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06.01.005-.007 Lesley College Publications, Student Newspapers, 1938-1983

Alyssa Pacy

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Lesley College Publications

Student Newspapers, 1938-1983

By Alyssa Pacy

Collection Overview

Title: Lesley College Publications, Student Newspapers, 1938-1983 (inclusive)

ID: 06/01/005 - /007

Creator: Lesley College (1909 -)

Extent: 3 boxes

Arrangement: The collection is arranged chronologically by academic year. Each folder contains only items from a single academic year. One academic year consists of fall, winter, spring, and summer.

Date Acquired: 01/09/2007

Languages: English

Scope and Contents of the Materials

This collection is comprised of newspapers written and published by Lesley College students between 1938 and 1983.

“The Lantern” was a weekly, student-run newspaper published during the school year. It featured articles about the undergraduate school, including campus news and events, faculty and staff appointments, stories on student activities, editorials, letters to the editor, music, plays and movie reviews, and local advertisers. This series includes issues from 1938-1939, 1948-1949, and 1954-1971.

“The Educator” was another weekly student newspaper published by Lesley College during the school year, featuring education philosophy and news, letters to the editor, faculty and student news, campus happenings, women's rights, popular culture, and politics. Issues from 1972 are available (See box list below.)

The collection also includes issues of “The Lesley Green & Gold” from 1982-1983. The newspaper features faculty profiles, student and campus news, poetry, a monthly calendar, and a letter from the editor.

Historical Note

Lesley College is the Undergraduate College of Lesley University.

In 1909 Edith Lesley [Wolfard] opened "The Lesley Normal School" ("normal" at the time designating teacher training schools) in her home on Everett Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts to train young women to become kindergarten and early elementary teachers. Influenced by the philosophy of German educator Friedrich Froebel, Lesley's two-year curriculum stressed the importance of physical activity (singing, dancing and gardening) and play, particularly with blocks and similar objects. Edith Lesley also stressed the values of treating students as individuals and the importance of “gracious living.” Eleven students graduated in the first class in 1911. In the following year classes in household arts were added and in 1918, a department, known first as Domestic Science, later (1939-1940) as Home Economics, was established, offering a one- or two-year program which prepared students to work in various public institutions, including schools and hospitals.

By the 1920s the school, now “The Lesley School,” had twenty-two instructors, had acquired three buildings for dormitories, and had built Alumni Hall for assemblies and classes. Extra-curricular activities came to play an important role, with Wednesday afternoons reserved for musical or theatrical student performances. Later in the decade a three-year kindergarten and early elementary program was offered in addition to the two-year course of study. During the 1930s Gertrude Malloch, who had joined the school as a teacher and administrator in its first decade, became the school's chief administrator, after Edith Lesley Wolfard's health began to fail.

The late 1930s to early 1940s saw some changes at Lesley. Enrollment, which had been over 300 earlier in the decade, declined during the Depression, reaching a low of 63 at one point. In 1939 the school, to that point privately owned, became a non-profit institution through incorporation, and during the academic year 1939-1940 it added a four-year teacher-training program. In 1943 this four-year program was recognized as meeting all the requirements of the B.S. in education and soon after that the school began to award this degree. Marguerite Franklin became the college's first president, overseeing the transition period. 1944 saw the school's name changed to Lesley College and the appointment of Trentwell Mason White as President. Edith Lesley Wolfard retained the titles of Founder and Director Emeritus. The first baccalaureate degrees were awarded in June of 1945. In 1949, Lesley College acquired the Walter F. Dearborn School and the Lesley Ellis School, and in 1959 added a third, the Carroll Hall School, as laboratory schools, providing opportunities for study and observation by Lesley College students and faculty.

The next decade was one of growth for Lesley, with the addition of evening and summer classes,

a coeducational graduate program in education, new buildings, and an enrollment expanding to 380 undergraduates and 52 graduate students. Lesley achieved regional and national accreditation in 1952 and in 1954 was empowered to confer a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. The decade was also marked by loss, with Edith Lesley Wolfard's death in 1953 and President White's in 1959. Don Orton succeeded Dr. White in July 1960.

As the 1960s progressed, enrollment continued to grow and the college continued to offer a variety of student activities and clubs. In 1961, the first New England Kindergarten Conference was held. The 1960s also saw the death of Gertrude Malloch, who donated her home to be used as a house for the Lesley College President.

Lesley College continued to grow in the 1970s and 1980s, both building and acquiring new properties. In 1985, Lesley inaugurated president, Margaret McKenna.

In the 1990s, Lesley continued to increase the size of its campus by purchasing the Porter Exchange Building, which doubled its classroom space. The college also joined Division III of the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association), distinguishing itself as an institution that encourages both physical and intellectual prowess. International programs increased, being offered in Europe, the Middle East, and Canada. In 1998, the school acquired the Art Institute of Boston.

The new millennium proved to be one of success and distinction for Lesley. In 2000 Lesley officially became a university, and its undergraduate program was renamed Lesley College. In July 2007 Dr. Joseph B. Moore was appointed as president of Lesley University.

Administrative Information

Accruals: It will receive additions on a yearly basis.

Access Restrictions: None

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Acquisition Source: The Office of the President

Acquisition Method: Interoffice transfer

Appraisal Information: In good condition

Processing Information: The Collection was processed by Alyssa Pacy, Lise Foss, Kelly Weaver and Julienne Stenberg in 2007.

Finding Aid Revision History: It will receive additions on a yearly basis.

Box and Folder Listing

.005 The Lantern, 1938-1971

Box 1:

Folder 1: Feb 1938 - May 1949
Folder 2: 12 Mar 1954 - 22 Mar 1957
Folder 3: 26 Apr 1957 - 16 May 1958
Folder 4: 26 Sept 1958 - 10 Apr 1959
Folder 5: 5 May 1959 - 1 Apr 1960
Folder 6: 11 May 1960 - 31 May 1961
Folder 7: 21 Sept 1961 - 22 May 1962
Folder 8: 20 Sept 1962 - 23 May 1963
Folder 9: 12 Sept 1963 - 17 Mar 1964
Folder 10: 2 May 1964 - 8 Apr 1965
Folder 11: 8 May 1965 - 15 Mar 1966
Folder 12: 6 Apr 1966 - 9 Dec 1966
Folder 13: 9 Feb 1967 - 1 Dec 1967
Folder 14: 19 Dec 1967 - 21 May 1968
Folder 15: 19 Oct 1968 - 20 May 1969
Folder 16: 29 Oct 1969 - 20 Nov 1969
Folder 17: 29 Oct 1970 - 16 Dec 1970
Folder 18: 11 Feb 1971 - 29 Apr 1971

.006 The Educator, 1972

Box 1:

Folder 1: 11 Feb 1972 to 7 Apr 1972
Folder 2: 14 Apr 1972 to 12 May 1972

.007 Lesley Green and Gold, 1982-1983

Box 1:

Item 1: Vol. 1, No. 1, March 1982

Item 2: Vol. 1, No. 2, March 1982

Item 3: Vol. 1, No. 3, May 1982

3 copies

Item 4: Vol. 2, No. 2, Dec 1982

Item 5: Vol. 2, No. 3, Feb 1983