

UNIVERSITY *of* PENNSYLVANIA



The University Archives
and Records Center

A Guide to the
Trustees Council of Penn Women Records
1987-2001

10.5 Cubic feet

UPT 101.22

Prepared by Kaiyi Chen, revised by Timothy H. Horning
2001, revised February 2012

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PROVENANCE

Transferred to the University Archives in 2000, 2003 and 2007.

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged alphabetically by subject. An addition to the collection that was processed in 2012 was divided into five series and arranged alphabetically within.

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Trustees Council of Penn Women (TCPW) was established in 1987 to strengthen the University's commitment to the advancement of women throughout the Penn community. Alvin V. Shoemaker, then chairman of the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, is generally credited with providing the institutional support necessary to assure the early success of the TCPW. In the years since its founding, the TCPW has enjoyed steady growth and accomplishment. By 2000 the

TCPW had become a national network of Penn alumnae, numbering over 100 women, all of whom are distinguished in their chosen fields and share a deep interest in the well being of the University.

The University's Office of Alumni Relations has provided administrative support for the TCPW from its inception. The TCPW was initially organized into seven committees: membership, athletics, career planning, enriching the student experience, fund raising, institutional advancement for women, and sororities. The committee chairs, together with the TCPW chair, made up the Steering Committee, which, in late 1993, was re-named the Executive Committee. In the early 1990s, the committee structure was re-organized under six headings: Communications, Fundraising, Institutional Advancement, Leadership, Programming, and Student Life/Career Development. The activities of the Council's committees mirror those of existing offices within the University administration. This facilitates a broad set of working relationships between member of the TCPW and the University. General support and coordination has remained with the Office of Alumni Relations.

When the TCPW was established, those members who were alumnae but not University Trustees were designated Associate Trustees of the University. Those who were not alumnae were invited to serve as honorary members of the TCPW, but without Associate Trustees status. The Associate Trustees status was dropped in 1995.

Throughout its history the TCPW has worked consistently to increase the representation of women on University governing bodies, including the Trustees, Boards of Overseers, and other senior leadership positions at Penn. TCPW has also committed itself to funding faculty chairs for women, making direct appeals to its own membership and cultivating the interest of others. TCPW has also participated actively in the University's general fund-raising programs. TCPW has assisted in the evaluation and admission to Penn of promising high school students; has provided much-needed financial aid to qualified women students; and offers career counseling to students entering the work place. The TCPW has developed a series of regularly-scheduled programs, which include the Career Dinner, annual Spring and Fall Conferences, Faculty Tea, and sponsorship of events on various topics related to the promotion of women's interest.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection documents the activities and internal organization of the Trustees Council of Penn Women from its creation in 1987 through 2001.

The collection includes files on Council membership and chair selection, minutes and correspondence of both the Steering / Executive Committee and the standing committees, meeting files and information packets related to the Council's annual Spring and Fall Conferences, files of programs such as Career Dinner, Faculty Tea, Alumni Weekend, Tenth Anniversary celebration, etc., files concerning the publishing of the Council newsletter Communique, files of fund-raising activities, files of grants and awards sponsored by the Council, general administrative correspondence, and financial records.

The collection also includes non-manuscript material - two floppy disks, three videotapes, and a Wedgwood plate issued by the University in commemoration of its 200th anniversary.

The addition charts the planning of the 125 Years of Women at Penn celebration, a two-day event organized by the TCPW to honor 125 years of women attending the University of Pennsylvania. The bulk of the material pertains to the research on the women with Penn connections who were highlighted in the book created especially for the event called Franklin's Daughters. There are files of the group's research on the women, correspondence between the event organizers and the people who helped them research. There are files for each of the women as well containing biographical material for each of them. It should be noted that the TCPW utilized the help of other archival repositories while conducting their research. Not all of the highlighted women were Penn alumnae, so often times the TCPW contacted the institution that held the papers of the particular woman they were researching. Therefore, the files on the individual women contain photocopies of original primary documents that were obtained from other repositories.

Also included in the collection are approximately 200 photographs taken during the celebration. The photos cover things like the Trustees Dinner, bridge dedication ceremony, and the topical panels with guest speakers. Also included was a tote bag which was given as a gift to either the participants or attendants or both. The tote included a t-shirt, pins, notepad, and a magnet.

**Trustees Council of Penn Women Records
1987-2001**

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INVENTORY

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1994 April (I)	7	8
1994 April (II)	7	9
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University logo (coat of arms), n.d.	8	9
University of Pennsylvania Alumni Society, Executive Committee, 1998 March 19, agenda	8	10
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Women's Health Research and Policy: A National Directory, 1996	8	11
University of Pennsylvania Trustees, mailing addresses, 1988 Nov	8	12
University sexual harassment policy, 1987-1994	8	13
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Videotape (VHS): 21st Century Ideas: Rebecca Rimel's Speech, 1997 Oct. 23	8	22
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125 YEARS OF WOMEN AT PENN	Box	Folder
Biographical Information (includes photocopies of primary source documentation as dated below)		
Alexander, Sadie Tanner Mossell (1898-1989), 1950-2001, n.d.	9	1
Asbury, Ida Elizabeth Bowser (1870-1955), 1926-2001, n.d.	9	2
Bennett, (Mary) Alice (1851-1925), 1876-2001	9	3
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Klein, L. Ruth Murray (1910-1998), 1963-2001	9	13
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Office Files		
Miscellaneous		
Penn Arts and Sciences, Summer 2001 [SAS quarterly newsletter], 2001	OS 1	
125 Years of Women at Penn event brochure, 2001	10	8

Franklin's Daughters-Profiles of Penn Women, by Linda Mallon and Anita Sama, 2001	10	9
Official printed material, c. 2001	10	10
Photographs		
Author's Book Event, 11/1/2001	10	11
Beacon Award Presentation, c. 11/2001	10	12
Breakfast Honoring Woman Who Paved the Way, c. 11/2001	10	13
Bridge Dedication, 11/2/2001	10	14
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