

The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,
Union Theological Seminary, New York

William Adams Brown Ecumenical Archives Group

Finding Aid for

National Workshop on Christian Unity Records, 1964-2008



WAB: National Workshop on Christian Unity Records, Box 5, Folder 8
The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Rossy Mendez, October 2013
With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation

Summary Information

Creator: National Workshop on Christian Unity
Title: National Workshop on Christian Unity Records
Dates: 1964– 2008
Abstract: National Workshop on Christian Unity is an annual event that encourages ecumenical discussion and networking. Collection includes minutes, proceedings, promotional materials and correspondence pertaining to the workshops.
Size: 8 boxes, 3.75 linear feet
Storage: Onsite storage
Repository: The Burke Library
Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: burkearchives@library.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

- Provenance:** The collection is part of the William Adams Brown Ecumenical Library, which was established in 1945 within Union Theological Seminary's main library to hold ecumenical materials. Material from the 2007 and 2008 conference was received from the National Workshop on Christian Unity at the recommendation of Sister Lorelei Fuchs. This is documented in a letter dated September 10, 2008.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to burkearchives@library.columbia.edu, or by postal mail to The Burke Library address on page 1, as far in advance as possible. [Burke Library staff](#) is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Please note that certain materials are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** Item description, William Adams Brown Ecumenical Archives: National Workshop for Christian Unity Records, series #, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

History

In 1962, Pope John XXIII (the Thirteenth) called a Vatican council to discuss the stance of the Catholic Church in modern times. The council, which was the second council ever held, was significant because it positioned the church as a democratic institution and promoted Christian unity. In 1964, in response to the ideas put forth by this council which was otherwise known as Vatican II, Roman Catholic leaders in the United States held the first National Workshop on Christian Unity. This workshop was entitled *Vatican II and the Ecumenical Movement* and was held in Baltimore, Maryland. The primary purpose of the workshop was to train Roman Catholic leaders in the ecumenical ministry. The workshop grew every year and in 1969, the committee decided to invite other Christian leaders into the conversation. The workshop functioned much like a conference in that it included seminars, worship services and other activities, but it kept an informal atmosphere. Some of the topics that were addressed in these earlier workshops were conversions, joint worship and ecumenical education.

In 1971, the first formal national committee was formed and the Association of Denominational Ecumenical Officers (NEO) began to sponsor the workshop along with other local archdiocese. The workshop continued to rotate throughout the nation and included various denominations. Other later sessions included topics such as mixed marriages, Christian-Jewish relations, black churches, abortion, busing and women's role in the church. Today, the workshop has expanded to Canadian provinces and features the participation of Christian churches such as African Methodists, Greek-Orthodox and Evangelical Lutherans. Through addressing contemporary issues it keeps the ecumenical discussion relevant and current.

Sources:

- Horgan, T. (1988). National Workshop on Christian Unity. *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, 25(2), 329-330.
- Horgan, T., & Male, Jr., H. A. (2002, 07). *NWCU History*. Retrieved 2013, from National Workshop on Christian Unity: <http://nwcu.org/WhoWeAre/NWCUHistory.htm>
- Lyles, J. (1982). Plunking out the tune of Christian Unity. *Christian Century*, 99(19), 622-624.
- Mirus, J. (2010). *The Documents of the Second Vatican Council: A Summary and Guide*. Retrieved 10 04, 2013, from Catholicculture.org: <http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=10034>

Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of a variety of records from 1964-2008 pertaining to the national conferences and its planning committees. It includes speeches and proceedings from the conference as well as communication materials such as brochures, programs and agendas. Also included are administrative and financial records such as committee directories and treasurer's reports.

A vast majority of the records from 1970-1980s derived from the files of NWCU member, Reverend George Sheridan.

The records are arranged in chronological order by year of conference. The most documented conference is the 2008 conference held in Chicago, Illinois. Included in this year are speaker files, registration and planning committee records. These are arranged under a series of subheadings or arranged sequentially as in the case of the speaker files.

Processing

Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Loose materials were placed with the relevant conference record. Speaker files of the 2008 conference were consolidated but order was maintained by interleaving with acid-free paper. Newspaper clippings were photocopied onto acid-free paper and acidic items were interleaved with acid-free paper as needed.

Related Collections

Burke Library Archives Collection:
Joan Brown Campbell Papers 1990-2000

Burke Library Holdings:
1986 National Workshop on Christian Unity (Sound Recording)
1987 National Workshop on Christian Unity (Sound Recording)

Contents list**Series I: Conferences**

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	1964 Baltimore, Maryland
1	2	1965 Boston, Massachusetts
1	3	1966 Saint Louis, Missouri
1	4	1967 Berkeley, California
1	5	1968 Detroit, Michigan
1	6	1969 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1	7	1970 Kansas City, Kansas
1	8	1971 Houston, Texas
1	9	1972 New York, New York
1	10	1973 Toledo, Ohio
1	11	1974 Charleston, South Carolina
1	12	1975 San Diego, California
1	13-14	1976 Memphis, Tennessee
2	1-3	1977 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
2	4	1977-1985 George Sheridan Papers
2	5-7	1978 Tulsa, Oklahoma
2	8-9	1978 Correspondence Sent to Committee
3	1-2	1979 Birmingham, Alabama
3	3	1979-1982 George Sheridan Papers
3	4-5	1980 Seattle, Washington
3	6-7	1980 George Sheridan Papers
3	8-9	1981 Boston, Massachusetts
3	10	1982 Grand Rapids, Michigan
4	1	1983 Louisville, Kentucky
4	2	1983-1984 George Sheridan Papers
4	3	1984 Minneapolis, Minnesota
4	4	1985 San Antonio, Texas
4	5	1985 George Sheridan Papers
4	6	1986 George Sheridan Papers
4	7	1986 Hartford, Connecticut
4	8-9	1987 Atlanta, Georgia
4	10	1987-1988 Correspondence
5	1	1987-1989 Correspondence to Committee
5	2	1988 Correspondence
5	3	1988-1989 Correspondence
5	4	1989 Indianapolis, Indiana
5	5	1991 Saint Louis, Missouri

Series I: Conferences (Cont'd)

Box	Folder	Contents
5	5	Digital Photographs
5	6	2007 Digital Photographs CD
5	7	2008 Speaker Audio Files
5	8	2008 Chicago, Illinois Brochure
		2008 Registrations
5	9	Registration Package
6	1	Registration Information
6	2-7	Registrations, A- Z
6	8	Correspondence - National Office
6	9	Networks
		2008 Local Planning Committee
7	1	Lists
7	2	Meetings
		2008 Committee
7	3	Committee Responsibilities
7	4	Chair Meetings
7	5	Arrangements
7	6	Books/Displays
7	7	Communications
7	8	Cultural Events
7	9	Finances
7	10	Program
7	11	Registration
7	12	Seminaries
7	13	Volunteers
7	14	Worship
		2008 Speakers
7	15	Presenters
7	16	Speakers – Plenary John Blessington James W. Fleming Lorelei Fuchs Michael Kinnamon Margaret O'Hara Joseph Small Leonid Kishkovsky
7	17	Speakers -- Seminar 1 Tom Ferguson Michael Trice

Series I: Conferences (Cont'd)

Box	Folder	Contents
7	17	Seminar 2 Jeffrey Gros Michael Lee Nelson Cheryl Peterson
		Seminar 3 Robert Flannery Ruth Meyers
		Seminar 4 Frederick Gaiser Philip Towner
7	18	Seminar 5 Robert Barron Peter Casarella
		Seminar 7 Dwight Friesen
		Seminar 8 John Bryson Chane
		Seminar 9 Bishop Demetrios Stan Davis Bishop Thomas Hoyt
		Seminar 10 Bishop Mark Dyer
		Seminar 11 A.J Boyd R.M Keelan Downton Raphael Allen
8	1	Seminar 12 Jane Fisler-Hoffman Warren Murphy
		Seminar 14 William Petersen

Series I: Conferences (Cont'd)

Box	Folder	Contents
8	1	Seminar 16 Arye Arsian
		Seminar 17 Dalila Benameur Andreatte Brachman Catiana McKay Monte Johnson Laura Gottardi-Littell Larry Kamphausen Gabi Aelabouni
		Seminar 18 Abdul-Malik Mujahid Elena Segura Nazar Sloboda Jacques Conway
8	2	General-Planning Committee
8	3	Draft Statements
8	4	Job Descriptions
8	5	Box List Letter