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05.01 AIB/LUCAD, Administrative Records, 1942-2008

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Art Institute of Boston (AIB)/Lesley University College of Art and Design (LUCAD)

Administrative Records

1942-2015

Lesley University Archive

Collection Overview

Title: AIB/LUCAD, Administrative Records, 1942-2015

ID: 05/01

Creator: AIB/LUCAD (1912 -)

Extent: 11 Boxes

Arrangement: Arranged by subject. See content list.

Languages: English

Scope and Contents of the Materials

This collection documents the history of the School of Practical Arts (SPA), the Art Institute of Boston (AIB), and the Lesley University College of Art and Design (LUCAD) since its founding. This collection encompasses papers from 1942-2015. It includes information about the institution's administration, mission, accreditation, articles of incorporation, and bylaws. Additionally, the collection contains records related to budgets, fundraising, admissions, enrollment, curriculum, programs, and correspondence.

Historical Note

The Art Institute of Boston was founded by Roy Davidson in 1912 as the School of Practical Art and was one of the first private, nonaffiliated studio schools in the United States. A pioneer in

the field of commercial art education, Davidson sought an alternative to the traditional art training of his day, which was the apprenticeship system with long years of menial, repetitive labor. To keep pace with the growing needs of industry, the School of Practical Art developed a program that would allow young people to complete their art training in a reasonable length of time and enter fields equipped for successful contribution on a professional level. Davidson was influenced by art critic John Ruskin, in particular his notion that it is “in art that the heart, the head, and the hand of a man come together.” AIB's early philosophy was based on Davidson's own belief that "beauty comes from the use." The school opened in Davidson's own studio, three small rooms in Boston's Back Bay. As the institution prospered and attracted the attention of the art community, the curriculum expanded to include a wide range of artistic exploration and discipline. The school soon outgrew its first location and moved to progressively larger facilities. (See below for a full listing of addresses and directors.)

Through the mid-twentieth century the school increasingly embraced the fine arts and developed a growing liberal arts curriculum. In 1967 the school was renamed the Art Institute of Boston (AIB), establishing itself as a non-profit institution of higher education and preparing for future expansion and development. The name change also acknowledged the school's increased focus upon fine art as well as design, illustration, and photography. In 1970 AIB moved to Kenmore Square into a building with 40,000 square feet of studio and workshop space, including a library, gallery, lecture rooms, and administrative offices. In 1972 AIB joined with Northeastern University to create an exchange program, giving AIB students the option of earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Art, Photography, or Fine Art.

In 1998, AIB merged with then Lesley College, located in Cambridge, Massachusetts and founded in 1909. In Autumn 2013, the University officially changed the name of the Art Institute of Boston to the Lesley University College of Art and Design (LUCAD).

LUCAD is governed by the Lesley University Board of Trustees and the larger University administration. The school and University are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Directors:

Roy Davidson served as Director from 1912 to 1940. When Davidson died, he was succeeded by Harold Pollock who served as director from 1941 to 1945, until he became president, a post he held from 1945 to 1962. During this time Alan Furber served as for one year from 1944 to 1945 as president. Pollock was followed by William Willis, who was President from 1962 to 1990. Stan Trecker became president in 1991 and served until 1998. He served as the dean of the Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University between 1998 and 2002. After his presidency at Montserrat College in Beverly, Mass., from 2002 to 2007, Trecker returned to Lesley as the art school's dean. Throughout this period, various individuals held the position of dean at AIB, including Angelo Fertitta (2002-2003, as interim dean), Gary Sangster (2003-2004), and Terry Keeney (2005-2007). Richard Zauft served as the dean from 2014 to 2019, succeeded by Amy Green Deines, who held the position from 2019 to 2023. Since 2023, Heather Shaw has been serving as the Head of Lesley Art + Design.

Locations:

711 Boylston Street (1918-1924)
797 Boylston Street (1925-1926)
857 Boylston Street (1927-1931)
883 Boylston Street (1932-1940)
10 Newbury Street (1941-1951)
665 Atlantic Avenue (1952-1960)
683 Atlantic Avenue (1953-1955)
718 Beacon Street (1960-1969)
700 Beacon Street (1970-2014)
Massachusetts Avenue, Porter Square (2014-present)

Administrative Information

Accruals: Seeking further historical materials about AIB since its founding.

Access Restrictions: In-Library Use Only.

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Processing Information: Processed by Marie Wasnock, January 2012. Last update by Lesley University Archivist, November 2023.

Finding Aid Revision History: Finding Aid to be revised as new materials are accessioned into collection.

Box and Folder Listing

Series .001 - Administration

Box 1: Administration/History, Art Institute of Boston, 1942-2002

Folder 1: Mission Statement, 501(c)3 status, etc., 1968, 1986, 1995

Folder 2: Articles of Incorporation, 1967, 1981, 1985

Folder 3: Bylaws, 1987

Folder 4: AIB / Lesley Merger, 1998

Folder 5: Administration - Roles and Responsibilities, 2000
Folder 6: Presidents - Stan Trecker, 1991-2002
Folder 7: Presidents - Roy Davidson, School of Practical Arts
Folder 8: Past Trustees, Administration, Advisory Boards, and Staff, 1987-1994
Folder 9: Faculty - misc. CVs/Resumes
Folder 10: Budgets - Report for 22 Jun 1942 to 30 Jun 1943, 1942-1943
Folder 11: Misc. from Dean's files
Folder 12: Admission Office Records, 2000-2001
Folder 13: Misc. correspondence and documents, 1999-2002

Box 2: Enrollment/Curriculum/Programs, Art Institute of Boston, 1962-2008

Folder 1: Enrollment Lists, 1962-1965
Folder 2: Enrollment Statistics, 1991-1996
Folder 3: Curriculum Update Report (1 of 3), 1966-1967
Folder 4: Curriculum Update Report (2 of 3), 1966-1967
Folder 5: Curriculum Update Report (3 of 3), 1966-1967
Folder 6: Pre-College Programs, 1996-1999; 2007-2008
Folder 7: Extended Programs, 1995-1997
Folder 8: Young Artists Program (for children), undated
Folder 9: International / Travel Art Programs - Painting on the Adriatic, June 1987

Box 3: Accreditation and Self Studies

Folder 1: AIB Institutional Self Study, 1996
Folder 2: AIB Institutional Self Study, 2007

Box 4: Letters, Reports, Evaluations, Career Profiles, Maps, and Renovation Plans (Dean's files)

Folder 1: Design Department Review, 1998-2003 (2 Volume)
Folder 2: Fine Arts Dept Evaluation, 2006
Folder 3: Art Institute at Lesley University Program Report, 2008
Folder 4: Project Review Special Permit Application, 2010
Folder 5: Correspondence, petition by students on graduating exhibition space, 2015
Folder 6: AIB Floor Plans, 2003
Folder 7: AIB Renovations Correspondence and Design, 2006-2008
Folder 8: AIB Renovations Correspondence and Design, 2009
Folder 9: AIB New Art Center Report, 2011-2012
Folder 10: AIB Lunder Art Center Report, 2012-2013
Folder 11: New AIB Designs, etc., n.d.
Folder 12: LUCAD Maps and Renovation Plans, 2011 to 2013 (OVS)

Box 5: AIB Financial Records, 1992-2000

AIB Management Comment Letter, 1992
AIB Management Comment Letter, 1993
AIB Financial Statement, 1993
AIB Management Comment Letter, 1994
AIB Financial Statement, 1994

AIB Financial Statement, 1995 (2 copies)
AIB Financial Statement, 1996 (3 copies)
AIB Financial Statement, 1997 (2 copies)
AIB Financial Statement, 1998
Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design, Financial Ratios, Fiscal Years
1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000

Box 6: AIB Financial Records, 2000-2003

Box 7: AIB/LUCAD- Advancement & Fundraising, 1993-2013

Folder 1: "Campaigning for Tomorrow's Art", ca. 1993
Folder 2: "Rent" Fundraiser, 1996
Folder 3: "Focus on Fashion" Fundraiser, 1996
Folder 4: "Artnite" Auction, 1999
Folder 5: AIB Centennial Fund, 2012

Series .002 - Fundraising, Edible Art, 1994-2005

Box 1: Publications, Correspondence, Press, 1994-1998

Folder 1: Edible Art, Publications, 1994
Folder 2: Edible Art, Publications, 1995
Folder 3: Edible Art, Publications and Correspondence, 1996
Folder 4: Edible Arts, News Clips, VHS, 1996 (three)
Folder 5: Edible Art, Publications and Correspondence 1997
Folder 6: Edible Art, Publications and Correspondence -Julia Child, 1997
Folder 7: Edible Art, Publications and Press, 1998

Box 2: Publications, Correspondence, Press, 1999-2005

Folder 1: Edible Art, Publications and Press, 1999
Folder 2: Edible Art, Publications and Press, 2000
Folder 3: Edible Art, Publications and Press, 2001 (1)
Folder 4: Edible Art, Publications and Press, 2001 (2)
Folder 5: Edible Art Manuals, 2002
Folder 6: Edible Art, Publications and Press, 2002
Folder 7: Edible Art, Correspondence, 2002
Folder 8: Edible Art, Publications, 2002
Folder 9: Edible Art, Publications/Press, 2003
Folder 10: Edible Art, Publications, 2005
Folder 11: Edible Art, Press, n.d.

Box 3: Photos, 1994-1999

Folder 1: Edible Art, Photographs, 1994
Folder 2: Edible Art, Photographs, 1995
Folder 3: Edible Art, Photographs, 1996
Folder 4: Edible Art, Photographs, 1997
Folder 5: Edible Art, Photographs (scholarship students), 1997

Folder 6: Edible Art, Photographs, 1998 (1)
Folder 7: Edible Art, Photographs, 1998 (2)
Folder 8: Edible Art, Photographs, 1999 (1)
Folder 9: Edible Art, Photographs, 1999 (2)
Folder 10: Edible Art, Photos of Students, 1990s
Folder 11: Edible Art, Photographs, 2000
Folder 12: Edible Art, Photographs, 2001

Box 4: Photos, 2000-2005 and misc.

Folder 1: Edible Art, Photographs, 2002 (1)
Folder 2: Edible Art, Photographs, 2002 (2)
Folder 3: Edible Art, Photographs, 2002 (3)
Folder 4: Edible Art, Photographs, 2003
Folder 5: Edible Art, Photographs, 2004
Folder 6: Edible Art, Photographs, misc. years (1)
Folder 7: Edible Art, Photographs, misc. years (2)
Folder 8: Edible Art, Photographs, misc. years (3)
Folder 9: Edible Art, Photographs, misc. years (4)
Folder 10: Edible Art, Photographs, misc. years (5)
Folder 11: Edible Art, Photographs, misc. years (6)