02.005 Margaret A. McKenna Papers, 1985-2007

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Margaret A. McKenna, 1985-2007

By Marie Wasnock

Collection Overview

Title: Margaret A. McKenna, 1985-2007

ID: 02/005

Creator: Margaret A. McKenna

Extent: 167 Boxes

Arrangement: Organized by series and subjects alphabetically, then chronologically within folders.

Date Acquired: 08/05/2011

Languages: English

Scope and Contents of the Materials

This collection comprises personal papers, university records, publications, and other ephemera created and kept by Margaret A. McKenna, president of Lesley College from 1985-2007. In addition to papers created during her presidency at Lesley, the collection includes feature articles about McKenna when she became the Director of the Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College and select papers from her positions with Radcliffe, the White House, and the Clinton/Gore Presidential Task Force on Education.

Biographical Note

Margaret Anne McKenna was born in Rhode Island on June 3, 1945. Her parents were Joseph and Agnes McKenna of Cumberland, Rhode Island. Strong female leadership in education was present in Margaret’s upbringing beginning with her mother, Agnes McKenna. Agnes was the first female guidance counselor in Rhode Island, first female administrator in a secondary school, and one of the first women to receive a Master’s degree from Brown University and a Certificate of Theology from Providence College. With this precedent, Margaret excelled in careers in law,
government, and education. She earned her A.B. degree at Emmanuel College in 1967 and J.D. from the Southern Methodist University of Law in 1971.

After graduation, McKenna was a civil rights attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice. From 1974 to 1976, she was executive director of the International Association of Human Rights Agencies. McKenna then served as consultant to the U.S. Department of the Treasury in 1976, working on revenue sharing. From 1976 to 1979, McKenna served as Deputy Counsel to former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, the first woman to hold such an appointment. From 1979 to 1981, she was Deputy Undersecretary in the U.S. Department of Education.

In addition to her career in federal government, McKenna was a leader in education. Her positions included Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence at Radcliffe College, visiting professor of government at Simmons College in 1981, Director of the Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College from 1981 to 1985, Administrative Vice President for Program Planning at Radcliffe from 1982-1985, and Fellow at the Institute of Politics, Harvard University.

McKenna was President of Lesley College in 1985 to 2007. In her twenty-two years at Lesley, McKenna helped develop a small regional college to a nationally recognized university. During her leadership, the Graduate School of Arts and Social Sciences (GSASS) was created, the Art Institute of Boston merged with Lesley, new centers of study were started, additional campus space was acquired (Porter Exchange), and doctoral programs were launched. The Student Center and a Chair in Leadership and Social Change were named to recognize her contributions.

McKenna has held a number of significant public policy positions. In 1992-1993, McKenna worked with the Clinton/Gore Presidential Transition Committee as coordinator of the Higher Education Task Force. In 1994, she worked with Boston’s Mayor Thomas M. Menino as chair of the Education Task Force on his Transition Committee.

From 2007 to 2011, McKenna served as president of the Walmart Foundation. She developed the strategic priorities of the foundation and coordinated its international, national and local programs. During her term, the Foundation provided more than $900 million in grants to non-profit organizations and promoted hunger relief, education and the economic empowerment of women.

McKenna has received nine honorary degrees and awards from a variety of national and regional organizations including Meals on Wheels, Feeding America, Women’s Equity Action League, Big Sister, Council of Independent Colleges, the International Tallories Network of Universities, City Year and the Boston Chamber of Commerce.

McKenna has also written numerous articles and spoken at national and international meetings on issues of leadership, social justice, educational opportunity, and philanthropy.
Administrative Information

Access Restrictions: In-Library Use Only. Select folders and documents are marked "Closed" or "Confidential."

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Acquisition Source: Office of the President

Box and Folder Listing

Series 1: Accreditation, 1984-2000
Box 1: NEASC Materials, 1987-2000
NEASC Annual Report Form, Approval Requests, Self-Study Preparation Materials
Box 2: NEASC Materials, 1984-1994
NEASC Self-Study Preparation Materials; Reports, 1984-1994
Box 3: Reports, 1984-1994
Box 4: Work Room List, ca. 1988

Series 2: Alumni Relations, 1985-2003
Box 1: Alumni Relations, 1985-2003
Alumni Admissions Representative packets, ca. 1990s; Alumni Affairs, 1985-1991;
Alumni Events, 1985-1988; Awards (Edith Lesley Wolfard Award, Good Housekeeping),
1944-1990; Correspondence, 1992-2003; Misc. "Top Ten Reasons We'll Miss Lesley...,",

Series 3: Biography and Personal Papers, 1985-2008
Box 1: Articles about McKenna, 1985-2008
Box 2: Awards and Honors, 1985-2007
Box 3: Awards and Honors, 1985-2007
Box 4: Awards and Honors, 1985-2007
Box 5: Biography and Curricula Vitae (CV), 1985-2007
Box 6: Boston Transition Committee on Education, 1993-1994
Box 7: Clinton/Gore Presidential Task Force on Higher Education, 1992
Box 8: Goals and Accomplishments, 1986-2006
Box 9: Inauguration, July-Dec 1985
Box 10: Radcliffe / White House files, 1981-1987
Box 11: Schedules, 1985-1991
Box 12: Schedules, 1992-1993
Box 13: Schedules, 1994-1997
Box 14: Schedules, 1998-2007
Box 15: Speeches, 1985-2007

Lesley speeches (A-C): Addresses - Commencement
Box 17: Speeches, 1985-2007

Lesley speeches (C-E): Community - End of Year
Box 18: Speeches, 1985-2007

Lesley speeches (F-S): Founder's Day - Senior Brunch
Box 19: Speeches, 1985-2007

Lesley speeches (S-W): Senior Investiture - Welcome New Students; Off-campus speeches, 1985-1989
Box 20: Speeches; Speech Research, 1985-2007

Off-campus speeches, 1990-2006; Pre-Lesley, 1978-1982; Speech Research (A-C): Adult Learning - Change
Box 21: Speech Research, 1985-2007

Speech Research (C-E): Civil Rights - Education
Box 22: Speech Research, 1985-2007

Speech Research (E-F): Education for the Future - Freedom of Speech
Box 23: Speech Research, 1985-2007

Speech Research (F-W): Future of Higher Ed - Women
Box 24: Speech Research; Speeches (digitized), 1985-2007

Speech Research (U-W): Undated - Women; Speeches (selected digital copies), 1978-2006
Box 26: Writings/Publications, 1985-2007 + undated

Box 1: (A) AACTE to ACE Fellowship Program
Box 2: (A-B) AICUM to Blueprint 2000 Project
Box 3: (B) Blueprint 2000 Project to Boston Higher Education Partnership
Box 4: (B-G) Boston Higher Education Partnership to Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
Box 5: (H-J) Harvard Magazine Inc. to Joint Task Force-Teacher Prep
Box 6: (J-N) Joint Task Force to NAICU
Box 7: (O-S) On the Rise to Success by 6 Leadership Council
Box 8: (T) Task Force on Continuing Education
Box 9: (T) TEAC to TERI
Box 10: (W-Y) Who's Who to YPO
Box 11: (Y-Misc.) YPO to Miscellaneous

Series 5: Buildings and Grounds
Agassiz Community, Appraisals, Campus Planning, Capital Projects, Dedications, Facilities Space Planning
Master Plan Projects (Buildings), Operations, Physical Plant, Porter Exchange
Box 3: Buildings and Grounds, P, 1985-1989
President's House, President's Office (29 Everett Street) Redecoration Expenses
Box 4: Buildings and Grounds, R-S, 1985-1996
Radcliffe Career Services Relocation, Renovations, Residence Halls, Sakae Institute at Porter Exchange, Scheduling/Space Use Policy, Schematic Plans (Preliminary), Signage (Preliminary), Space Committee.

Series 6: Correspondence, 1985-2007
Box 1: Incoming Correspondence, 1985-2000
Box 2: Letters of Recommendation, 1984-1990; Outgoing Correspondence, July 1985-Dec 1985
Box 3: Outgoing Correspondence, Jan-Dec 1986
Box 4: Outgoing Correspondence, Jan-Dec 1987
Box 5: Outgoing Correspondence, Jan 1988-Apr 1989
Box 6: Outgoing Correspondence, May 1989-Oct 1991
Box 7: Outgoing Correspondence, Nov 1991-2001 (inclusive); Community Memos, Mar 1993-May 1997

Series 7: Faculty/Staff, 1985-2007
Box 1: Faculty Workload and Rank Statistics, 1986-2000 (inclusive)
Box 2: Faculty Files/Contracts, Performance Evaluation, 1988-2000 (inclusive)
Box 3: Personnel Services/Salary Issues, 1985-2001 (inclusive)
Box 4: Faculty Handbooks and Policies, 1984-2000 (inclusive)
Box 5: Organization/Professional Development/Awards, 1988-2000 (inclusive)

Box 1: Vice President of Administration and Finance records, 1985-2001
Box 2: Vice President of Administration and Finance records, 1985-2001
Box 3: Vice President of Administration and Finance records, 1985-2001
Box 4: Vice President of Administration and Finance records, 1985-2001
Box 5: Budget/Salary, 1986-2000
Box 6: Budget/Salary, 1986-2000
Box 7: Budget/Salary, 1986-2000
Box 8: Capital Campaign, 1985-1998
Box 9: Capital Campaign, 1985-1998
Box 11: Development/Advancement, 1988-1997
Box 12: Expense Vouchers
Box 13: Expense Vouchers
Box 14: Expense Vouchers
Box 17: Opportunities Fund, 1991-1999
Box 18: Opportunities Fund, 1991-1999
Box 19: Opportunities Fund, 1991-1999
Box 20: President's Technology Fund, 1996-1997

Series 9: Publications
(1 box): Miscellaneous publications by or about Lesley College. For Writings and Publications by Margaret McKenna, see Series 3 Biography and Personal Papers, Box 25.

Series 10: Reports
Box 2: (O-W) Off-Campus Academic Services Survey - Writing Skills Center Report, 1985-1999

Series 11: Schools and Programs
Sub-Series 1: Art Institute of Boston, 1998-2000
Box 1: AIB Board of Overseers and Board of Trustees, 1998-2000
Box 2: AIB-Lesley Merger Planning, March 1998-Jan 1999
Box 4: AIB-Lesley Merger, 1992-1999
General Info, Accreditation, Correspondence, Faculty/Staff
Box 5: AIB-Lesley Merger, 1995-1999
Financial, Property, Sponsors, Students
Box 6: AIB-Lesley Merger, 1996-2004
Announcement, Human Resources, Transition, AIB Online, President-Student Dinners

Box 1: Audubon Expedition Institute, 1985-1988; 1998
Correspondence, Letter of Agreement with Lesley, Environmental Leadership Semester (draft), Agreement Template for Collaborative institutions

Sub-Series 3: Center for Children, Families, and Public Policy
Box 1: Center for Children, Families, and Public Policy, 1984-1992
Planning, Daycare, Intergenerational Day Care, Reports
Box 2: Center for Children, Families, and Public Policy, 1990-1992
Cambridge Family Day Care Project, Family Involvement - Cambridge Schools, Proposals, Early Intervention
Box 3: Center for Children, Families, and Public Policy, 1990-1992
Headstart, KidStart, Peaceable Schools, grant proposals
Box 4: Center for Children, Families, and Public Policy, 1990-1993
Cambridge Family Day Care Project, Ann Bookman, Sonnabend visiting professors
Box 5: Center for Children, Families, and Public Policy, 1990-1994
Ann Bookman, Reports, Parent-Teacher Gulf Hotline, Boston Family Policy Network, Say Yes to Education

Sub-Series 4: Centers and Institutes, misc.
Box 1: Centers and Institutes, misc., 1985-1997 (inclusive)
The Learning Lab, EDAC Bilingual Education, Assessment Center Proposal

Sub-Series 5: Collaborative Programs and Projects, 1982-2001
Box 1: (B-E) Boston Community Compact Plan to Elderhostel Program, 1984-2001
Box 2: (E-M) Elderhostel Program to Massachusetts Campus Compact
Box 3: (P-W) Proposed Collaborations to Wheelock College

Sub-Series 6: Graduate School, 1986-2000
Box 1: Administrative Files, 1984-1994
Box 2: Administrative Files, 1986-1995
Box 3: Graduate School of Education, 1986-1995
Box 4: International Studies, 1985-1989
Box 5: Outreach Programs, 1985-2001
Box 6: Outreach Programs, 1985-2001
Sub-Series 7: Graduate School of Education
Box 2: Pathways to Teaching, 1994-1996
Box 3: Say Yes to Education / Project Promise, 1987-1999
Box 4: Teacher Testing/Certification, 1986-1999
Box 7: Math, Science, and Technology in Education, 1999-2002
Sub-Series 8: GSASS, Israel Program, 1998-2000
Box 1: GSASS, Israel Programs, 1998-2000
Sub-Series 9: Institute of Mind, Body, and Spirit (IBMS)
Box 1: Institute of Mind, Body, and Spirit (IBMS), 1998-2000
Sub-Series 10: Lesley College (undergraduate), 1986-1999
Box 1: Undergraduate Admissions, Enrollment, Retention, Curriculum, Dean, 1986-1999
Box 2: Undergraduate Faculty and Programs, 1986-1999
Sub-Series 11: Peaceable Schools
Box 1: Peaceable Schools, 1993-2000
Sub-Series 12: Ph.D. Programs
Box 1: Ph.D. Programs, 1984-2000s
Sub-Series 13: PMBI / School of Management
Box 1: PMBI, Administrative records, 1985-1990
Box 3: School of Management, 1997-2003
Sub-Series 14: Radcliffe Seminars
Box 1: Radcliffe Seminars, 2001-2002
Sub-Series 15: Reading Recovery
Box 1: Reading Recovery, 1988-2001
Sub-Series 16: Threshold Program, 1986-2001
Box 1: Threshold Program, 1986-2001
Series 12: Senior Staff, 1985-2007
Box 1: Calendars and Goals, 1986-1995; Meetings, Aug 1985 to Apr 1986
Box 2: Meetings, 30 Apr 1986 to 22 July 1987
Box 3: Meetings, 27 Aug 1987 to 23 Aug 1988
Box 4: Meetings, 1988 to June 1990
Box 5: Meetings, 25 July 1990 to June 1993
Box 6: Meetings, May 2001 to May 2002
Box 7: Planning, 1986-2001
Box 8: Planning, 1986-2001
Box 9: Planning, 1987-2000
Box 10: Planning, 1986-2001
Box 11: Planning, 1986; 1990
Box 12: Reports
Box 13: Retreats, 1986-1987
Box 14: Retreats, 1987-1999
Box 15: Retreats, 2000

**Series 13: Student Activities / Office of Student Affairs, 1986-1998**
Box 1: Student Activities / Office of Student Affairs, 1986-1998 (inclusive)

**Series 14: Task Forces and Committees, 1985-2001**
Box 1: Faculty Task Forces and Committees, 1985-2001
Box 2: Faculty Task Forces and Committees, 1985-2001
Box 4: College Council, 1990-1993
Box 5: Dean's Group, 1987-1999
Box 6: Dean's Group, 1987-1999
Box 7: Faculty Workload Committee, 1988-1991
Box 8: Faculty Salary and Status Task Force, 1985-1988
Box 10: Operations Group, 1998-2001

**Series 15: University Events**
Box 1: Events and Receptions (A-C), 1986-2001
Box 2: Commencement, 1985-1994
Box 3: Commencement, 1995-2001
Box 4: Events and Receptions (C-E), 1986-1995
Box 5: Events and Receptions (E-I), 1987-2007; Invitations/Programs, 1987-2000
Box 6: Events and Receptions (L-U), 1985-2000

**Series 16: University Governing Board, 1985-2004**
Box 1: Board of Trustees Records, 1985-2000
Box 2: Board of Trustees Records, 1986-2004
Box 3: Corporation Records, 1985-2000

**Series 17: University Policies**
Box 1: (A-M) Accounting Procedures - Maternity Leave Policy Options, 1985-1999
Box 2: (M-T) Mission Statement (Lesley College) - Travel Policy, 1983-2000

**Series 18: University Services**
Box 1: Bursar / Financial Aid, 1986-1995
Box 2: Registrar / Housing / Career Resource Center, 1985-1998
Box 3: Academic Support / Library / Mail / Phone / IT, 1985-2003
Writing Skills Center, The Learning Center, Library, Mail Service, Campus Telephone Service, Computer Lab, University Technology
Box 4: University Technology: Distance Learning, 1986-1996
Box 5: University Technology: Distance Learning, 1999-2000
Box 6: University Technology: Distance Learning, 1995-2001
Box 7: University Technology: Distance Learning, 1996-1997
Box 8: University Technology: Distance Learning, 1996-2001