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UA 1981.44

Loyola University Chicago  
College of Arts & Sciences  
Department of Theatre records

**Dates:** 1968-1975

**Creator:** Theatre Department (1968-)

**Extent:** 0.21 linear feet

**Level of description:** Folder

**Processor & date:** Bryan Morey, October 2018

**Administration Information**

**Restrictions:** No Restrictions.

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**Citation:** Loyola University Chicago. Archives & Special Collections. Department of Theatre records 1968-1975. Box #, Folder #.

**Provenance:** Transferred to the University Archives by the Theatre Department on August 28, 1981.

**Separations:** Approximately 1 inch of materials were shredded and disposed of.

**See Also:** Department of Fine and Performing Arts Records, Theatre Department Records

**Administrative History**

The Theatre major is a program within the Department of Fine and Performing Arts in the College of Arts and Sciences at Loyola University Chicago. It originated at St. Ignatius College as the Sock and Buskin. The name was derived from the costumes of Athenian actors: high socks of the comedian and the half-shoes (buskins) of the tragedians. The club was followed by the University Players in the 1931-1932 academic year. Professor Joseph Rice, Director of Dramatics, moderated the group for one year. Mr. Charles Costello took over the following year.

Beginning in the 1930s, theatre related classes were offered under the Education, Public Speaking, and English departments. Courses included Drama and Oratory. By the end of the decade, Loyola had expanded theatre-related classes to include Acting, Playwriting, Play Production, and Play Direction.

In June 1935, Charles Costello organized the Curtain Guild (Dramatic Society). Although a student organization, it worked with the Department of Speech and Drama. The Curtain Guild continued until the end of the 1970-1971 academic year.



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Established in 1948, the Department of Speech and Drama at Loyola offered required core courses in the fundamentals of speech, as well as specialized major courses and training in speech correction. Prior to 1948, speech and drama courses were offered through the English Department. In the 1957-1958 academic year, the Department of Speech and Drama added a major in Public Speaking. They also began offering classes specializing in radio and television in the late 1950s.

In 1968, the Department of Speech and Drama was separated into two departments: Department of Communication Arts and Theatre Department. During its first year, 1968-1969, the Kathleen Mullady Memorial Theatre opened, and the Theatre Department started the European Theatre Artists Program. This program brought six artists from Ireland, England, and France to teach in the Theatre Department. Students in the department graduated with a major in Theatre. Subjects in the department included Theatre and Dance.

In addition to teaching courses, faculty directed many plays. The coursework offered in the Theatre Department included courses to help students develop and create their own productions. From Introduction of Theatre to Stage Design, students learned how to write scripts, design sets, and produce plays. Professors expected students to use what they learned both inside and outside the classroom through Theatre coursework and the plays on which they worked.

Loyola merged Theatre, Music, Fine Arts, and added Dance in the fall of 2007 to create the Department of Fine and Performing Arts. Students interested in Theatre may major in Theatre or minor in Theatre, Musical Theatre, or Shakespeare Studies.

## **Scope and Content**

The Theatre Department Records consist of 0.21 linear feet spanning the years 1968-1975. Records include meeting minutes, memos, correspondence, proposals, and reports.

## **Series**

### **Series 1: Chair Records, 1968-1975. Box 1.**

This series includes department chair records related to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Dean of Faculties. The records cover John T. Trahey, S.J. and Dennis Zacek's terms as Theatre Department chairs. Records include meeting minutes, memos, correspondence, proposals, and reports.



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**Subjects:**

Academic Council  
College of Arts Sciences  
Krolikowski, Walter J.  
Matre, Richard A.  
McNamara, Robert J.  
Mulligan, R. W.  
Theatre Department  
Trahey, John T.  
Walker, Ronald E.  
Zacek, Dennis



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**Accession No.: UA 1981.44**  
**Creator: Theatre Department (1968-)**

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b><u>Series 1: Chair Records, 1968-1975</u></b>			
1	1	College of Arts and Sciences Dean Walter J. Krolikowski, S.J.	1968-1969
1	2	Vice President and Dean of Faculties – R. W. Mulligan, S.J.	1968-1969
1	3	Academic Council Records	1969-1970
1	4	College of Arts and Sciences Dean Walter J. Krolikowski, S.J.	1969-1970
1	5	Vice President and Dean of Faculties – Richard A. Matre	1969-1973
1	6	College of Arts and Sciences – Dean Robert J. McNamara, S.J.	1970-1972
1	7	College of Arts and Sciences Dean Ronald E. Walker	1975