

Baylor University . The Texas Collection

BU Records: Student Volunteer Band. 1900-1957

Summary Information

Creator	Foreign Missionary Band, 1900 -1909 Student Volunteer Band, 1909 -1960
Extent (quantity/size)	3 boxes.
Language	English
Abstract	BU Records: Student Volunteer Band consists of organizational records, missionary correspondence, and a history of the origin of the band.

Subjects

Baylor University -- History. / Mssionaries / Mssions -- History. / Mssions, American.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access and Use	All requests for copying of materials must be submitted to The Texas Collection in writing. Please use the Request Form for Copying Materials sheet. Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator (s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.
	<u>Use/Reproduction Restrictions:</u> The collection is open for research.
Preferred Citation	When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: BU Records: Student Volunteer Band, Accession #BU/164, Box #, Folder #, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.
Processing Information	Described by Terra Lemerom and released on 2012-11-26.

Scope and Content

BU Records: Student Volunteer Band was acquired by transfer in two transactions, the first from uncatalogued materials in The Texas Collection, and the second from Mbody Memorial Library.

This collection begins 1900 December 6 when the group gained its first official members. The collection ends in 1957. There are no major gaps in collection materials, tracing the history of the band.

Administrative/Biographical History

The Foreign Missionary Band was one of the oldest continuously operating student organizations at Baylor University. Officially organized during a revival in 1899 December, the group did not have active members until 1900 December 6. The band was organized by John S. Tanner, J.M. Dawson, R.J. Willingham, W.B. Glass, Josie Still, B.L. Lockett, Harry Muirhead, and F.M. Edwards. The group originated to inspire students to missionary action and involvement by educating them about world missionary movements.

There are many discrepancies in the naming of the organization. Names include "Foreign Missionary Band," "Mission Band," "Student Volunteer Band," and other variations. The "Worker Band" was a separate organization, although similar in nature to the Student Volunteer Band. The organization was a "band" in the sense of a unit of people working together and was not an instrumental group.

The Band held weekly meetings to discuss issues related to missionary tasks, economic issues, and spiritual crises that were happening in other countries. The organization brought missionaries from all over the world including Africa, India, China, and Brazil to speak at meetings and Chapel. They also organized and appointed many missionaries to share the gospel with others around the world.

By 1945 the band had supported the work of 150 missionaries who had been members of the organization. In 1900 the band started with only 12 members, but by 1950 they had grown to 106 members, with total number of members past and present at almost 1,750. In 1937, the band was credited with helping Baylor send more missionaries to the field than any other institution. In 1960, the organization's name was changed to the World Mission Fellowship, with Dr. James E. Wood serving as a co-sponsor.

Related Resources

Related citations

Pitts, Bill. 2008 "Recruiting for missions: the Baylor volunteer foreign mission band, 1900-1906: the Protestant foreign mission movement in the United States began early in the nineteenth century, but as late as 1890, fewer than one thousand missionaries lived abroad." *The Free Library. Baptist History and Heritage*. January, 1, 2008. Accessed October 2012 October 19.

"Missionary to Speak in Chapel Tuesday." *The Daily Lariat*. Baylor University, Waco TX. 1950 December 5. Vol. 52, No. 44. Accessed 2012 October 19.

"Baylor Volunteer Band" Serves As Training Agent. *The Baylor Lariat*. Baylor University, Waco TX. 1945 November 13. No 18. Z728. Accessed 2012 October 19.

"Religious Notes." *The Lariat*. Baylor University. Waco, TX. 1908 November 7. Vol. IX No. 7. Accessed 2012 October 19.

"Traveling Secretary of Volunteer Movement Will Come to Baylor." *The Daily Lariat*. Baylor University. Waco TX. 1928 October 19. Vol. 31. No. 24 Accessed 2012 October 19.

Archival Arrangement

The Student Volunteer Band was not organized prior to this finding aid and had no complete inventory of the collection. This collection had no prior finding aid.

Currently the Student Volunteer Band Records are arranged in two series: I. Operational Records, II. Correspondence.

Series 1: Operational Records. 1900-1957**Administrative/Biographical History**

This series contains a history of the organization, minutes, the organization's constitution, and donation records. The 1927-1955 Record Books are located out of chronological sequence in a separate box at the end of the collection due to their large dimensions. The series is in good condition.

Item List

Box 1. Folder 1. Membership Records, Brief History, 1900-1950
Box 1. Folder 2. Record Book, 1900-1906
Box 1. Folder 3. Record Book, 1904-1905
Box 2. Folder 1. Record Book, 1906-1918
Box 2. Folder 2. Records of Extension Committee of Summer Term, 1921-1925
Box 2. Folder 3. Financial Records, 1948-1949
Box 2. Folder 4. The Volunteer Missionary Band Minutes, 1953
Box 2. Folder 5. The Volunteer Band Newsletter, Constitution of the Volunteer Band, 1954-1955
Box 2. Folder 6. Record Book, 1956-1957
Box 3. Folder 1. Record Book, 1927-1945
Box 3. Folder 2. Record Book, 1945-1955

Series 2: Correspondence. 1946-1949**Administrative/Biographical History**

This series contains letters and newsletters from missionaries to the Student Volunteer Band. This series is in good condition.

Item List

Box 2. Folder 7. Missionary Correspondence to Volunteer Band, 1946-1949