Guide to the Wayne State University Centennial Symposia Collection WSR000186

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English
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Walter P. Reuther Library
5401 Cass Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202
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Summary Information

Repository: Walter P. Reuther Library
Creator: Wayne State University
Title: Wayne State University Centennial Symposia Records
ID: WSR000186
Date [inclusive]: 1966-1968
Physical Description: 4.5 Linear Feet (9 MB)
Physical Location: 2W-E-3(2)
Language of the Material: English

Abstract: During the academic year 1967-1968 Wayne State University celebrated the hundredth anniversary of its founding. As part of the commemoration, the University sponsored a series of symposia of national significance under the theme, "The University and Urban Society." Broadly, the Symposia theme dealt with the urban university and its impact on, and responsibilities to, its urban community. More specifically, the focus of the Symposia was an examination of the problems and issues associated with an increasingly urban society. The Collection consists primarily of the records of Edward Lurie, Wayne State University professor of history, who served as director of the Centennial Symposia, and his assistant, Philip Borden.

Citation Style

"Wayne State University Centennial Symposia Records, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University"

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History

The Centennial Symposia theme dealt with the urban university and its impact on, and responsibilities to, its urban community. Seven primary symposia, each dealing with a particular aspect of the central theme, and each of two-to five-days’ duration, were held between October of 1967 and June of 1968. Topics included housing, health and welfare, technology, the physical environment, governing and planning, and culture and education -- emphasizing the physical and mental adaptation of citizens to the problems posed by urbanization. In response to the 1967 Detroit civil unrest, one symposium was devoted to an examination of problems of racism and violence, and the events leading to the unrest. Community leaders and nationally recognized experts and scholars were invited to present papers, and partake in discussion of the Symposia topics.

Scope and Content

The collection consists primarily of the records of Edward Lurie, WSU professor of history, who served as director of the Centennial Symposia, and his assistant, Philip Borden. Discussion of listed participants can be found throughout the collection. An index to subjects and correspondents is included. In addition to topics addressed by the Symposia, other significant subjects found in the collection included the creation of the Center for Urban Studies, a concern among African American leaders about the low number of African American conference participants, and a boycott of the Symposia.


Arrangement

Arranged in 3 series – Series 1 (Box 1-6), Series 2 (Box 7) and Series 3 (Box 8-9). Folders are arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material.
Administrative Information

Publication Statement
Walter P. Reuther Library
5401 Cass Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202
URL: http://reuther.wayne.edu

Acquisition
The papers of the Centennial Symposia Collection were placed in the Wayne State University Archives by Edward Lurie on September 25, 1973.

Processing History

Access
Collection is open for research.

Use
Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library "Rules for Use of Archival Materials."

Related Materials

Wayne State University Centennial Commission Minutes, Wayne State University University Relations Division Records.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Wayne State University

Other Access Aids

CENTENNIAL SYMPOSIA COLLECTION

Papers, 1966-1968
(Predominantly, 1967-1968)
4.5 linear feet

The papers of the Centennial Symposia Collection were placed in the Wayne State University Archives by Edward Lurie, director of the Centennial Symposia. The papers were opened for research in April of 1989.

During the academic year 1967-68 Wayne State University celebrated the hundredth anniversary of its founding. As part of the commemoration, the university sponsored a series of symposia of national significance under the theme "The University and Urban Society."

Broadly, the Symposia theme dealt with the urban university and its impact on, and responsibilities to, its urban community. More specifically, the focus of the Symposia was an examination of the problems and issues associated with an increasingly urban society. Seven primary symposia, each dealing with a particular aspect of the central theme, and each of two- to five-days' duration, were held between October of 1967 and June of 1968. Topics included housing, health and welfare, technology, the physical environment, governing and planning, and culture and education -- emphasizing the physical and mental adaptation of man to the problems posed by urbanization. In response to the Detroit riots of 1967, one symposium was devoted to an examination of problems of racism and violence, and the events leading to those riots. Community leaders and nationally-recognized experts and scholars were invited to present papers, and partake in discussion of the Symposia topics.

The collection consists primarily of the records of Edward Lurie, WSU professor of history, who served as director of the Centennial Symposia, and his assistant, Philip Borden. Internal correspondents include Professor of History Raymond C. Miller and Vice President for University Relations George E. Gullen, Jr., Centennial Commission co-chairmen; Centennial Symposia Executive Committee members: Vice President for Student Affairs James P. McCormick, University Center for Adult Education Director Milton Stern, Urban Extension Dean Hamilton Stillwell, and Professor of Economics Wilbur Thompson; Centennial Symposia Committee chairmen Richard Bilaitis, Joseph P. Hourihan, Herbert K. Livingston, Hubert Locke, Leonard Stitelman, and Richard Wisniewski. The newly-created Center for Urban Studies, with Professor Ronald W. Haughton as acting director, took part in the planning of the Symposia. External correspondents include experts from the various fields under discussion by the Symposia. Correspondence with Symposia participants can be found in Boxes 4 and 5 under "participant files." Discussion of prospective participants can be found throughout the collection.
The records cover the total planning of the Symposia -- from initial concept through implementation and final reports -- covering the time period of 1967 through 1968, with some slightly earlier material. The collection displays the development and refinement of the conference themes and programs, and the process of speaker/participant selection. Many of the schedules found in the collection are undated drafts and may not be the final Symposia programs.

The seven primary symposia titles, dates, and topics of examination are:

New Perspectives on Race and the City, October 19-21, 1967
The impact of race upon urban transformation, with emphasis upon Detroit and the role of the university in analyzing and aiding the restructuring of traditional urban patterns.

The Urban University: Responsibilities and Choices, November 6-7, 1967
The urban university's relationships with faculty, student, metropolitan and national communities.

The City as Environment: Biological and Social Implications, November 16-17, 1967
Psychological, economic, and somatic stresses upon the individual resulting from urban environmental forces.

The implications of increased longevity for medicine, society, and the dignity of man in the urban setting, with emphasis upon the research and educational responsibilities of the university.

The impacts of urban growth, the federal government, and institutional forces upon planning, human values, and the nature of decision making in the metropolitan region.

Technology and the City: Human and Social Dimensions, May 6-10, 1968
Scientific, psychological, and social impacts of transportation, energy, communication upon the present and future condition of man in urban society.

The City of Man: The University and Urban Culture, May 15-17, 1968
The roles of the urban university in relation to the performing arts, the visual arts, and architecture in the city visual arts, and architecture in the city

Also included is some correspondence relating to the following subsidiary programs:

- The Student Centennial Conference on the Experimental College
- Urban Journalism in the 21st Century
- Mathematics Semigroups Conference
Some of the addresses presented at the Symposia are included (see 6:11-17); transcripts of the some of the proceedings can be found in 7:24-25. Other addresses and papers on related topics or by participants or prospective participants may be found in Series III; in background information (2:9-12); in the participant files (4:18-5:25); and throughout the collection.

In addition to topics addressed by the Symposia, other significant subjects found in the collection include the creation of the Center for Urban Studies, a concern among Black leaders about the low number of Black conference participants, and a boycott of the Symposia.

An index to subjects and correspondence will be found on pages 12-13.
Contents

9 manuscript boxes

Series I, Centennial Symposia General Files, 1966-1968, Boxes 1-6
Correspondence, reports, budgets and news clippings relating to the overall planning and administration of the Symposia. Included are discussion of symposia topics and participants, participant correspondence, participant/guest lists, and copies of many of the addresses presented at the Symposia.

Series II, Spring Planning Conference, 1967, Box 7
Correspondence, reports, participant lists and completed questionnaires relating to this preliminary conference at which over 240 scholars, governmental and community leaders and Wayne State faculty met to plan the form of the Centennial Symposia.

Correspondence, reports and participant/guest lists relating to the planning of the individual symposia. Represented are the seven primary symposia and some material relating to the planning of some of the subsidiary conferences and activities of the centennial celebration.
Series I contains correspondence, reports, schedules, minutes, budgets, press releases and news clippings relating to the overall planning and administration of the Centennial Symposia. Included are correspondence with invited speakers (4:18-5:25), participant/guest lists (5:26-34), and correspondence and reports discussing symposia themes and prospective speakers/participants. Additional guest lists and program-development documentation can be found in Series II and III. Also included in Series I are copies of many of the addresses presented at the Symposia (6:11-17).

Series I is divided into two groups: chronological files and subject files. Chronological files contain, in general, copies of correspondence as well as tentative program schedules and outlines, arranged by date of creation, from June 1967 through February 1968. Copies of much of this material can also be found in the subject files.

The subject file folders are arranged alphabetically by subject or folder title. Folder titles used are those composed by the Centennial Symposia staff, except in cases where those titles would not be sufficiently informative to the reader. Material within each folder is arranged chronologically, with undated material first.

Calendar of Events files (Box 3) contain programs for many on-campus and off-campus events and include many tentative symposia program drafts. These are filed by their date of preparation, when known, rather than by the date of the event.

Participant files (Boxes 4-5) include correspondence with those invited speakers/participants who agreed to take part, or were influential in the program. Many of the participant files include biographical sketches, some with photographs.

Drafts of the Symposia program outlines can be found in the chronological files, in Calendar of Events (3:4-10), Symposia Planning (6:26-28), and throughout the collection.

Chronological Files:

Box 1

1. Jun 1967
2-5. Jul 1967
6-11. Aug 1967
12-14. Sep 1967
Box 1 (Continued)

19-20. Nov 1967  
21-23. Dec 1967  
24-29. Jan 1968  
30-33. Feb 1968

Box 2

1-4. Mar 1968  
5-7. Apr 1968

Subject Files:

Box 2

9. Background information; Articles, brochures  
10-11. Reports, 1967-68  
12. Reports, programs, correspondence, 1966-67  
13. Borden, Philip; Correspondence, 1967  
14-16. Budget; Memos, reports, Feb 1967 - Mar 1968  

Box 3

4. Calendar of Events; Brochures, 1967  
5. Reports, n.d.  
6-7. Schedules, n.d., Jan - May 1967  
8-9. Schedules, correspondence, Jun - Sep 1967  
10. WSU Calendar of Events, May 1967 - Feb 1968  
11. Centennial Commission; Correspondence, reports 1966-68  
12. Centennial Policy; Memos, reports, 1967-68  
13. Center for Application of Science and Technology (C.A.S.T.); Proposals, n.d., 1965  
15-16. Center for Urban Studies; Correspondence, Feb 1967 - Jan 1968  
17. Minutes, Jan - Feb 1967  
18-19. Proposals to Improve the Condition of Man in Detroit, 1967  
21. Reports, proposal, 1967  
23. Funding; Correspondence, grant requests, 1967-68
Box 4

1-3. Gullen, George E., Jr.; Correspondence, Jun 1967 - Apr 1968
4. Hart, Philip A.; Correspondence, press releases, articles, Aug 1967
5. ; Correspondence, press releases, Sep 1967 - Mar 1968
7. ; Correspondence, schedules, statement, Mar - Jul 1967
8. ; Correspondence, schedules, Aug 1967 - Apr 1968
9. McGregor Memorial Conference Center; Correspondence, reports, 1967
10-12. Minutes; Centennial Commission Executive Committee, Oct 1966 - Feb 1968
13. ; Centennial Commission Staff, Jul 1967 - Feb 1968
14. ; University Council, May 1967 - Feb 1968
15-16. Minutes and meeting reports; Various, Dec 1966 - Apr 1968
17. National Commission on Urban problems; Correspondence, press releases, statement, 1967
18. Participant files; James Alexander, Solomon Axelrod
19. ; Walter Beattie, Jr., William Bechill, Albert Bowker
20. ; Alan Boyd, K. E. Brooker, Robert G. Brown
21. ; Arthur Bueche, Robert N. Butler, Cameron Welles Byrd
22. ; John L. Canfield, Jerome P. Cavanagh
23. ; Paul F. Chenea, James Clarkson, Nathan Cohen
24. ; John Conyers, Jr., Roger Craig
25. ; Gilbert Donahue, Wilma Donahue
26. ; John Dotson, Claudia Dreifus, Leonard J. Duhl
27. ; Julius C. Edelstein, Michael Ference, Jr.
28. ; Lewis D. Feuer, Edgar Z. Friedenberg
29. ; John Gardner, Eugene C. Goosen
30. ; Scott Greer, Robert P. Griffin
31. ; Andrew Hacker, Lawrence R. Hafstad
32. ; John Hanlon, Jerome Harrington, Harwell H. Harris

Box 5

1. Participant files; Richard G. Hatcher, Milton Henry
2. ; Arthur J. Holland, Joseph L. Hudson, Jr.
3. ; Leon Jacobs, Arthur L. Johnson
4. ; Edward Keating, Robert F. Kennedy
5. ; Walter Kerr, Richard C. Kopke
6. ; James Lee
7. ; Philip R. Lee, Samuel Lenher
8. ; Sander Levin, John Lindsay, Ronald Linton
9. ; Richard Lobenthal, Norton Long, Anthony Lukas
10. ; Robert W. MacGregor, Eugene McCarthy
11. ; Warren G. Magnuson, Henry W. Maier, Kent Mathewson
12. ; Robert C. Maynard, Daniel Moynihan, Gardner Murphy
13. ; Arthur Naftalin, Herman Niebuhr, Jr.
14. ; Harriet Page, Bruce W. Pince
15. ; L. Curtis Potter, Alvin Poussaint, Richard Prindle
16. ; Thomas R. Reid, Harold C. Reasoner
17. ; Stephen Schlossberg, Stuart Sessoms, James Shannon
18. ; Harold Sheppard, Charles W. Shilling
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19. ; Theodore Souris, John P. Spiegel, Carl B. Stokes
20. ; H. Ralph Taylor
21. ; Clark Tibbits, Jackie Vaughn, III
22. ; Charles Vevier
23. ; Allen S. Weller, Kevin H. White, Roger Wilkins
24. ; G. Mennon Williams, Robert C. Wood
25. ; Paul Ylvisaker, Whitney Young, Howard Zinn
26. Participant/guest lists; Community invitations, n.d.
   ; Faculty, 1967
28. ; Faculty recommendations, 1967
29. ; General mailing, 1967-68
30-31. ; Proposed participants, 1967
32. ; Media, 1966-68
33. ; Names not in current use, 1967
34. ; Speakers central lists, 1967

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1. Personnel; Correspondence, 1968
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5. Publicity; Memos, lists, reports, 1967
6-9. ; News clippings, 1967-68
10. Rejection letters, 1967
11. Symposia addresses; Walter M. Beattie, Jr., 1968
12. ; Robert N. Butler, 1968
13. ; Jerome F. Cavanagh, Nathan E. Cohen, 1967
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15. ; Andrew Hacker, Philip R. Lee, Elliot D. Luby, 1967
16. ; Robert I. Mendelsohn, Herman Niebuhr, Jr., 1967
18. Symposia brochure materials; Participant packet, 1967-68
19. Symposia brochures and publications; Preliminary materials, 1967-68
20-21. Symposia planning; Central decisions; Correspondence, budgets, charts, 1967-68
22. ; General correspondence, Jan - Apr 1967
23. ; Impact of Urbanization on Transformation of American Institutions; Correspondence, 1967
24. ; Participants; Lists, correspondence, 1967
25. ; Planning session No. 1; Correspondence, lists, 1967
26-27. ; Program outlines, 1967-68
28. ; Restructuring; Outlines, reports, 1967
29. Tapes and transcripts; Correspondence, 1967-68
30. University Theatre; Correspondence, schedules, 1967-68
Material in this series covers both the planning and the outcome of the May 23, 1967, Spring Planning Conference, and includes correspondence, outlines, reports, and participant lists relative to the planning of the event; transcripts and summaries of, and subcommittee reports on, the Conference sessions; participant questionnaires and analysis of the questionnaires; and the Spring Planning Conference Report.

File folders are arranged alphabetically by subject or folder title. Documents within the folders are arranged by date, with undated material first.

Box 7

1. Community response to Spring Conference; Correspondence, May - Jun 1967
2. Conference Report, Jun 1967
3. General correspondence, 1967
4. Health-welfare committee; Memos, programs, May 1967
5-7. Participant correspondence; A-Z, 1967
8. Participant lists; Faculty, 1967
9-10. ; Final participant list, 1967
11. ; Suggested names, 1967
12. Questionnaire analysis, 1967
13-14. Questionnaires, May 1967
18. Subcommittee reports on Spring Conference, 1967
24-25. Transcripts and summaries, 1967
Series III covers the specific planning of each symposium and contains material generated by the committees responsible for each symposium. The records include correspondence, minutes, reports, and participant lists, as well as background material on the conference topics.

Files are grouped by symposium and arranged chronologically by seminar date. Records of the health-welfare committee, which sponsored two symposia, precede the symposia arrangement. (See page 2 for title and description of each symposium.)

Documents contained in the folders are arranged by date, with undated material first.

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3. ; Speech; John Gardner, HEW, 1967
4–5. New Perspectives on Race and the City; Brochure, correspondence, reports, May – Nov 1967
6. ; R. Fisher; reports, comments
7. ; Participant lists, 1967
8. The Urban University; Assn. of Urban Universities; Correspondence, reports, member rosters, 1966–67
9–11. ; Correspondence, brochure, 1967
12. ; Minutes, Mar – Jul 1967
13. ; Participant lists, 1967
14. ; Proposal, 1967
15. ; Reports, n.d.
16. The City as Environment; Correspondence, brochures, schedules, 1967–68
17. ; Participant lists, 1967
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12. Urban Journalism in the 21st Century; Correspondence, reports, 1967
13. Technology and the City; Correspondence, lists, 1967-68
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