Harriet R. Williams collection

Repository: Delaware State University Archives
William C. Jason Library
1200 N. DuPont Highway; Dover, DE 19901
302-857-6130

Creators: Harriet R. Williams

Date: unknown
Location: Row 16, Bay B, Shelf 4
Extent: .75 linear feet
Language: English

Source of Acquisition: Office of Public Relations, transferred September 2015

Conditions Governing Access: This collection is open to public viewing. No restrictions.
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Scope and Content:

The Harriet R. Williams collection is comprised of Dr. William’s handwritten research notes about the history of Delaware State College. Shortly prior to her retirement in ____, Dr. Williams began drafting a book about the history and founding of the college. The notes found within this collection appear to be her research for a “Chapter One,” “Historical Sketch,” and the early history of the college through the Gregg administration. The most prevalent subjects are the Loockerman family, the Morrill Acts, early degree programs, student enrollment, and Board of Trustee membership.

The notes are commonly contained within spiral-bound notebooks, yellow notepads, and blue examination books. It is typical to find Professor William’s notes to herself, such as, “Hair appointment Wednesday at 11:00,” or meeting minutes for Administrative Council in the middle of her research notes.

Biographical History:

Harriet Ruth Williams is the daughter of Jesse and Lavinia Williams. She was born in Cheswold, Delaware on September 20, 1915. She graduated from the State College for Colored Students in 1934 and Atlanta University with a masters in 1937. She was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree by Delaware State University in 1970.

Harriet R. Williams is the second longest serving professor at Delaware State University. She first taught at DSC in 1950 as a chemistry professor and Departmental Chair. By the time of her retirement c. 1993, Dr. Williams had held numerous academic and administrative positions at the college. They included: Director of Lore Residence Hall for College Women, Acting Chairperson of the Division of Natural Science and Mathematics, Acting Registrar, Director of Alumni Affairs and Public Relations, Assistant to the Director of Admissions, Interim Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs, and Director of the Minority Biomedical Research Program.

Harriet Ruth Williams passed away on January 8, 1999 at her home on State College Road in Dover, Delaware.
**Arrangement:** The original order of Professor William’s notes have been preserved. The collection’s original folder delineations at the time of transfer have been preserved and identified on the new, archival folder titles. Thereunder the items also remain in their original order.

**Box and Folder Listing:**

**Box 1:**

Incorporation, n.d.
Gregg, Howard D. administration
Morrill land acts
Webb, Wesley P. administration
Folder 1, part 1 – Loockerman Hall, Hatch act, Lore family, Board of Trustees
minutes, Webb administration
Folder 1, part 2 – University of Delaware, historic marker installation programs,
Gregg administration, DuPont school
Folder 1, part 3 – Morrill Act, course offerings 1891-1894
Folder 1, part 4 – Board of Trustees, Morrill act, 1993 Administrative Council
meeting minutes
Folder 2, part 1 – origins of the institution
Folder 2, part 2 – state appropriations, student enrollment, Board of Trustees,
Morrill Act
Folder 2, part 3 – Conwell diary, commissioner of education, Morrill act, “chapter
one,” Loockerman family
Folder 3 – physical plant, Morrill land-grant act centennial exhibition program,
Delaware House Journal, Morrill act, chemistry club

**Box 2:**

Folder 4, part 1 – Board of Trustees 1890-1991, Administrative Council notes
1991, news clippings 1994, Loockerman Hall
Folder 4, part 2 – Recommendations to alleviate budget deficit 1993, “Historical
sketch” drafts
Folder 5, part 1 – first celebrations, Loockerman Hall, NAACP resolution for UD
and DSC merger, Documentation for assessment team, “historical sketch”
Folder 5, part 2 – “Establishment of the College,” “Overview of minority access
to Higher Education in Delaware from 1891-1954,” Academic programs
Folder 6, examination books 1-6 – Faculty meetings 1892-1908
Folder 6, examination books 7-12 – Faculty meetings 1908-1916
Folder 6, examination books 13, ?, 47-50 – Faculty meetings 1916, prizes and
awards 1939-1940, course catalogs 1940-1944
Folder 6, examination books 51-58 – course catalogs notes 1943-1950
Folder 6, examination books 59-62, ?, miscellaneous notes – course catalogs
1949-1956

**Colophon:** This collection was rudimentarily processed by R. Scherry in January 2019. Further
description to the folder level is recommended for the future.