Fitchburg State University
Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library
University Archives and Special Collections

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection number: UA RG 3.4
Collection title: John Randall papers.
Dates: January 1945- August 1945.
Size: 1 box (0.2 linear feet)
Acquisition info.: Unknown
Accruals: No accruals are expected
Custodial history: Unknown
Language(s): Collection materials are in English.
Repository: Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library, Fitchburg State University
Conservation notes: None.

RIGHTS AND ACCESS

Access restrictions Collection is open for research.
Physical access restrict. None.
Technical access restrict. None.
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INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

Preferred citation  [item], John Randall papers, UA RG 3.4, Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

Related collections  John Thompson papers.
                       Charles Herlihy papers.
                       William Parkinson papers.
                       William Sanders papers.
                       Ellis White papers.
                       James Hammond papers.
                       Vincent Mara papers.
                       Michael Riccards papers.
                       Michael Rivard papers.
                       Robert Antonucci papers.

Separated material  None.

Published descriptions  Not Applicable.

Location of originals  Not Applicable.

Location of copies  Not Applicable.

Publication note  Not Applicable.

Subject headings  Education, Higher – Massachusetts – Fitchburg
                       Fitchburg State College - Presidents.
                       Fitchburg State College - Administration.
                       Fitchburg State College. President’s Office.
                       Fitchburg State College – Faculty.
                       Fitchburg College.
                       Teacher Colleges - Massachusetts – History.
                       Teaching hospitals – Massachusetts – History.
                       World war, 1939-1945 – Veterans – Education - Massachusetts correspondence. aat
                       administrative records. aat
                       budgets.aat
BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

John L. Randall (1883-1963) was an Associate Professor of Biology, Dean of the College, and interim President of the Fitchburg Normal School. Randall was born on a family farm in Lee, N.H. He attended Exeter Academy, and received both his Bachelor of Science in biology in 1905 and a Masters of Arts degree in 1906 from the University of New Hampshire. He worked for the U.S. Department of Education (1908-1915) evaluating school systems across the country.

In 1920, he joined Fitchburg Normal School as a professor of nature study. He overserved as proctor in the men’s dormitory during World War II, while current proctor Professor Roger Holmes was serving in the Military. At the time he became acting president in 1945, he had been serving as Associate Professor of Biology and Dean of the College since as early as 1940.

He was appointed Acting President by State Commissioner Warren upon Charles Herlihy’s illness and subsequent death in January 1945. He worked to maintain Herlihy’s policies and plans for the remaining school year. During his interim presidency, he oversaw budgetary legislation dealing with the influx of returning veterans and the economic impact that they would have on higher education. He assisted in hiring Dr. William Saunders, and continued to oversee the summer term until Saunders official start date in August of 1945, upon which Randall returned to his post as Dean and Associate Professor. He retired from Fitchburg in 1949, returning to Lee, N.H. where he remained with his wife Bernice until his passing in 1963.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of the collection is related to the interim presidency of John Randall, from the death of President Herlihy in January 1945, to the appointment of President Saunders in August 1945. The collection consists of correspondence, chiefly related to work started during Herlihy’s tenure but also addressing returning war veterans. There are several series related to programs begun by Herlihy and completed by Randall. When the bulk of materials related to a specific program were created by Herlihy, they have been removed and placed within the Herlihy papers; when the bulk of materials were completed by Randall, they have been maintained within the Randall papers.

The Correspondence is organized topically and includes- memos written to and from the offices of the Director of Normal Schools, the budget agent at the Department of Education, the War Department and Veteran Education Affairs, as well as various school committees. They also include adjustments made to teacher salaries, notes on hiring and firing of university employees, and general financial and institutional issues within the school.
COLLECTION INVENTORY

SERIES 1: Correspondence, 1945
This series contains correspondence from the office of the Principal. The bulk of the correspondence is between Randall and the office of the Director at the State Commissioners office, the school’s budget agent, and the Inter-American affairs committee. The series is arranged by subject, with each folder being arranged in chronological order.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder Title</th>
<th>Container Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence with the Education Commissioner</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Correspondence with the Budget Agent</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence relating to Burbank Nursing Hospital Program</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence with War Department</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence with Veteran Education</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence to Inter-American Affairs Committee</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>7</td>
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