The Monteith College Archives Collection was placed with the University Archives in 1978 by Martin Herman, Dean of Monteith College, and opened for research in July of 1991.

The Monteith College Archives was created by Professor Paul Bluemle in c. 1967 to record the College's history and activities. The material was gathered from a variety of sources, is highly selective and does not contain any College office files or faculty/committee minutes. It appears that the majority of material was gathered in 1967.

Established at Wayne State University in 1959 with the assistance of a Ford Foundation Grant, Monteith College was a small innovative general education college. In December of 1975, the University's Board of Governors, upon the recommendation of the University administration, voted to phase out Monteith by June, 1978. 1975 was a time of financial crisis for Wayne and the administration estimated the phase out would save about $572,000 annually. In March of 1978 the Board voted to continue granting degrees from the College through the summer term of 1981 and to offer limited classes to accommodate those who had not yet completed degree requirements.

The following are excerpts from Dean Yates Haefner's essay on Monteith College in the 1973-74 college catalog.

"...Monteith College was established to provide a coherent general education leading to a bachelor's degree for any interested undergraduate who gains admission to Wayne.

Physically, Monteith is not a spectacular place. The offices of its faculty, student government, advisers, and administrators are situated in three old Edwardian houses and a nondescript apartment building near the Library Mall.

In the late 1950's, some faculty members of the College of Liberal Arts contemplated an experiment college within Wayne State University. They were especially concerned with two problems of increasing importance in higher education: the
population explosion and the increasing number of fields of learning....

The Monteith experiment would be to test whether a small college on a large university for commuters could provide a first-rate education for its average undergraduates, support the individual student in his quest to find himself, replenish the vitality of general education - and do these things as effectively as the best private liberal arts colleges.

...Monteith College was launched with the following characteristics:

1. It was to be kept small in size, with a ceiling on enrollment at about 1,200 students.

2. It was not to be an honors college but would admit any student eligible to enter Wayne State University.

3. Students were to be taught, for the main part, in small discussion groups beginning in their freshman year, with an emphasis on acquiring the art of dialogue - that is, on expression and communication of ideas orally and in writing, with peers and professors.

4. The objectives were restricted to those of imparting a coherent general education across four years on the undergraduate level and developing the student's capacity for independent work and communications.

5. The curriculum was designed to implement the idea that there is a body of knowledge which every educated person should possess, and that the primary task of general education is to identify and impart this knowledge. There were to be three "basic sequences" of required courses in the social and natural sciences and the humanities; optional tutorials and seminars; and a required senior essay and senior colloquia for those students who chose to take their baccalaureate degrees from this college.

6. The faculty were not to be organized along conventional departmental lines but grouped in three "divisions" corresponding to the three basic sequences. The basic courses were to be taught by each entire divisional staff working together, sharing the planning, lecturing, discussion-leading, and evaluating. Hence, each student would be exposed to and taught by every member of the faculty - a faculty dedicated above all to the undergraduate education, working closely with students in small groups in ways that elicit the flowering of the individual; dedicated to team-teaching, working closely with colleagues in an effort to understand and be able to teach what lies beyond
the pale of one's own special discipline; dedicated, in other words, to reaching out to people and to new ideas.

7. The Monteith curriculum was to take up approximately one half of the student's time over a four-year span, leaving the other half free for advanced study in Monteith or in one of the majors or pre-professional curricula offered elsewhere in the University.

8. The basic courses were not intended as technical introductions to specialized disciplinary studies. Nor were they to be simply tastes or surveys of the various traditional disciplines. Rather, they were to be truly integrated attempts to ask the large questions that transcend departmental boundaries and to bring to bear evidence, concerns, and methods from a wide variety of sources.

Hence, the sequence of six basic courses in natural science, for example, was to consist, not in laboratory experiments and reports, but in the study of that mode of interpreting experience which scholars have called "scientific" - a study of scientific modes of thought in their historical evolution from the pre-Cocratics to the post-Darwinians. For purposes of general as distinct from specialized education, then, the approach to science was to be more historical and philosophical than experimental or scientific. The task would be:

(a) to train students in the critical evaluation of scientific methodologies without, however, requiring them to master the details of any traditional discipline; and

(b) to enlarge the student's capacity for grasping the interrelatedness of academic disciplines and the practical problems of contemporary science and technology.

Not that such an approach would be a surrogate for the "hard science" required of a specialist or, say, a pre-medical student; but that it would engender among pre-professional and other students the kind of awareness of developments and spirit of inquiry without which the specialist is a mere specialist - and not a very good one, for lack of a general education.

Similarly, in the social sciences and humanities, Monteith College envisioned its task as that of engendering a disposition to ask good questions toward understanding man in society and man in and through the arts. As one veteran Monteith faculty member wrote, 'We want our students to look at the world whole, but without missing the details.'

Today "Monteith combines the advantages of a small liberal arts college with the resources of a major urban university."
We are determined to retain and develop a lively, inquiring faculty devoted above all to team-teaching on the undergraduate level and to the clarification of contemporary thought and experience - scientific, cultural, political, economic, etc. The basic aim of the Monteith program of general education is still (in the words of the Chairman of Humanistic Studies) 'to provide its recipients with the ability to understand themselves and their environment, the command of sufficient information upon which to predicate sound and ethical decisions, the sophistication to comprehend the consequences of their actions and beliefs, the perception to cope with human knowledge and affairs, and the integrity to live humanely and act wisely.'
Important subjects covered in the collection are: (an index to subjects and correspondence will be found on page 15)

Advising
Civil Rights (Selma, Alabama; University of Georgia)
College Center 1964-67
Course Handouts and Syllabi
Curriculum
Detroit
Faculty
Franklin Mill Pond Project
Humanistic Studies Division
Library Project
Monteith Council
Natural Science Division
Newsletters
Protests
Science of Society Division
Senior Colloquium
Student Activities
Student Board
Student Government
Student Papers and Projects
Students
Textbooks
Vietnam War
The Monteith College Archives was created by Professor Paul Bluemle in c. 1967 to record the College's history and activities. The material was gathered from a variety of sources, is highly selective and does not contain any College office files or faculty/committee minutes. It appears that the majority of material was gathered in 1967.

The Monteith College Archives Collection documents the College's history, library experimental project, and in particular, its educational philosophy as reflected in the curriculum. It consists of College reports, proposals, booklets, newsletters, catalogs, and lectures as well as extensive course handouts and texts. There are also several sample student papers and projects, a small amount of material on student activities, and minutes and newsletters documenting the student government. Of particular note is the almost complete run of all student generated newsletters. These give a vivid description of Monteith College, student activities and student concerns from a student perspective. Some of the concerns include the University, Vietnam War, and civil rights. A number of newsletters are literary efforts.

The Monteith College Archives Collection is divided into two subseries, general and publications. Material within folders is arranged in chronological order. Many of the folders have a transmittal form identifying the date on which the item was received as well as title, author, date and general description. Loose transmittal forms with no accompanying material will be found in the last folder of the collection.

The material and the order of the material in each subseries is as follows:

Subseries: General, Boxes 1-4 (folders 1-15)
Early history, reports and proposals, evaluations of Monteith, convocations, special events, student/faculty directories and biographical sketches, student activities, student government, and student academic papers and projects.

Subseries: Publications, Boxes 5 (folders 16-21) to 14
Newspaper clippings, articles about Montieth College, Monteith booklets and catalogs, newsletters/publications, lectures, course handouts including syllabi and lists of readings, textbooks, transmittal forms.
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Box 1

1. An Experimental College for Wayne State University, 1958
2. General Education Conference Bibliography, 1958
3. President Hilberry Memos on Monteith College Status, 1958, 1964
6. Monteith College: a Report to the President, Dec 1963
7. Report on Monteith College for President Hilberry (Chamberlain, Riesman), Jan 1964
8. Response from the Instruction and Research Committee to the University Council on the College Report, May 1964
10. Library Experiment; Proposals, 1959
11-12. ; Reports, Mar 1960-Jan 1962
13. ; n.d., 1960-61
15. ; Proposals and Reports, 1963, 1964
16. Danforth Foundation Study; Economics of Higher Education (Feinstein), 1967

Box 2

4. Student Advising Letters and Memos, 1959-1964
5. Report on Students' Writing in Science of Society Division, 1964
6. Natural Science Course Description (Alfred Stern), Oct, 1960
7. Monteith College Presents A Report on Two of Its Basic Courses (Natural Science & Science of Society), Sep 1961

Box 3

2. End of Social Science Questionnaire, Spring 1963
6. A Report on the Humanistic Studies Sequence at Monteith College, Fall 1962
7. A Second Report on the Basic Sequence in Humanistic Studies at Monteith College, Jan 1965
8. Proposal for the Development of a Research Program within the Monteith Social Science Curriculum, 1961
9. Project on Developing Continuing Education Among Alumni of A Small College in the Context of a Large Urban University
10. A Project for a Modular Science Film Library Proposed by the Natural Science Division of Monteith College and the Audio-Visual Production Center of Wayne State University, 1961
11. Danforth Foundation Proposal; Towards the Furtherance of a Personalist Ideal in Collegiate Education, 1963
12. ; College Center, 1964-1967
13. Comments on the Monteith Program, Faculty and Staff, n.d., 1961
17. Special Events; Francis Bacon Celebration, Jan 1961
18. ; The Show, The Show II, Programs, 1961, 1962
19. ; Apparitions Exhibition Program, 1967
20. ; First Child or The Heiress of Monteith, Front Plate Reproduction, 1824
21-22. Faculty Personal Sketches, 1965-66, 1967-68
23. Correspondance and Resumes re: Selection of Science of Society Chair, 1967
27. ; Protest Handouts, n.d., 1961
28. ; Miscellaneous, n.d., 1965, 1967
29. ; Monteith Weekend (Conference on Education, n.d.
30. ; Monteith Weekend III (Religion), Nov 1962
31. ; New Student Packet, 1969-70
32. Monteith Student Board, Student Council; Constitutions, n.d., 1960-1967
33. Monteith Student Board; Minutes 1961, 1962, 1967
34. ; Policy, Budgets, Elections, n.d., 1961-64
35. ; History, Annual Report, 1962-1966
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1. Monteith Student Board; Newsletters, 1961, 1966, 1967
2. ; National Student Association Award, 1962
5. ; Gregory Nigosian, n.d., 1965
6. ; Albert Michael Webber, n.d., 1964, 1965
7. ; J. Stillwell, D. Clamage, n.d., 1965
8. Student Film Script; Robin Eichele, 1963
9. Student Play; Author Unknown, 1964
10. Student Poetry; Multiple Authors, n.d.
12. Franklin Mill Pond Project; Paper, 1969
13. ; Appendix, 1969
14. ; Photo Book, 1969
15. Clippings, 1959-1967
16. Articles; Graduate Comment 1960, Inside Wayne 1960
17. ; College and Research Libraries 1961,
    Foundations of Society c. 1961
18. ; Council for the Advancement of Small
    Colleges, 1961
20. ; Graduate Comment 1963, NEA Journal 1963

Box 5

1. Articles; Alumni News 1964
2. ; Graduate Comment 1965, Mademoiselle 1965
3. Monteith Booklets; Monteith College, c. Sep 1959
4. ; This is Monteith, n.d.
5. ; Eighteen Questions, Twenty Questions,
    various editions, n.d.
6. ; Monteith College 1967-68
7. ; A Look at WSU's Monteith College,
    c. 1969-70
8. Monteith Newsletter, Vol 1, #1-4, May-Jun 1960
10. Veiwpoint, 1961-62
12. Soliloquy, 1963
13. SIC I (Jan 1963), SIC II (Oct 1963)
14. SIC III (Mar 1964)
16. Monteith Regular and Monteith Irregular; 1964
17. The Incorrigibles (visual montage), 1964
18. Volinoi, Oct 1964
21. Polemic, 1966
23. Monteith Insider, Apr 1966-Jun 1968
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1. Brine, Vol 1, #8-14, 1964
2. ______; Vol 2, #1-7, 1965
3. ______; Vol 3, #1-4, 1965
4. ______; Vol 4, #1-3, 1966
5. Brine Supplements, 1-3, 1966
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12. ______; Apr & Dec 1965
13. ______; Spring 1966, Summer 1967

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10. Group Maintenance Assignment to the Teacher Education Experimental Project, 1962
17. ______; Supplementary Readings, n.d.

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1. Natural Science 0133 Mathematics and Logic; Handouts, 1965-68
2. ______; Provisional Text, n.d.
3. ______; Readings, n.d.
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3-4. Science of Society 0133 Research Project; Handouts,
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5-6. Science of Society 0231 Social Change; Handouts,
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7. Science of Society 0232 Civilization; Handouts,
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8. Science of Society Problem One, Two, Three;
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9. Science of Society; Special Courses; 1961-1968
10. ; Bibliography n.d.
11. ; Dialectic Seminar, Spring 1961
12. ; Rhetoric Tutorial Handouts, 1960
13. ; Language, Logic and Ethics Seminar
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14. Humanistic Studies; Course Proposals, 1960-1063
15. Humanistic Studies 0231 Man and the Arts; Handouts,
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16. ; Introduction to Humanistic Studies 1-4,
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1-2. Humanistic Studies 0331 Mimesis: Imitation and
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3-4. Humanistic Studies 0332 Style and Meaning; Handouts,
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5-6. Humanistic Studies 0333 The Persistance of Tra
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7. Humanistic Studies 0334 Contemporary Man and the Arts;
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8-10. Interdivisional Course: Senior Colloquium, 1961-63,
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11. ; Lectures, 1966
12. Interdivisional Course Non-Western Civilization;
Handouts, 1962-1967
13. Natural Science Textbooks
Monteith Natural Science (ed). Readings for the Rise
of Scientific Thought, Fall 1962
Joseph T. Armstrong. The Evolutionary
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14. Natural Science Textbooks
Monteith Natural Science (ed). Readings for the
Macrophysical World View, Fall 1962
Monteith Natural Science (ed). *Readings for the Microphysical World View*, Winter 1963

**Box  11**

1. **Natural Science Textbooks**
   - David Bohm. *Causality and Chance in Modern Physics*, 1961
2. **Natural Science Textbooks**
3. **Natural Science Textbooks**
   - Harvey Cox. *The Secular City*, 1966
   - Theodosius Dobzhansky. *Evolution, Genetics, and Man*, 1963
4. **Natural Science Textbooks**
   - Norwood Russell Hanson. *Patterns of Discovery*, 1965
5. **Natural Science Textbooks**
6. **Natural Science Textbooks**
   - Morris Kline. *Mathematics In Western Culture*, 1964

**Box 12**

1. **Natural Science Textbooks**
2. **Natural Science Textbooks**
   - Julien A. Ripley, Jr. *The Elements and Structure of the Physical Sciences*, 1964
3. **Natural Science Textbooks**
4. **Science of Society Textbooks**
   - Monteith College Social Science: Problem One
     - Part One, Sep 1959
     - Problem One
     - Part Two, Sep 1959
   - Problem Two, Feb 1960
5. Science of Society Textbooks

Monteith College Social Science: Problem Three Part One; Politics: Practice and Interpretation, Fall 1960
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1. Science of Society Textbooks
Monteith College Social Science: Readings Part One (revised edition), Fall 1960
2. Science of Society Textbooks
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3. Science of Society Textbooks
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1. Science of Society Textbooks
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2. Science of Society Textbooks
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Individual and Society: Analogues and Articulations, Fall 1961
Monteith College, Man: An Introduction to the Monteith Social Science Readings, Fall 1960

3. Science of Society Textbooks

4. Science of Society Textbooks
   Men Without: Readings Relating to the Korean Experience of Some American Prisoners of War, 1962
   Monteith College Science of Society: The City, 1965

5. Science of Society Textbooks
   Monteith College Social Science Readings:

6. Division of Humanistic Studies Textbooks
   Form and Content: Readings on the Arts, 1972

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