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**Wayne State University
Honorary Degree Committee
Leonard Leone, Chairman Records**
2.5 linear feet (5 MB)
1958-1965, bulk 1962-1964

Finding aid written by Julia Teran on February 6, 2014.

Accession Number: WSR000223

Creator: Wayne State University Honorary Degree Committee

Acquisition: Donated to the Reuther Library in 1969.

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Collection is open for research.

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

Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.

Notes: Citation style: “Wayne State University Honorary Degree Committee, Leonard Leone, Chairman Records, Box [#], Folder [#], University Archives, Wayne State University.”

Abstract

The University Committee on Honorary Degrees (Honorary Degree Committee) at Wayne State University was responsible for reviewing the candidates for, and determining the recipients of, various honorary degrees from WSU. Professor Leonard Leone served as both a member and as Chairman of the Honorary Degree Committee. A Wayne alumnus, Leone became the Director of the Wayne University Theatre in 1946 and a professor of speech in 1957. In the course of his career, Leone reopened the Bonstelle Theatre in 1952, created the Hilberry Theatre and its nationally recognized graduate training program in 1963, and was honored as Distinguished Professor of Theatre Arts in 1964, among many other achievements.

The majority of these records are named files for each candidate and/or recipient of an honorary degree from WSU between 1958 and 1965. Also included in this collection are the administrative records of the Honorary Degree Committee during this period. These include correspondence between the committee and Clarence Hilberry, the President of Wayne State University from 1953 to 1965, as well as committee principles and procedures, directories, and various meeting minutes and notices, most of which were prepared by J.W. Menge, the Secretary of the University Committee on Honorary Degrees.

Important Subjects:

President's Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees
University Committee on Honorary Degrees

Important Names:

Hilberry, Clarence B.
Leone, Leonard
Menge, J.W.

Arrangement

Materials are arranged by document type and chronologically thereunder.

Box 1

- 1-19. Active; A – W, 1962-1965
- 20-37. Inactive; A – E, 1958-1964
- 38-41. Deceased, 1958 – 1965
- 42-51. Degrees Conferred; A – B, 1958-1962

Box 2

- 1-52. Degrees Conferred; C – S, 1958-1965

Box 3

- 1-9. Degree Conferred; T – Y, 1958-1965
- 10-41. Recommend to President; A – K, 1958-1965

Box 4

- 1-44. Recommend to President; L – W, 1958-1965
- 45. Committee on Honorary Degrees, 1958-1961

Box 5

- 1. Committee on Honorary Degrees, 1961-1965
- 2. Nominations Acknowledgements, 1958-1964
- 3. Nominees Under Consideration, 1957-1963
- 4. Recipients, 1957-1961
- 5. Directories; University Committee on Honorary Degrees, 1963-1965
- 6. Principles and Procedures, 1958-1964
- 7. Recommendations to the President, 1958-1964
- 8. Correspondence – Hilberry, 1958-1963
- 9. Meeting Minutes, 1958-1964
- 10. Meeting Notices, 1958-1965
- 11. Correspondence, 1958-1963
- 12. Prospective Nominees for an Honorary Degree, 1963