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Guide to the Journalism Department Records, 1918-1988

Title

Journalism Department Records (RG 091)

Dates

1918-1988 (inclusive)

Creator

Oregon State University. Dept. of Journalism.

Summary

The Journalism Department Records document the undergraduate and graduate instruction programs in technical journalism at Oregon State University. The records also include materials pertaining to the reorganization of higher education in Oregon in the early 1930s and the controversy between the University of Oregon and Oregon Agricultural College (OAC) in the 1920s regarding the offering of journalism degrees at OAC.

Quantity

1.35 cubic feet (2 boxes) and 11 microfilm reels

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research. Access to materials in Series VII and VIII pertaining to journalism advisees is restricted and subject to review by the University Archivist.

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Finding aid prepared by Lawrence A. Landis; revised by Elizabeth Nielsen, 2008.

Historical Note

Journalism courses were first offered at Oregon Agricultural College during the 1914/15 school year, and the Department of Industrial Journalism was created in 1918. The department's purpose was to train students "who wish to take positions on farm and trade journals, newspapers, and other publications, especially where writing on industrial subjects such as Agriculture, Home Economics, and Engineering is required" (1919/20 OAC Catalogue). On three occasions during the 1920s, the State Board of Higher Curricula was requested to consider restricting or eliminating industrial journalism at Oregon State.

During the 1930s and 1940s, journalism at Oregon State was administered jointly with the program at the University of Oregon as part of the higher education reorganization in Oregon. In 1969, departmental majors were offered for the first time; subsequently, thirty technical minors were added. In 1992, the Journalism Department was eliminated as part of university wide budget reductions.

Department chairs have included Frank Snow, 1928; Maynard Brown, 1929; Charles D. Byrne, 1929-1932; Fred M. Shideler, 1932-1967; Fred Zwahlen, 1967-1989; and Jon Franklin, 1989-1991.

Arrangement

The records are arranged in nine series: I. Briefs and Statements, 1920-1928; II. Clippings on OSSHE Budget and Survey of Higher Education, 1930-1931; III. Miscellaneous, 1921-1925; IV. Oregon Newspaper Scrapbooks, 1918-1951; V. Accreditation, 1977-1988; VI. Special Event Records, 1979-1988; VII. Subject Files, 1966-1988; VIII. Journalism Advisory Council, 1988; and IX. Sound Recordings, 1970-1971.

Content Description

The Journalism Department Records document the development of undergraduate and graduate instruction programs in technical (industrial) journalism at Oregon State University. The records include materials pertaining to the reorganization of higher education in Oregon in the early 1930s and the controversy between the University of Oregon and Oregon Agricultural College in the 1920s regarding the offering of journalism degrees of OAC.

Much of the collection consists of microfilmed scrapbooks of newspaper clippings from Oregon newspapers. The clippings are of articles about Oregon State and/or ones written by Oregon State students for the newspapers. Many of the scrapbooks have accompanying subject indexes.

The remainder of the collection was created or assembled by department chair Fred Zwahlen and includes materials pertaining to accreditation and special events, including the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication annual convention in Corvallis in 1983; subject files pertaining to curriculum, faculty, budgets, and graduates and advisees; and materials assembled for the Journalism Advisory Council. Of particular note in the subject files are materials regarding former Oregon Governor Tom McCall's position at OSU in the early 1970s.

Also of note in the collection are sound recordings of Associated Press science writer and editor, Alton Blakeslee; *New York Times* science writer, Sandra Blakeslee (with KOAC reporter Shirley Howard); *Oregonian* editor, J. Richard Nokes, and KGW-TV News Director, Ed Godfrey recorded in 1970-1971.

Preferred Citation

Journalism Department Records (RG 091), Oregon State University Archives, Corvallis, Oregon.

Acquisition Information

Transferred in several accessions from the 1960s through 1995.

Related Material

Photographs pertaining to the Journalism Department can be found in the Journalism Department Photographic Collection (P 208) and in Harriet's Collection. The Beaver Yearbook (P 003) and Barometer (P 035) Photographic Collections include photographs taken by student photojournalists. The Archives includes the papers or records of several journalism faculty,

alumni journalists, and journalism organizations, including [Fred M. Shideler](#), [Frank H. Bartholomew](#), Ted Carlson, [Hope Chamberlin](#), [A. Freeman Mason](#), and Theta Sigma Phi (Alpha Eta Chapter).

Subjects

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the OSU Libraries Catalog. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons, or places should search the catalog (<http://oasis.oregonstate.edu>) using these headings.

Individuals

Blakeslee, Alton L.
Blakeslee, Sandra.
McCall, Tom, 1913-1983.
Nokes, J. Richard.

Organizations

Oregon State System of Higher Education.
Oregon State University--Faculty.

Topics

American newspapers--Oregon.
Journalism--Study and teaching (Higher)--Oregon.

Forms of Materials in the Collection

Audiotapes.
Scrapbooks.

Other Creators

Howard, Shirley Jean, 1928-
Oregon Agricultural College. Dept. of Industrial Journalism.
Oregon State College. Dept. of Journalism.
Zwahlen, Fred C., 1924-

Series Outline

Series I. Briefs and Statements, 1920-1928

Series II. Clippings on OSSHE Budget and Survey of Higher Education, 1930-1931

Series III. Miscellaneous, 1921-1925

Series IV. Oregon Newspaper Scrapbooks, 1918-1951

Series V. Accreditation, 1977-1988

Series VI. Special Event Records, 1979-1988

Series VII. Subject Files, 1966-1988

Series VIII. Journalism Advisory Council, 1988

Series IX. Sound Recordings, 1970-1971

Detailed Description of the Collection

Reel

Series I. Briefs and Statements, 1920-1928

Series I pertains to attempts by the University of Oregon in the 1920s to discontinue or reduce the courses in industrial journalism at Oregon Agricultural College (OAC) and OAC's responses.

- 1 Correspondence, 1920-1922
- 1 Statements on Industrial Journalism at Oregon Agricultural College, 1920
- 1 Correspondence regarding establishment of a Sigma Delta Chi chapter at OAC, 1920-1921
- 1 Correspondence regarding the OAC industrial edition of the *Albany Herald*, 1921
- 1 Statements by OAC deans and extension agents, editors of student publications, and farm paper and other editors on the value of industrial journalism training, 1922
- 1 Statement by the University of Oregon regarding alleged violations of rulings by the State Board of Higher Curriculum by Oregon State Agricultural College, 1928

Reel

1 Series II. Clippings on OSSHE Budget and Survey of Higher Education, 1930-1931

Series II contains newspaper clippings about the Oregon State System of Higher Education's budget and the survey of higher education in Oregon in the early 1930s which led to the reorganization of higher education and the transfer of academic programs between Oregon State College and the University of Oregon.

Reel

Series III. Miscellaneous, 1921-1925

Series III pertains to attempts by the University of Oregon in the 1920s to discontinue or reduce the courses in industrial journalism at Oregon Agricultural College (OAC) and OAC's responses.

- 1 Briefs, statements, and studies, pertaining to elimination of Industrial Journalism at Oregon State Agricultural College, undated
- 1 Correspondence from editors of Oregon farm journals and newspapers, 1921-1925
- 1 Correspondence from graduates of Oregon Agricultural College who studied Industrial Journalism, 1925
- 1 President Kerr's response to the Board of Higher Curricula regarding the University of Oregon's petition to eliminate or reduce Industrial Journalism at Oregon Agricultural College, April 15, 1922

Series IV. Oregon Newspaper Scrapbooks, 1918-1951

Series IV consists of 68 newspaper clippings scrapbooks that include articles about Oregon State and/or that were written by Oregon State students for the newspapers. Indexes are available for some of the scrapbooks. A few of the volumes have handwritten indexes. The scrapbooks are only available on microfilm; the indexes are available in original paper form.

Indexes, 1923-1940

- box 1 *Oregonian and Portland News*, 1923-1924
- box 1 *Oregonian*, 1928-1931
- box 1 *Oregon Journal*, 1930-1931
- box 1 *Oregonian*, 1931-1932
- box 1 *Oregon Journal*, 1931-1937

box 1 *Oregonian*, 1934-1937
box 1 *Oregon Journal*, 1937-1939

box 2 *Oregon Journal*, 1939-1940
reel 2 *Oregonian*, *Oregon Journal*, *Portland Telegram* and *Portland News*, 1918-1921
reel 2 *Corvallis Gazette-Times* and *Benton Courier*, 1920-1921
reel 2 *Oregonian*, *Oregon Journal*, *Portland Telegram* and *Portland News*, 1921-1922
reel 2 *Corvallis Gazette-Times* and *Benton Courier*, 1921-1922
reel 3 *Oregonian*, *Oregon Journal*, *Portland Telegram* and *Portland News*, 1922-1923
reel 3 *Corvallis Gazette-Times* and *Benton Courier*, 1922-1923
reel 3 *Oregonian* and *Portland News*, 1923-1924
reel 3 *Oregon Journal* and *Portland Telegram*, 1923-1924
reel 3 *Gazette Times* and *Benton Courier*, 1923-1924
reel 3 *Oregonian* and *Portland News*, 1924-1925
reel 3 *Oregon Journal* and *Portland Telegram*, 1924-1925
reel 3 *Corvallis Gazette-Times*, 1924-1925
reel 4 *Oregonian* and *Portland News*, 1925-1926
reel 4 *Oregon Journal* and *Portland Telegram*, 1925-1926
reel 4 *Corvallis Gazette-Times*, 1925-1926
reel 4 *Oregonian* and *Portland News*, 1926-1927
reel 4 *Oregon Journal*, 1926-1927
reel 5 *Oregon Journal*, *Portland Telegram* and *Portland News*, 1929-1930
reel 5 *Oregonian*, 1929-1931
reel 5 *Oregon Journal*, 1930-1931
reel 5 *Portland News* and *Portland Telegram*, 1930-1931
reel 5 *Oregonian*, 1931-1932
reel 6 *Oregonian*, 1933-1934
reel 6 *Oregon Journal*, 1933-1934
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reel 7 *Oregon Journal*, 1938-1939
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reel 7 *Oregonian*, 1940-1941
reel 8 *Oregonian*, 1941-1942
reel 8 *Oregon Journal*, 1941-1942
reel 8 *Oregonian*, 1942-1943
reel 8 *Oregon Journal*, 1942-1943
reel 8 *Oregonian* and *Oregon Journal*, 1943-1944
reel 8 *Oregonian*, 1944-1945
reel 8 *Oregon Journal*, 1944-1945
reel 9 *Oregonian*, 1946-1947
reel 9 *Oregon Journal*, 1946-1947
reel 9 *Oregonian*, 1947-1948
reel 9 *Oregon Journal*, 1947-1948
reel 9 *Oregonian*, 1948-1949
reel 9 *Oregon Journal*, 1948-1949
reel 9 *Oregonian*, 1949-1950
reel 9 *Oregon Journal*, 1949-1950
reel 10 *Oregonian*, *Oregon Journal*, *Portland Telegram* and *Portland News*, 1919-1920

- reel 10 *Oregon Journal* and *Portland Telegram*, 1926-1927
- reel 10 *Oregonian*, *Oregon Journal*, *Portland Telegram* and *Portland News*, 1927-1928
- reel 10 *Oregonian*, 1928-1929
- reel 10 *Oregon Journal*, *Portland Telegram* and *Portland News*, 1928-1929
- reel 11 *Oregon Journal*, 1931-1932
- reel 11 *Oregonian*, 1932-1933
- reel 11 *Oregon Journal*, 1932-1933 and 1940-1941
- reel 11 *Oregonian*, 1945-1946
- reel 11 *Oregon Journal*, 1945-1946
- reel 11 *Oregonian*, 1950-1951
- reel 11 *Oregon Journal*, 1950-1951

Box**Series V. Accreditation, 1977-1988**

Series V documents accreditation of the department by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in 1977 and 1985.

- 1 Accreditation and Evaluations, 1984-1988
- 1 Materials (portion of) Assembled for Site Visit, 1984
- 1 Pre-Visit Report, 1977

Box**Series VI. Special Event Records, 1979-1988**

Series VI contains special event records from the 1983 annual convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication held in Corvallis and from the department's 75th anniversary activities in 1988.

- 1-2 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication - 1983 Annual Convention in Corvallis, 1979-1983 (2 folders)
- 1 75th Anniversary, 1988

Box**Series VII. Subject Files, 1966-1988**

Series VII consists of subject files pertaining to advising, affirmative action, budgets, curriculum, faculty, and graduates. Many of the materials were created or assembled by department chair, Fred Zwahlen.

- 1 Affirmative Action Plan, 1974
- 1 Budgets, 1980-1981 (including Program Improvement Requests for 1981-1983)
- 1 Correspondence, 1985-1988
- 1 Curriculum and Instruction, 1973-1979
- 1 Department Brochure, 1982
- 1 List of Graduates, 1968
- 1 Technical Journalism - Advisees and Minors, 1980
Restricted and subject to review by the University Archivist.
- 1 Budgets, 1977-1979
- 1 CETA position, 1978
- 1 Curriculum Proposal for M.S. in Technical Writing, 1977 (2 folders)
Faculty,
- 1 McCall, Tom, 1973-1975

- 1 Scheel, Jean, 1976-1977
- 1 Shideler, Fred, 1969-1975
- 1 Smith, Robert Burr ("Bob"), 1978-1979 [Environmental and wildlife photography.]
- 2 Faculty - General, 1967-1977
- 1 Forestry annual report, 1980
- 1 Journalism 110 study guide, undated
- 1 Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA) Board of Directors, 1978-1979
- 1 Promotion and Tenure Policies and Procedures, 1972-1976
- 1 *Liberal Education* by Kenneth D. Patterson, 1966
- 1 Anderson, N. Christian (Chris), 1988 [Alumnus.]
- 2 Teaching Assignments, 1977-1980

Box**1 Series VIII. Journalism Advisory Council, 1988**

Series VIII consists of an information book assembled for the Journalism Advisory Council. It includes summary and promotional information about the department and includes a curriculum proposal for a master's degree in scientific and technical communication, budget information, a site visit report, a list of journalism advisees, and a paper by Edwin J. Peterson, *Black Hats: The Inevitable Garb of Lawyers and Reporters*.

Access to materials pertaining to journalism advisees is restricted and subject to review by the University Archivist.

Box**1-2 Series IX. Sound Recordings, 1970-1971**

The sound recordings consist of 13 reel-to-reel tape recordings, primarily of journalists. Several of the tapes are of Alton Blakeslee (Associated Press Science Writer) with Fred Zwahlen and Sam Bailey. The tapes also include recordings of Sandra Blakeslee (Science Writer with the *New York Times*), *Science Journalism in the '70s*, with KOAC radio reporter Shirley Howard; a news seminar with Richard Nokes of the *Oregonian* and Ed Godfrey of KGW; and a Professor of Journalism at the University of Wisconsin (Tickener?).