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COLLECTION 0137: Philothean Fellowship Collection, 1947-1961

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Grace Payton Fuller

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COLLECTION 137: Philothean Fellowship Collection, 1947-1961

Administrative Information

Title:

Philothean Fellowship Collection, 1947-1961

Collection Identifier:

CFT00137

Creators:

Fuller, Grace
Fuller Theological Seminary
Students' Spouses

Size:

4 Boxes, 3.46 linear feet

Repository:

David Allan Hubbard Library
Fuller Theological Seminary
135 N Oakland Ave
Pasadena, CA 91182
archives@fuller.edu

Provenance:

Institutional Record Retention.
Materials originally housed in the basement of Slessor Hall on the Pasadena campus.

Conditions Governing Access/Restrictions:

Access copies of the scrapbooks are available in Box 1 of the archival collection and digital scans are available upon request from the Archives.

Language:

English

Processing:

Nancy Gower, June 2013 (Original cataloger); Alyson Thomas, June 2019 (Revised)

Historical Note

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 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's 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:

Collection 011: Charles E. and Grace Payton Fuller Collection, 1892-2009

Collection 150: David Allan Hubbard: Presidential Papers, 1947-1996

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' Spouses
Women

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.

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.

Box Inventory

Box 1: Philothean Fellowship Scrapbook 1947-1953

| Folder | Item | Date/note |
|--------|--|-----------------|
| 1 | Invitation to Seminary Christmas party | Dec 13, 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 | Sept 22, 1948 |
| 6 | Second Annual Convocation program. Invitation post cards: Philothean Meeting, Seminary Christmas party – to Dale E. Fisher | Sept 30, 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 | Jan, 1949 |
| 10 | Valentine Party, photos. Clippings of Payton lecturer and Livingstone Hotel purchase for dorms. Teacher training class post card invitation. | Jan – Feb, 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 | Sept 26, 1949 |
| 15 | Third Annual Convocation program. <i>The Broadcaster</i> | Sept 27, 1949 |
| 16 | Philothean newsletter, <i>The Broadcaster</i> . Fellowship Meeting and | Nov, 1949 |

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|-------|---|-----------------|
| | Missionary Meeting post cards, | |
| 17 | Invitation post cards, <i>The Broadcaster</i> | Dec, 1949 |
| 18 | Invitation post cards, <i>The Broadcaster</i> | Feb, 1950 |
| 19 | Invitation post cards, <i>The Broadcaster</i> . Naomi Johnston speaks at Mission Covenant Church | April, 1950 |
| 20 | Robe & Tassel Philothean Banquet, 1 st Annual Baccalaureate | April-May, 1950 |
| 21 | 4 th Annual convocation, theme song, clippings | Fall 1950 |
| 22 | First Philothean meeting photos | Fall 1950 |
| 23 | November meeting photos. Woodbridge, Ruth Fuller | Nov, 1950 |
| 24 | Invitations to hear Mrs. Vasady, Miss Mears | Nov, 1950 |
| 25 | Philothean Directory belonging to Laura Wiebe | 1950/51 |
| 26 | Christmas Social invitations and photos | Dec, 1950 |
| 27 | Children's Christmas party invitations and photos | Dec, 1950 |
| 28 | Letters from cookbook committee chair Elouise Corwin and Philothean Fellowship Alumni committee chair Blanche Buegler | Jan, 1951 |
| 29 | Philothean Fellowship Cookbook | 1951 |
| 30 | Payton lecturer Gordon Haddon Clark clipping, Philothean meeting post cards | Jan – Feb, 1951 |
| 31 | Invitation post cards, <i>The Broadcaster</i> | Feb, 1951 |
| 32 | Missionary committee invitation: India Meeting. Invitation post cards, <i>The Broadcaster</i> | Nov, 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 | <i>The Broadcaster</i> | 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 Scrapbook II, 1953-1958

Box 3: Philothean Fellowship, 1953-1958

| Folder | Item | Date |
|--------|--|----------------------|
| 1 | Philothean Fellowship programs | Fall, Spring 1957/58 |
| 2 | Medieval Memories Banquet | Apr 10, 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