



GOUCHER COLLEGE

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Dorothy Stimson Papers

An Inventory

- Creator:** Stimson, Dorothy
Title: Dorothy Stimson Papers
Dates: 1890-1988
Abstract: Papers, biographical materials, diaries, scrapbooks, publications, awards and photographs document the life and work of Dorothy Stimson, Goucher College Dean (1921-1947) and Professor of History (1931-1955). Stimson was a well-respected historian, particularly in the field of history of science.
Extent: 6 containers, 3.2 linear feet
Language: English
Repository: Goucher College Library
Call #: MS 0008

Biographical Sketch

Dorothy Stimson, born 1890 in St. Louis, Missouri, earned a bachelor's degree from Vassar College in 1912, and a master's degree in 1913 and a doctorate in 1917, both from Columbia University. After graduating, Stimson began working at Vassar College and soon left to become professor of history and Dean of Women at Transylvania College.

In 1921, she became Dean and Associate Professor of History at Goucher College. Stimson was elected Acting President of Goucher College in January 1930 and resigned from the post in May of that year. In 1931, Stimson was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship and studied in England. Upon her return to Goucher College, she was promoted to full professor of history. In 1947, Stimson retired as Dean but continued teaching at Goucher. In 1951, she was awarded an honorary degree from Goucher. She retired in 1955.

Stimson was a well respected historian, particularly in the field of the history of science, on which she frequently lectured. From 1926 until 1929, Stimson was the president of the

National Association of Women Deans. She was also the president of the History of Science Society from 1953 until 1957. Stimson published two books and many articles in the field of the history of science. On September 19, 1988, Stimson died at her home in Maine.

Sources:

Knipp, Anna Huebeck and Thaddeus P. Thomas. *History of Goucher College*. Baltimore: Goucher College, 1938

Scope and Contents

The Dorothy Stimson Papers (1890-1988) include biographical information, correspondence, publications and writings, awards and degrees, diaries, scrapbooks, and photographs.

The collection is arranged in five series. Series I, arranged chronologically, consists of articles written about Stimson and her family both during her life, and afterwards, including obituaries and memorials. Series II contains correspondence and is further arranged into three subseries. Subseries A contains incoming correspondence and Subseries B contains outgoing correspondence, both subseries are arranged chronologically. Subseries C contains correspondence concerning Stimson's course "History of the Scientific Point of View." The correspondence consists of a questionnaire about the class that Stimson used in preparation for a speech. The subseries is arranged alphabetically by surname of correspondents.

Series III includes Stimson's thesis, articles written by her, books published by her, and notes and texts of speeches. Series IV includes awards from Goucher, copies and proof of degrees, and awards for the Guggenheim Fellowship and Copernican award. Series V consists of bound diaries written by Dorothy Stimson, scrapbooks, memorabilia, and photographs. The series is arranged by document type and then chronologically.

Organization of the Collection

Series I. Biography and Family History

Series II. Correspondence

 Subseries A. Incoming Correspondence

 Subseries B. Outgoing Correspondence

Subseries C. Correspondence Concerning "History of the Scientific Point of View"

Series III. Publications and Writings

Series IV. Awards and Degrees

Series V. Diaries, Scrapbooks, and Photographs

Restrictions

Open for research

Index Terms

People

Dorsey, Rhoda

Guth, William Wesley

Stimson, Anna Katherine

Stimson, Barbara Bartlett, 1898-

Stimson, Dorothy, 1890- (lcnaf)

Stimson, Philip Moen, 1888-

Thorndike, Lynn, 1882-1965 (lcnaf)

Organizations

American Association of University Women (lcnaf)

Columbia University (lcnaf)

Goucher College (lcnaf)

History of Science Society (lcnaf)

National Association of College Deans, Registrars and Admissions Officers (lcnaf)

Pediatric Travel Club

Phi Beta Kappa (lcnaf)

Royal Society (Great Britain) (lcnaf)

Vassar College (lcnaf)

Subjects

Medicine—History—20th Century (lcsh)

Science--History--Study and teaching (lcsh)

Women—Education—Education (lcsh)

World War, 1914-1918 (lcsh)

World War, 1939-1945 (lcsh)

Wren, C. (Christopher) (lcnaf)

Document Types

Letters (correspondence) (aat)

Diaries (aat)

Photographs (aat)

Scrapbooks (aat)

Related Material

Office of the Academic Dean Papers, Goucher College Library

Office of the President Papers, Goucher College Library

Administrative Information

Acquisition

Lucile Harvey Thomee, acc. 1990.001

Dorothy Stimson

Processors

Nicole Blain, 2006

Cassie Brand, 2009

Preferred Citation

Dorothy Stimson Papers, 1890-1988. Goucher College Library.

Container List

Series I: Biography and Family History

Container 1

Folder 1: Articles about Stimson during her lifetime, including Stimson receiving the Guggenheim Fellowship Grant, 1929; her retirement as Dean, 1947; her study *Scientists and Amateurs, a History of the Royal Society*, 1948; her retirement from Goucher, 1955; her speeches on the history of science, 1956-57; her lecture at Goucher on early science, *A Study in Heredity*, 1959; and biographies, undated.

Folder 2: Articles on Stimson – obituaries and memorials, 1988.

Folder 3: Articles by or about the Stimson family including articles on her sister Barbara's involvement in World War II, 1937; her brother, Philip M. Stimson's service, 1944; her Aunt Candace's involvement in World War I, 1944; and articles by her brother on society, 1965, 1967.

Series II: Correspondence

Sub-Series A: Incoming Correspondence

Folder 4: Correspondence, 1890, 1916-1919, including letters of recommendation.

Folder 5: Correspondence, 1921-1927, including with President Guth regarding her appointment as Dean at Goucher, and with the history department about teaching assignments.

Folder 6: Correspondence, 1928-1929, including letters concerning her fellowship for the Guggenheim Foundation.

Folder 7: Correspondence, 1930, including letters referring to Stimson's appointment as Acting President and her leave of absence for the Guggenheim Fellowship.

Folder 8: Correspondence, 1931-1938, including appointment as professor of history.

Folder 9: Correspondence and documents, 1925, 1933-1946, and undated, relating to Stimson's house in Stonington, Connecticut, including financial records.

Folder 10: Correspondence, 1940-1943.

Folder 11: Correspondence, 1945-1947.

Folder 12: Correspondence, 1948-1949.

Folder 13: Correspondence, 1950-1955, including the Stimson Lectureship series.

Folder 14: Correspondence, 1956-1958, including lectures on the history of science.

Folder 15: Correspondence, 1959-1975, including certificate as 1926-1929 president of the National Association of Women Deans and Counselors.

Folder 16: Correspondence, undated.

Container 2

Sub-Series B: Outgoing Correspondence

Folder 17: Correspondence, undated from childhood, 1909- 1924, includes trip to Europe, 1924.

Folder 18: Correspondence, 1928-1929, including trip to Europe July- August 1928 and trip to Europe July- September 1929.

Folder 19: Correspondence, 1930, including trip to Europe for the Guggenheim Fellowship.

Folder 20: Correspondence, January- May 1931, including trip to Europe for the Guggenheim Fellowship.

Folder 21: Correspondence, June- August 1931, including trip to Europe for the Guggenheim Fellowship.

Folder 22: Correspondence, May- August 1932, including trip to Europe.

Folder 23: Correspondence, 1932-1943, including 1935 trip across America with her sister.

Folder 24: Correspondence, 1944-1945, with her sister Barbara during the war.

Folder 25: Correspondence, 1946-1988, including retirement from Goucher.

Sub-Series C: Correspondence for “History of the Scientific Point of View”

Folder 26: Program for the Institute of the History of Science at which Stimson spoke on “History of the Scientific Point of View,” 1957.

Folder 27: Correspondence, surname A

Folder 28: Correspondence, surname B

Folder 29: Correspondence, surname C

Container 3

Folder 30: Correspondence, surname D

Folder 31: Correspondence, surname E

Folder 32: Correspondence, surname F

Folder 33: Correspondence, surname G

Folder 34: Correspondence, surname H

Folder 35: Correspondence, surname I

Folder 36: Correspondence, surname J

Folder 37: Correspondence, surname K

Folder 38: Correspondence, surname L

Folder 39: Correspondence, surname M

Folder 40: Correspondence, surname N

Folder 41: Correspondence, surname O

Folder 42: Correspondence, surname P

Folder 43: Correspondence, surname R

Folder 44: Correspondence, surname S

Folder 45: Correspondence, surname T

Folder 46: Correspondence, surname U

Folder 47: Correspondence, surname V

Folder 48: Correspondence, surname W

Series III: Publications and Writings

Folder 49: List of publications of Stimson's works, undated.

Folder 50: Stimson's thesis, *Diderot and the Encyclopedie: an Illustration of the Spirit of Reform in France before the Revolution*, 1913; and receipt for publication from the Dartmouth Press, and certificate for copyright registration for Stimson's, *The Gradual Acceptance of the Copernican Theory of the Universe*.

Folder 51: Speech notes and texts, 1921-1928. Audiences include National Association of College Deans (Cleveland, 1923), the AAUW, local high schools and colleges, and Goucher students and alumnae.

Folder 52: Speech notes and texts, 1929-1930, 1940, and undated (as above). Audiences also include Phi Beta Kappa.

Folder 53: Journal articles, 1926-1935, on women Deans and early science and medicine, particularly the Royal Society.

Container 4

Folder 54: Journal articles, 1937-1949, on teaching the history of science, early science in Britain and Europe, Christopher Wren, a history of scientific ideas, and the Royal Society. Folder also includes copy of essay on "The Place of the History of Science in a Liberal Arts Curriculum" from Clagett, Marshall, ed. *Critical Problems in the History of Science* (1959).

Folder 55: Article by Stimson on meeting Dr. Sarton and Professor Lynn Thorndike at the presentation of the Sarton medal, 1955. Includes Stimson's personal note to Goucher College librarian, 1984.

Folder 56: Commencement speech made by Stimson, "The Fruit of the Tree," 1955.

Folder 57: Book, *Major Barbara's Memories of World War II*, written by Barbara Bartlett Stimson, Dorothy Stimson's sister. This work was compiled by Dorothy from her sister's letters home and personal papers, in memory of Barbara Stimson, 1987.

Folder 58: Notes on the founders of Goucher, undated

Series IV: Awards and Degrees

Folder 59: Copies and proof of degrees granted to Stimson, including A.B. from Vassar, 1912; Master of Arts from Columbia, 1913; appointment as a Curtis University Scholar in "History of Thought and Culture" at Columbia, 1915; and Doctor of Philosophy from Columbia, 1917.

Folder 60: Records of appointment as a fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, 1930-1931.

Folder 61: Awards and recognition from Goucher College including the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, 1951; the creation of the Stimson lecture series, 1951; and the painting of a portrait of Stimson, 1955.

Series V: Diaries, Scrapbooks and Photographs

Folder 62: Diaries belonging to Stimson, 1903, 1904, 1906.

Folder 63: Diaries belonging to Stimson, 1908, 1924, 1925, 1926.

Folder 64: Diaries belonging to Stimson, undated.

Folder 65: Photographs of Stimson, 1890-1958.

Folder 66: Photographs of Stimson, undated, including photograph of Stimson portrait.

Folder 67: Family Bible given to Stimson by her father.

Folder 68: Stimson's confirmation certificate, 1903.

Folder 69: Scrapbook and memorabilia from Transylvania College including copies of letters from WWI soldiers, 1918- 1921.

Folder 70: Scrapbook, 1923-1937.

Folder 71: Memorabilia of trip of Dorothy and her cousin Anna Katherine Stimson, 1935; and invitation to the 20th meeting of the Pediatric Travel Club founded by Philip M. Stimson, 1961.

Folder 72: Letter from Stimson to Rhoda Dorsey concerning President William Guth's illness, 1982 (donated by Rhoda Dorsey).

Folder 73: Poems written for Stimson while she was Dean at Goucher, author and date unknown, and poem by unidentified "Beth," undated.

Folder 74: Letter, picture, and poems addressed to Stimson, all from envelope circa 1920.

Oversize Container 6

Folder 75: Copernican Award granted to Stimson, 1943.

Folder 76: Autograph book belonging to Stimson, 1955.