and chemistry.

Early sciences classes, as well as other college courses, were conducted in the buildings designed as dormitories for Emory's students. Classes were later relocated to "Old Main" when that building's construction was completed in 1852. When "Old Main" was condemned in 1871 and then torn down in 1872, science classes moved to Science Hall, completed in 1875. The science program at Emory expanded in the years following the Civil War and the first official professorship in biology at Emory College came in 1896 with the appointment of Reverend H.S. Bradley, Jr as Professor of Biology. In response to a growing interest in the sciences at Emory in the late 1890s, the College built the Lovick and George F. Pierce Memorial Science Hall. Completed in 1903 and named in honor of Emory trustee Lovick Pierce and his son George F. Pierce, also an Emory trustee as well as College President from 1848 to 1854, the Pierce Science Hall would be home to the new Department of Biology, established in 1911.

The biology program at Emory continued with the school's move to Atlanta and its rechristening as Emory University. Dr. Woolford Bales Baker, who served as a Professor of Biology at Emory University from 1919 to 1961, was largely responsible for the growth of the Biology Department at Emory. Baker also stressed the importance of keeping plant and animal samples on hand for research and teaching and established the Emory Herbarium. The Herbarium included specimens of plants found throughout the Southeast, with the earliest samples dating from 1939. Through his work as Professor as well as department chair, Baker established the reputation of the department and also raised awareness of the natural landscape surrounding Emory. The

Baker Woodlands on the Emory campus is named for him. Nicknamed "chief forester" by his colleagues at Emory for his environmental work, Baker was instrumental in the founding the Fernbank Forest with his friend Emily Stewart Harrison. Baker's friendship with Harrison enabled him and his graduate students to conduct research on the grounds of the Fernbank Forest.

The history of Emory's Department of Biology was preserved in large part due to the efforts of William Dudley Burbank, Professor of Biology (1949 to 1980) and department chair (1952 to 1957). During his tenure at Emory, Burbank compiled the biographies of twelve professors he deemed integral to the success of the department, publishing the work as *One Bright Shining Moment That Was Camelot II: A review of the organization and operation of the department of Biology of Emory University from 1950-1980*.

Scope and Content Note

The Department of Biology records are organized into six series and consist of documents dating from 1930 to 2004. The five series are Audio-Visual Materials, Administrative Materials, Herbarium, History of the Biology Department, and Sigma Xi.

The Audio-Visual Materials series, 1930 to 1980, contains photographs and video of the department's boat "The Driftwood," the Fernbank Research Center, and graduate students engaged in research. Also included are films of departmental events, such as the award ceremony in which Woolford Baker received the University's Thomas Jefferson Award for excellent scholarship.

The second series, Administrative Materials, 1949-1982, documents administrative and organizational topics including staffing, technology, the department's use of the Lullwater estate for specimen gathering, and departmental meeting minutes.

The Herbarium series, 1939-2004, includes indices of the plants housed in the Emory herbarium, as well as request letters from various institutions seeking specimen samples for their collections.

Materials in the History of the Biology Department series, 1940-1993, include newspaper clippings, subject files, and other research materials used by William Dudley Burbank to research the history of the biology department. The series also contains a copy of Burbank's manuscript "One Bright Shining Moment That Was Camelot II: A review of the organization and operation of the department of Biology of Emory University from 1950-1980," as well as a revision that expanded the departmental history to 1993.

The Sigma Xi series, 1943-1970, documents the Sigma Xi academic honor society and includes receipts from annual dues, brochures from the annual meeting, and induction certificates.

The Web archives series contains the captured and preserved web site of the Department of Biology available to browse via the Web Archiving Service of the California Digital Library.

Arrangement Note

Organized into six series: (1) Audiovisual material, (2) Administrative materials, (3) Herbarium, (4) History of the Biology Department, (5) Sigma Xi, and (6) Web archives.

Description of Series

[Series 1: Audiovisual items, 1930-1980](#)

[Series 2: Administrative materials, 1949-1982](#)

[Series 3: Herbarium, 1940-2004](#)

[Series 4: History of the Biology Department, 1940-1993](#)

[Series 5: Sigma Xi documents, 1940-1973](#)

[Series 6: Web archives, 2012-](#)

Series 1
Audiovisual items, 1930-1980
Box 1

Scope and Content Note

Series contains photographs and video of the department's boat "The Driftwood," the Fernbank Research Center, and graduate students engaged in research. Also included are films of departmental events, such as the award ceremony in which Woolford Baker received the University's Thomas Jefferson Award for excellent scholarship

Arrangement Note

Arranged alphabetically

Restrictions on Access

Special restrictions apply: Researchers must contact MARBL in advance to access films in this series.

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Animal Tracking and Dissection Photos
1	2	Baker Dinner, 1961 (reel-to-reel audio tape)
1	3	Class Outing, 1962, Greenhouse, undated
1	4	Departmental Retreat at Big Canoe photos, 1975
1	5	The Emory Boat photos
1	6	Faculty Snapshots, 1970-1980
1	7	Graduate Student Snapshots, 1970s, A-F
1	8	Graduate Student Snapshots, 1970s, G-O
1	9	Graduate Student Snapshots, 1970s, P-Z
1	10	Miscellaneous 1930s photos
1	11	Natural History Museum, New York
1	12	Open House for New Biology Building
1	13	Presentation of Thomas Jefferson Award to Dr. Baker, 1962 (reel-to-reel audio tape)
1	14	Tapes of First Rhodes Lecture, 1972 (reel-to-reel audio tape)

Series 2
Administrative materials, 1949-1982
Boxes 2-4

Scope and Content Note

The second series, Administrative Materials, 1949-1982, documents administrative and organizational topics including staffing, technology, the department's use of the Lullwater estate for specimen gathering, and departmental meeting minutes.

Arrangement Note

Arranged by file type.

Box	Folder	Content
2	1	"The Crisis Status of the Department of Biology," report, undated
2	2	Ecology/Evolution Research Program, 1982
2	3	"Establishment of a Woodruff Chair in the Neurosciences," report, 1982
2	4	Reassessed Staffing Plan, 1982
2	5	Walter Candler Estate Request for Use, 1960
2	6	Department meeting minutes, 1949-1952
2	7	Department meeting minutes, 1952-1955
2	8	Department meeting minutes, 1955-1958
2	9	Department meeting minutes, 1958-1961
3	1	Department meeting minutes, 1961-1962
3	2	Department meeting minutes, 1962-1965
3	3	Department meeting minutes, 1966-1967
3	4	Department meeting minutes, 1968
3	5	Department meeting minutes, 1969
3	6	Department meeting minutes, 1970-1971
3	7	Department meeting minutes, 1972-1973
3	8	Department meeting minutes, 1974-1975
4	1	Department meeting minutes, 1976-1977
4	2	Department meeting minutes, 1978-1979
4	3	Department meeting minutes, 1980-1981

Series 3
Herbarium, 1940-2004
Boxes 4-6

Scope and Content Note

Materials in the History of the Biology Department series, 1940-1993, include newspaper clippings, subject files, and other research materials used by W.D. Burbanck to research the history of the biology department. The series also contains a copy of Burbanck's manuscript "One Bright Shining Moment That Was Camelot II: A review of the organization and operation of the department of Biology of Emory University from 1950-1980", as well as a revision that expanded the departmental history to 1993

Arrangement Note

Arranged alphabetical order by file type.

Box	Folder	Content
4	4	Accession Book, 1959-1989
4	5	Bibliography of Spermatophytes, 1954 (1 of 2)
4	6	Bibliography of Spermatophytes, 1954 (2 of 2)
4	7	Bostick Collections, Book 1, 1961-1963
4	8	Curator Correspondence, 1990-2004
5	1	Eyles Botanical Collection, 1939 (1 of 5)
5	2	Eyles Botanical Collection, 1939 (2 of 5)
5	3	Eyles Botanical Collection, 1939 (3 of 5)
5	4	Eyles Botanical Collection, 1939 (4 of 5)
5	5	Eyles Botanical Collection, 1939 (5 of 5)
5	6	Fernald Correspondence, 1940-1942
5	7	Herbarium Reports, 1971
5	8	Index of Plants of Eastern North America
6	1	Index of Specimens
6	2	O'Neill, Hugh Correspondence, 1941-1943
6	3	Platt Collection Index, 1946-1947
6	4	Requests for Specimens, 1959-1978 (1 of 3)
6	5	Requests for Specimens, 1959-1978 (2 of 3)
6	6	Requests for Specimens, 1959-1978 (3 of 3)
6	7	Svenson, Henry K. Correspondence, 1940-1942

Series 4

History of the Biology Department, 1940-1993

Boxes 6-9

Scope and Content Note

Materials in the History of the Biology Department series, 1940-1993, include newspaper clippings, subject files, and other research materials used by W.D. Burbanck to research the history of the biology department. The series also contains a copy of Burbanck's manuscript *One Bright Shining Moment That Was Camelot II: A review of the organization and operation of the department of Biology of Emory University from 1950-1980*, as well as a revision that expanded the departmental history to 1993

Arrangement Note

Arranged in alphabetical order by subject.

Box	Folder	Content
6	8	Baker, Woolford Publications, 1954-1988 (1 of 2)
6	9	Baker, Woolford Publications, 1954-1988 (2 of 2)
6	10	Beatty, Alvin V., 1909-1970
7	1	Burbanck, W.D., "Memories of Twelve Biologists" 1988
7	2	Clement, Anthony 1910-1984
7	3	Fernbank Science Center
7	4	Goodchild, C.G., 1912-1979
7	5	Hunt, Ernest L., 1919-1978
7	6	Miscellaneous Pamphlets
7	7	Miscellaneous Seminar Handouts
7	8	Newspaper Clippings, 1940-1950s (1 of 5)
7	9	Newspaper Clippings, 1940-1950s (2 of 5)
7	10	Newspaper Clippings, 1940-1950s (3 of 5)
7	11	Newspaper Clippings, 1940-1950s (4 of 5)
7	12	Newspaper Clippings, 1940-1950s (5 of 5)
7	13	<i>One Bright Shining Moment</i> , Full Manuscript, 1988
7	14	<i>One Bright Shining Moment</i> , Full Manuscript, 1993
8	1	<i>One Bright Shining Moment</i> , Appendices: Swanson Report 1961, Goals and Objectives 1961, Projected Budgets 1967
8	2	<i>One Bright Shining Moment</i> , Appendices: Self-Study 1971, Biomed Sciences Report 1971, Alumni 1973, Staffing Plan 1976
8	3	<i>One Bright Shining Moment</i> , Appendices: Reassessed Staffing Plan 1978, Callaway Meeting 1979
8	4	Open House, 1951
8	5	Open House Guestbook, 1951
8	6	Phi Sigma Honor Society, 1966

8 7 Press Releases, 1967-1980

Series 5
Sigma Xi documents, 1940-1973
Boxes 7-8

Arrangement Note

Arranged in alphabetical order by file type.

Box	Folder	Content
8	8	Annual Dues, 1964-1968
8	9	Award Banquet Handouts, 1954-1970
9	1	Award Banquet Handouts, 1971-1981
9	2	National Annual Meeting, 1970
9	3	National Annual Meeting, 1975
9	4	Petition for the Establishment of Sigma Xi, 1943
9	5	Student Research/Calls for Nominations pamphlets, 1970s
9	6	Student Scrolls

Series 6
Web archives, 2012-
web sites

Scope and Content Note

Series 3 consists of captured and preserved web pages from the Emory University Department of Biology that are made available through the Web Archiving Service of the California Digital Library.

The Emory Department of Biology website (<http://www.biology.emory.edu/>) features course, degree, event, faculty, and student information from the department.

Box	Folder	Content
Online		Emory University Department of Biology web archive, 2012- [Resource available online]
