SUNY Buffalo State Oral History Project

Descriptive Summary:

Title: SUNY Buffalo State Oral History Project
Date Span: 1975-1995; bulk 1975-1985
Creator: SUNY Buffalo State Archives & Special Collections
Donor: N/A
Date of Acquisition: N/A
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Language: English
Location: Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State College
Processed: Hope Dunbar, 2017

Information on Use:

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Preferred Citation:
[Description and dates], box number, SUNY Buffalo State Oral History Project, Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State College.
Biographical Note:
The SUNY Buffalo State Oral History Project was extensively conducted from 1975 to 1985 and was primarily directed by Sister Martin Joseph Jones, the first archivist. The full selection of recordings span 1975-1995. Interviews and materials are currently being digitized from audio cassette to digital media that will be made available through the Buffalo State Digital Commons.

Scope and Contents:
The interviews are primarily concerned with personal reflections over the course of the interviewee’s career. They delve into personal biographical details as well. Transcripts of some of the interviews are available; please contact the archivist for more information.

Arrangement:
The cassette tapes are arranged by series. Series I is organized alphabetically by the interviewee; series II is organized by topic and broken down into: convocations and commencements; receptions and dedications; and miscellaneous; series three is listed alphabetically by last name of interviewee.

Inventory:

Series I: Personal Interview with Faculty and Staff
Series II: Convocations, Commencements, Receptions, Dedications, and Misc.
Series III: Transcriptions of Audio Files

(*) indicates available typed transcript

Series I: Personal Interviews with Faculty and Staff

Box 1

Adler, Dr. Selig  Personal reflections; 2 tapes  06/23/1982
Bassistoni, Dr. James  Special Arts Education Program; 2 tapes; low quality  04/25/1977
Bukowska, Eugenia Fronczak  Personal reflections on her father; 3 tapes  05/22/1980
Bradley, Dr. Allen P.*  Rural extension courses; BOCES; former professor of education from 1947-1956; 2 tapes  05/26/1977
Brett, Dr. Wesley*  Personal reflections; former professor of fine arts  07/09/1980
Brown, Dr. Richard*  Personal reflections  04/10/1978
Bulger, President Paul G.*  Former President (1959-67); taped interview; 2 tapes  10/24/1979
Burrell, Dr. Anna  Personal reflections  08/07/1980
Butler (Wallis Wickham), Kate*  Personal reflections; 2 tapes  08/11/1981
### Callan, Dr. Louis J.
Personal reflections; former Professor of Industrial Arts Teacher Education (currently named Technology Education); 2 tapes
04/11/1978

### Carroll, Dr. Marian
Professor of Education; personal reflections
06/18/1980

### Cherkauer, Dr. Rudolph*
Personal reflections; 2 tapes
05/10/1989

### Clark, Margaret Goff*
Personal reflections; 2 tapes
06/12/1984

### Cook, Jazz Weda
Personal reflections
06/09/1982

### Cooper, Dr. Hermann*
Personal reflections
03/20/1979

### Cruickshank, Dr. William
Regarding mental disabilities; on tape with Boyer in dedications section
08/01/1984

### Czurles, Dr. Stanley*
History of the Art Education Program; 2 tapes
02/09/1977

### Czurles, Dr. Stanley*
Construction of Upton Hall
03/14/1977

### Czurles, Dr. Stanley*
History of the origin and early development of the NYS teachers certification by competency assessment
02/28/1977

### Czurles, Dr. Stanley*
Origin and development of the AV Instruction Dept.
03/07/1977

### Czurles, Dr. Stanley*
NYSATA Student Members; Pam Boinski
05/16/1977

### Czurles, Dr. Stanley*
Development of the Creative Education Program
03/28/1977

### Czurles, Dr. Stanley*
Development and operation of NYSATA
04/18/1977

### Czurles, Dr. Stanley*
Participation in building development on campus
03/21/1977

### Drew, Dr. Fraser*
Discussions about Ernest Hemingway
01/28/1994

### Drew, Dr. Fraser*
Personal reflections on past presidents; 2 tapes
10/26/1977

### Box 2

#### Falk, Dr. Gerhard
Personal reflections; 3 tapes
03/10/1982

#### Fretwell, Jr., President E.K.
Former President (1967-78); personal reflections; 3 tapes
11/07/1978

#### Frey, Dr. Barbara R.*
Acting President (1979); personal reflections
06/13/1983

#### Giffoniello, Mary Shea
Personal reflections
05/26/1982

#### Goldberg, Dr. Minerva
Personal reflections
07/29/1978

#### Gragg, Mrs. Pauline
Personal reflections; widow of Dr. Wilson Gragg
11/02/1979

#### Greenwood, Rhoda
Personal reflections
02/22/1979

#### Greenwood, Dr. Walter B.
Personal reflections
02/22/1979

#### Heyman, Carolyn Weber
Personal reflections
01/22/1980

#### Horton, Dr. John T.
Professor of History Emeritus; Personal reflections
03/08/1983

#### Johnstone, President D. Bruce*
Former President (1979-88); personal reflections; 2 tapes
07/06/1988

### Johnstone, President D. Bruce*
Personal reflections; also on Fretwell tape 3
01/01/1994
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jones, Sister Martin Joseph</td>
<td>Reflections on death of Dr. Selig Adler</td>
<td>11/18/1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reflections on the College Archive; on tape Women’s Assn. UB/SUCB;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shonnie Finnegan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kassman, Shirley</td>
<td>Personal reflections</td>
<td>05/12/1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly, Dr. Joseph</td>
<td>News interview on native casinos; business professor</td>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaMorte, Dr. Charles P.*</td>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>09/25/1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindemann, Dr. Edna</td>
<td>Presentation by Dr. Lindemann meant for Dr. Gould on future projects;</td>
<td>c. 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mission; enrollment; general update; discussing 1960 general plan;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>update on the students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at the college; former Director of the Burchfield</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MacVittie, Dr. Robert W.</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>03/28/1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mann, Dr. Horace (Hank)*</td>
<td>Personal reflections</td>
<td>07/20/1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muck, Dr. Ruth</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>02/14/1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuthardt, Dr. Emerson*</td>
<td>Personal reflections</td>
<td>12/06/1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson, Harold F.</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>03/15/1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piquette, Dr. Julia C.</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>02/21/1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plesur, Dr. Milton</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>10/28/1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poleszak, Dr. Leonard</td>
<td>Personal reflections</td>
<td>04/18/1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice, President Harvey</td>
<td>Former President (1951-58); personal reflections</td>
<td>11/01/1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robison, Dr. Houston T.</td>
<td>Former Vice President of Buffalo State</td>
<td>01/21/1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sengbusch, Dr. Howard G.*</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 4 tapes</td>
<td>06/15/1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steffen, Dr. Gene</td>
<td>Reflections on Presidents Rockwell, Rice and Bulger</td>
<td>08/19/1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 tapes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Sugarman, Dr. Ruth</td>
<td>Personal reflections on 1946-1974; 2 tapes</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Tetkowskki, Dr. Clement*</td>
<td>Siena Semester</td>
<td>05/25/1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner, Madeline K.</td>
<td>Personal reflections</td>
<td>10/12/1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyau, Dr. Frances*</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>06/06/1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban, Dr. John*</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>02/28/1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Antwerp, Marjorie</td>
<td>Reflections on E. H. Butler, Sr.; granddaughter</td>
<td>10/13/1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vogelsang, Harriet Rockwell*</td>
<td>Personal reflections on Dr. Rockwall (father)</td>
<td>02/12/1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wakshull, Sam*</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>07/29/1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whittemore, Katheryne Thomas</td>
<td>Personal reflections; 2 tapes</td>
<td>05/21/1979</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Zimmer, LaVerne  Personal reflections  11/16/1977

Series II: Convocations, Commencements, Receptions, Dedications, and Misc.

Box 4

Convocations & Commencements

Academic Convocation  Robert J. Gemmet, Speaker; Mary Hatwood Futrell, Honorary Degree  09/10/1992
Commencement Speaker  John Schuck; 2 tapes  05/16/1980
Commencement Speaker  Tom Wicker; 2 tapes  05/19/1989

Receptions & Dedications

Dedication  Adler Jewish Archives; Isaac Klein  06/28/1984
Dedication  Bulger Lifelong Learning Center; Ernest Boyer; former Chancellor of the State University of New York; 2 copies  09/28/1983
Dedication  Butler Ice Sculpture; Carl Nesjar; 3 tapes  10/27/1983
Dedication  Courier Express Library Collection; Chuck Newman  11/22/1985
Reception  Fronczak Reception  04/02/1976
Dedication  Sports Arena  1991

Miscellaneous

Program  Women’s Assn. UB/SUCB; Sister Martin Joseph Jones*  10/17/1984
Misc.  Accident  07/17/1986
Speech  Gov. Cuomo  05/17/1986
Speech  Gov. Cuomo  05/01/1990
Award  Hadassah Award to Sister Martin Joseph Jones  09/21/1985
Inauguration  Vice Pres. Mondale speaking at Pres. Bruce Johnstone’s Appointment  12/27/1979

Series III: Transcriptions of Audio Files

Box 5

Transcripts housed in alphabetical order by last name. A transcript is available if an asterisk (*) follows the individuals name above.
Dr. Selig Adler

Selig Adler was born in Baltimore, Maryland on January 22, 1909. He graduated from the University of Buffalo in 1931. Selig Adler received his Master’s in 1932 and his Doctorate in 1934 both from the University of Illinois. In 1938, Dr. Selig Adler joined the history faculty of SUNY University at Buffalo. He became a full professor in 1952. In 1958, Dr. Adler was named the Samuel Paul Capen Professor of History, he retained the title until he retired in 1980. In 1975, he was named a State University of New York “Distinguished Service Professor.”

Dr. Adler wrote several scholarly publications including The Isolationist Impulse (1957) and The Uncertain Giant (1965). He was the co-author with Thomas E. Connolly on a comprehensive history of the Jewish community in Buffalo titled From Ararat to Suburbia. In 1980, Dr. Adler became Archivist of the Jewish Federation of Greater Buffalo. Their archives are now named after him and were located in the E. H. Butler Library at SUNY Buffalo State until their transfer to the SUNY University at Buffalo, Archive & Manuscript Collection. Dr. Selig Adler died in Buffalo on November 8, 1984.

Ruth Bley

Ruth C. Bley was born on September 9, 1913. In 1934, she earned her bachelor’s degree from Hartwick College and in 1936, earned a fifth year library degree from the State University of New York at Albany. After graduating from Hartwick College Ruth Chase taught elementary school. After receiving her library degree she taught high school and was also a librarian. Around 1940, she married Philip Bley. Between 1949 and 1950 she was a part-time librarian at the Schenectady Co. Public Library.

In 1962, Ruth C. Bley joined the staff of the E. H. Butler Library of SUNY Buffalo State as an Associate Librarian. She first worked in the laboratory of instructional material. In 1965, Mrs. Bley was transferred to the reference staff. During her time at the State University College at Buffalo there was much construction and in her interview she talks about the effects it had on the Library staff. Ruth Bley helped draw up the bylaws for the State University College at Buffalo Library Association which was were adopted April 16, 1969. In 1972, after the College Senate was formed, she helped draw up new bylaws for the E. H. Butler Library faculty. Ruth Bley retired from the E. H. Butler Library in 1977. She passed away on April 19, 1997.

Dr. James Battistoni

James A. Battistoni was born on April 20, 1921 in Buffalo, N.Y. He attended Public Schools #35 and #6 and Buffalo Technical High School from which he graduated in 1939. From 1942 to 1945 he served in the Army. On Feb 15, 1943 he married Ines Silvestrini. In 1948, James Battistoni entered Buffalo State College for Teachers and graduated with a B.S. and M.S in Art Education from Buffalo State.

James Battistoni taught art in the Clarence Central School System from 1953 to 1965. In 1965, he was appointed Assistant Professor in the Art Education Department. Professor Battistoni was the Director of the On-
Oral History

Campus Art Program at SUNY Buffalo State that was developed as a free, eight week, on-campus program to teach children and young student’s art. In 1973, James Battistoni received his Ed.D from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Dr. Battistoni retired from SUNY Buffalo State in the spring of 1981.

Dr. Ernest Boyer

Ernest Boyer was born September 13, 1928 in Dayton, Ohio. He earned his Masters and Doctoral degrees from the University of Southern California. Dr. Boyer taught and served administrative posts at Loyola Marymount University, Upland College, and the University of Southern California.

In 1965, Dr. Boyer became the first Executive Dean of the SUNY system. In 1970, he became the Chancellor of the SUNY system. During Dr. Boyer’s tenure as Chancellor, the Distinguished Teaching Professorship and one of the first student-exchange programs with the Soviet Union were established.

Dr. Boyer served on commissions to advise Presidents Nixon and Ford. He was SUNY Chancellor until 1977 when President Carter appointed him to lead the United States Commission on Education. Dr. Boyer was the agency’s last commissioner before Congress elevated the position to Cabinet range. He left the commission to become President of the Carnegie Foundation. Dr. Ernest Boyer authored a number of reports and books on education. He passed away on December 8, 1995.

Dr. Allan P. Bradley

Allan P. Bradley was born in Violet, Ontario. He received his bachelors, master’s and a Ph.D. from Syracuse University. Dr. Bradley’s educational career started in Earlville, N.Y. where he was a teacher and later supervising principal of Earlville schools from 1939-42. In 1942, he left Earlville for Cobleskill where he was supervising principal until 1947. In 1947, Dr. Bradley became a professor of education at Buffalo State Teachers College. From 1956 to 1960 he was District Superintendent of Schools in Westchester County.

Dr. Bradley served as Executive Assistant and Chief of Staff to two New York State Education Commissioners from 1960 to 1975. During his tenure, he often stood in for the commissioners at heated public meetings. Dr. Bradley passed away on December 15, 1989.

Wesley Fiske Brett

Wesley Fiske Brett was born on April 19, 1914. In 1937, he received his B.Ed. in English from Keene Teachers College. He taught elementary and high school. He received his M.Ed. in English in 1949 from the University of New Hampshire. While doing his graduate work, he was hired as an Assistant Professor in the new art department at the University where he taught stagecraft. During his time at the University of New Hampshire Mr. Brett was in charge of the Student Workshop (an experimental arts laboratory).

In 1959, Mr. Brett became an associate professor of art at the State University College at Buffalo. In 1960, he was commissioned to design a room divider for the college’s use. He called it “Metaphors in Black Walnut.”
Oral History

was dedicated in 1963 and placed in Moot Hall. It is now located in the E.H. Butler Library. Prof. Brett created the wood design studio at State University College at Buffalo. He retired in 1979. Wesley Brett passed away on October 30, 2013.

Dr. Richard Brown

Richard Brown was born April 9, 1919 in Logan, Ohio. In 1947, he received his BS in History from Ohio State University. Mr. Brown graduated with a M.A. from Colgate University in 1948. In 1951, he was awarded a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He taught at Colgate University and the University of Wisconsin before coming to Buffalo.

Dr. Brown joined the faculty of the State University College at Buffalo in 1952. In 1963, was appointed the chairman of the Social Studies Department. He served as chairman until 1967. In 1977, was named Distinguished Service Professor.

Dr. Brown wrote a number of articles, books, and pamphlets. He was a member of many college committees. Dr. Richard Brown was chairperson of the College Bicentennial Committee and also was a member of the Action Committee of the Erie County Bicentennial Committee. He retired in 1979.

In 1998, he established the Genevieve C. and Richard C. Brown Scholarship for female students who have been honorably discharged from military service.

Eugenia Fronczak Bukowska

Eugenia Fronczak Bukowska was the daughter of Dr. Francis E. Fronczak. In 1928, she graduated from the University at Buffalo Medical School. She married Edward Bukowska and later donated her father’s papers and memorabilia to the E. H. Butler Library.

Francis E. Fronczak was born October 20, 1874 in Buffalo. In 1884, he received his Bachelors from Canisius College and in 1895, Mr. Fronczak was awarded a Masters from Canisius. In 1897, he earned a M.D. from University at Buffalo. In 1900, awarded a LL.B degree from the University at Buffalo Law School and practiced until 1907. In 1910, Dr. Fronczak was appointed the first Health Commissioner of Buffalo, a post he held for 37 years and was succeeded by his son-in-law Dr. Edward Bokowska. He founded the Erie County Health Department. Dr. Fronczak advocated for a law recognizing alcoholism as an illness, not a crime. He also campaigned for the vaccination of children against smallpox. Dr. Francis Fronczak recommended protective measures for people with communicable diseases.

Dr. Fronczak was a columnist for the Buffalo Express. He wrote 27 books on the topic of medicine. In 1917, Dr. Fronczak received a Ph.D. (honoris causa) from the University at Buffalo, and a M.D. (honoris causa) from Warsaw University and Jagiellonian University.

Even though he was born in the United States, Dr. Fronczak cared a lot for the people of Poland. During WWI he was a Major of the American Medical Corps; he was responsible for the physical and moral well-being of the
Oral History

Polish Army in France. He fought and was wounded in the trenches of Poland. After the war, he took part in relief activities for Polish victims of the war. Francis Fronczak was asked to present a memo to President Woodrow Wilson for intervention on behalf of Poland’s Independence. In 1918, Dr. Fronczak was appointed to the Polish National Committee in Paris in behalf of American Poles.

In 1946, Dr. Fronczak was appointed to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. His main assignment was to investigate sanitary conditions in Poland. Dr. Fronczak died on December 27, 1955.

President Paul G. Bulger

Paul G. Bulger was born July 25, 1913. He received his B.S. in 1936 from SUNY at Albany and his M.S. from there in 1941. In 1951, Paul Bulger was awarded his Ed.D from Columbia University. From February 1959 to June 1959 Dr. Bulger was Provost and Professor of Education at the Teachers College at Columbia University.

On July 1, 1959, Dr. Paul Bulger became President of the State University College at Buffalo. His tenure as president saw sweeping changes for the campus. Dr. Bulger led the transformation of the State University College at Buffalo from a teachers’ college to the largest college of arts and sciences in New York’s State University system. He oversaw the planning and construction of new buildings for fine arts, physical education, and science as well as the student union, library, campus school, and residence halls. Among the things that were started and founded during Dr. Bulger’s tenure were the Burchfield Art Center, the Great Lakes Laboratory, the Buffalo State Foundation, and the Siena Program.

Dr. Bulger resigned the presidency of the State University College at Buffalo in 1967 to became the associate commissioner of higher and professional education for the Board of Regents in the State Education Department. He stayed in that role for a year before leaving and becoming professor of higher education at the State University of New York at Albany where he remained until 1975. From 1975-1977 Dr. Bulger was principal of Harlaxton College, a branch of the University of Evansville (Ind.), located in Grantham, England. From 1977 to 1987 he held different posts including a visiting fellowship at Cambridge University, scholar-in-residence and special assistant to the president at William Jewell College in Missouri, and was a lecturer at the State University College at Buffalo.

In 1988, Dr. Paul Bulger was awarded a Doctor of Humane Letters from the State University College at Buffalo. In 1993, the Bulger Communication Center was named in his honor at the State University College at Buffalo. He passed away on February 8, 2000.

Dr. Anna Burrell

Anna Porter was born in 1902 in Knoxville, TN. She graduated from a Normal School in Pennsylvania in 1921. In 1923, Anna Porter received her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania. After graduating, she taught chemistry at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri. In 1926, Anna Porter was awarded a Master of Science Degree in Medical Science from University of Pennsylvania. She taught bacteriology at Howard University from 1926-28. In 1945, Miss. Porter enrolled in the Doctoral Program in Psychology and Human Relations at New York University.
Oral History

In 1948, Anna Porter married Robert Burrell, who later was an attorney in the Buffalo District Attorney’s Office and City Court Judge. Also in 1948, Dr. Burrell came to Buffalo to teach at the State University College at Buffalo. She was the first African American faculty member to be hired by the college. In 1959, she was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to study at Jabalpu University in India. Dr. Burrell was appointed director of the India Project at the State University College at Buffalo. She was also director of the college’s Human Relations Workshops. Dr. Anna Burrell retired in 1972. She passed away in 1981.

Kate Butler (Wallis Wickham)

Mrs. Butler, daughter of Edward H. Butler, Junior, retired as Chairman of the local College Council in 1980. She served 26 years starting in 1954 and was appointed as Chairman in 1959. She held the post until her retirement. She served on the College Council during the tenure of Presidents Rockwell, Rice, and Bulger. The interview contains her memories of childhood, education, travel, and development of SUNY Buffalo State College from a small school to a large institution.

Mrs. Butler donated her mother's personal correspondence to the E. H. Butler Library, Archives & Special Collections Department in 1977. In 1976, she donated all correspondence of her grandfather and father covering the period 1880-1956. In 1985, the Buffalo News donated all business correspondence of Edward Butler Senior and Junior connected to the Buffalo Evening News. In 1987, The Buffalo News donated the "Kirchofer Papers". Kirchofer, editor of the News, was in the process of writing a history of the paper when he died suddenly. More information on the Edward H. Butler Family Papers Collection can be found here: https://library.buffalostate.edu/archives/ehbutler

Dr. Louis Callan

Louis J. Callan was born on January 27, 1906. He received his B.S. from Buffalo State Teachers College. Mr. Callan received his M.A. in 1937 and his Ph.D. in 1952 from Ohio State University. He taught Industrial Arts and was vice principal at Webster High School before coming to the State University College at Buffalo in 1946.

Under Dr. Callan supervision in 1952 the college constructed a camp in Franklinville for outdoor activities of students. For many years he was co-director of the camp. Louis Callan was Professor of Industrial Arts at the State University College at Buffalo until July 1973. He was designated Professor Emeritus when he retired. He passed away on January 7, 1980.

Marian Carroll

Marian Carroll was born in Corfu, NY on April 13, 1905. Miss Carroll was one of the first women from Western New York to enlist in the Marine Corps and was one of the first women selected to attend Officers Candidate School. During three years in the Marines, she attained the rank of captain. She received her doctorate in psychology from Columbia University.
Before coming to the State University College at Buffalo in 1954, Miss Carroll was a teacher in Buffalo public schools and a guidance counselor in Kensington High School. She also worked in the Buffalo Board of Education. Dr. Carroll was director of the Child Study Center at the Buffalo State University College. Marian Carroll died February 1, 1998.

**Rudolph Cherkauer**

Rudolph Cherkauer received his B.S. in 1947 from the New York State Teachers College at Buffalo. He received his M.Ed in 1949 and his E.Ed in 1955 from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Rudolph Cherkauer joined the faculty at the State University College at Buffalo in 1948 in the Mathematics Department. Later he became chair of the department. Dr. Cherkauer retired from SUNY Buffalo State on April 24, 1989.

**Dr. Hermann Cooper**

Dr. Hermann Cooper was born on December 31, 1895. He received Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music degrees from Upper Iowa University. Following a brief stint as a high school principal in North Dakota, Dr. Cooper served as an officer with the American Expeditionary Force in France during WWI. In 1921, he was awarded a Master of Arts degree and in 1930 a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Columbia University, Teachers College.

Dr. Cooper served as Director of Research at the Bureau of Education Service of Citizens of Delaware (1921-24); head of the Education Department and Director of Training at the State Normal School in Geneseo (1925-29); and principal at the State Normal School in Fredonia (1929-31). In 1931, he was appointed Associate in higher education of the New York State Education Department, and in 1933 he assumed the post of Assistant Commissioner for teacher education and certification in the State Education Department (during that time he worked to transfer teacher college from three years to four year status). He was appointed Executive Dean for teacher education of the newly formed State University of New York in 1949, a post he held until his retirement from SUNY in 1963. Dr. Cooper passed away in 1986.

**Dr. Fraser Drew**

Fraser Drew was born June 23, 1913. He was Valedictorian of his high school class. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Vermont and a Masters of Arts degree in the classics from Duke University. From 1936 to 1939 he was an instructor in Latin and English at Green Mountain Junior College. He then went to Syracuse University where he was a Graduate Assistant in English until 1941. During the war years he worked as a foreman in the materials division of United Aircraft Corporation.

In 1945, instead of going to teach at the University of Hawaii, Fraser Drew came to the State Teachers College at Buffalo (now SUNY Buffalo State) as an instructor in English, He became an assistant professor in 1947. In 1952, Fraser Drew received his Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo. That same year he was promoted to Professor of English. From 1957 to 1963, Dr. Drew was Chairman of the English Department of the State University College at Buffalo. Between 1964 and 1979 he made seven trips to Ireland to research Irish
Dr. Fraser Drew was promoted the rank of SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1973, the first year the rank was awarded. Dr. Drew retired in 1983.

Dr. Fraser Drew published more than 150 articles and two books. He had correspondence with many authors, including Robert Frost and Ernest Hemingway, both of whom he met. Dr. Fraser Drew passed away June 24, 2013.

Dr. Gerhard Falk

Dr. Gerhard Falk was a professor at State University College at Buffalo and retired in late 2016. He taught criminology, sociology of religion, juvenile delinquency, and the treatment of offenders. He is the author of 24 books and 42 journal articles. He has been awarded the New York State Research Foundation's Award for Scholarship; the Buffalo State College President's Award for Creativity; and The New York State University Chancellor's Award for Excellence.

Margaret Goff Clark

Margaret Goff was born March 7, 1913. She attended Bennett High School in Buffalo. Ms. Goff was in the class of the State Teachers College at Buffalo when it moved to the current campus. She received her Bachelors in Education from there in 1933. After graduating, she taught at a country school and then taught at School 11 in Buffalo for five years. Ms. Clark taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade at School 11. In 1937, she married Charles R. Clark.

After having children, Margaret Clark started writing and publishing. Over her career she wrote over 200 short stories, 50 poems, 25 one-act plays, 24 mysteries, biographies, and books on endangered species. Many of her books were based on her experiences traveling to parks and nature areas. After her first book, The Mystery of Seneca Hill, was published the Seneca Indians “adopted” Mrs. Clark and gave her the name Deh-yi-sto-esh which means She Who Writes and Publishes. Margaret Goff Clark passed away on August 25, 2004. The SUNY Buffalo State Archives & Special Collections contains the Margaret Goff Clark Collection which is freely available for researchers and the public.

Jazz Weda Cook

Jazz Weda Cook was born November 6, 1920 in Louisiana. Before coming to Buffalo she worked at Huey Long Hospital in Louisiana. Around the end of WWII, Jazz Weda planned to live in California, but came to Buffalo when a friend became ill. Jazz Weda Cook held a few jobs in Buffalo; she worked for an attorney on the north side, in the nursery at Sisters Hospital, and Greyhound Food Service (for 28 years until 1980). At the time of the interview, she was a student at the State University College at Buffalo. She passed away in January 1986.
Dr. William M. Cruickshank

Born in Detroit on March 25, 1915, he received his bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University (1937), his master's degree from the University of Chicago (1938) and his doctoral degree from the University of Michigan (1945).

Cruickshank served in the U.S. Armed Forces as a clinical psychologist in 1942-1945. During 1946-1966, he was professor of psychology and of education and then directed the Division of Special Education and Rehabilitation, Syracuse University. He was appointed Dean of Special Services and the Margaret O. Slocum Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Education at Syracuse in 1952. In 1966, he joined the staff at the University of Michigan as Director of the Institute for the Study of Mental Retardation and Related Disabilities, a position he held until 1980. He was also professor of psychology and of education from 1966 to 1985.

Active in both domestic and international research on children with physical and mental disabilities, Cruickshank received numerous awards from foreign governments and domestic organizations. They include two appointments as a Fulbright lecturer to the Ministries of Health Education in Peru, five honorary doctoral degrees from U.S. universities, including a SUNY Honorary Doctorate from Buffalo State College in 1985, and one from the Universidad Nacional Major de San Marcos de Peru. Cruickshank was one of the speakers at the 1985 SUNY Buffalo State Commencement.

He also served as a consultant to approximately 30 foreign ministries of education and, in similar capacities, to nearly every state and province in America and Canada. Cruickshank published widely in scholarly journals and authored, coauthored, edited or coedited more than 40 books. Dr. Cruickshank passed away August 13, 1992.

Dr. Stanley Czurles

Stanley Czurles was born September 14, 1908. He received his B.F.A in 1929 and his M.F.A in 1938 from Syracuse University. Mr. Czurles was awarded a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in 1942. Before coming to Buffalo, he was Art Instructor at the School Art League of Syracuse, NY and the Syracuse Boys’ Club, a docent at Museum of Fine Arts in Syracuse, a Crafts Instructor at Syracuse University, and an Arts Commentator for the Syracuse Journal American Newspaper.

Mr. Czurles came to the State Teachers College at Buffalo as an Art Instructor in 1931. In 1941, he was promoted to Assistant Professor of Art. In 1943, Dr. Czurles became Director of Visual Education (a post he held until 1946), he was also Director of the Art Education Division (1946-1969). He started the audio-visual education and the art education departments at the college. Dr. Stanley Czurles was the author of many articles, editorials, and informational material pertaining to art education. From 1966 to 1967 he was director of the Semester-in-Siena Italy program. Dr. Czurles helped found the N.Y. State Art Teachers Association. The Czurles-Nelson Gallery at the State University College at Buffalo was dedicated in 2009 in honor of him.

President E.K. Fretwell Jr.

Elbert K. Fretwell Jr. was born on October 29, 1923. He earned a B.A. at Wesleyan University, M.A. degree at
Oral History

Harvard and a Ph.D. from Columbia University. From 1945 to 1947 E.K. Fretwell Jr. served as U.S. Vice Consul in Prague. After coming back to the states he began teaching. From 1953-1956, Dr. Fretwell was assistant professor and assistant to the dean of Teachers College at Columbia University. From 1956-1964 he was Assistant Commissioner for Higher Education in the New York State Education Department. In 1964, he became Dean for Academic Development at City University of New York. During the summer of 1967, he was Executive Director of the Committee on Education of the New York State Constitutional Convention.

On September 1, 1967 Dr. Fretwell came to the State University College at Buffalo as President. It was his idea to create a college archives. In January 1979, he became Chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Dr. Fretwell stayed there until 1989. He served as interim President of the University of Massachusetts from 1991-92 and at the University of North Florida in 1998. Dr. Fretwell passed away October 18, 2012.

Dr. Barbara R. Frey

Barbara Frey was born June 14, 1921. She received her B.Ed. in Elementary Education from the State University of New York at Geneseo, New York. From 1943-1946 she was a primary teacher at public schools in Rochester, NY. She was campus school teacher at the State University College at Geneseo from 1946-1952. During her time as campus school teacher she received her M.Ed. in Elementary Education/Reading from Boston University. In 1952, Dr. Frey became elementary principal at public schools in East Aurora, NY, she held that post until 1960. She was a teaching associate at Indiana University from 1960-1962 and a lecturer from 1962-1963. In 1963, Barbara Frey was awarded her Ed.D. in Curriculum Administration from Indiana University.

In 1963, Barbara Frey became Professor of Education at the State University College at Buffalo. She was acting director of the Education Division there from 1973-1974. Dr. Frey was acting Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs from 1974-1975, until she was named Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs a post she held until 1976 when she became Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Frey held that post until 1978. She was acting President of the College from January to August 1979. After being acting President she returned to her role as Vice President for Academic Affairs; she stayed at that post until her retirement in July of 1983. She passed away on May 24, 2008.

Dr. Minerva Goldberg

Minerva Goldberg worked as a teacher in the Adult Education Department of the Buffalo Museum of Science from 1948-1955. In 1955, she received her B.S. in Education from Buffalo state College. 1955-1958 she was a teacher in the Amherst, New York Public School system. In 1958, she became Assistant Professor of Education at the Laboratory School at Buffalo State College, a position she stayed at until 1962. In 1959, she was awarded her M.S. in Education from Buffalo State College. In the fall of 1964, Dr. Goldberg was appointed Associate Professor of Education. The following fall, she was appointed coordinator of the Audiovisual Center. In 1966, she earned her Ed.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo. In 1967, Dr. Minerva Goldberg was appointed Professor of Education. Dr. Goldberg became Associate Director of Instructional Resources in 1968. In 1972, she was appointed Adjunct Professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo; that same year
she headed the President’s Task Force on the Status of Women at Buffalo State College. Dr. Minerva Goldberg retired June 24, 1983.

Mrs. Pauline Gragg

Mrs. Pauline Gragg was the wife of Dr. Wilson Gragg. Her recording primarily concerns her husband. Wilson Gragg was born in 1910. He earned his B.A. from the University of Illinois, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Northwestern University. He was a noted authority on Shakespeare. Before coming to Buffalo Dr. Gragg taught at Cornell University. In 1949, Dr. Gregg joined the English Department at Buffalo State College. He spent two sabbatical leaves in England researching the Victorian period. In 1966, Dr. Gragg served as director of a program where students from the Buffalo State College spent one semester studying in England. He passed away on March 21, 1975.

Dr. Walter B. Greenwood

Walter B. Greenwood earned a B.A. from Transylvania College and his M.A. from Columbia University. He received his doctorate from the University of Cincinnati. Walter Greenwood taught at Transylvania College and Michigan State University and was chairman of the English department at Bethany College.

Dr. Greenwood joined the faculty of the New York State College for Teachers at Buffalo in 1950 as professor of English. He was director of summer sessions from 1964-1970. Dr. Walter Greenwood was elected by the Buffalo State faculty to the presidency of the Branch Association, the local chapter of the state faculty association, and was active in the Faculty Senate and President of the American Association of University Presidents. He served two terms as Dean of Arts and Sciences and was Vice President for academic affairs. Greenwood was also chairman of the Presidential Inauguration Committee.

Dr. Greenwood was faculty advisor for the student yearbook and edited Buffalo State’s College Bulletin. Greenwood was instrumental in developing the college’s credit union and the general studies program, and in creating the college by-laws. He retired in 1977. Dr. Walter Greenwood passed away January 4, 1989.

Carolyn Weber Heyman

Mrs. Heyman was a graduate of New York State School of Fine and Applied Arts and received a B.A. degree from Western Reserve University. She received a M.A. degree from New York University. Mrs. Heyman also received an honorable discharge from the Student Nursing Corps after serving for a year during WWI. Mrs. Heyman was a professor of Art Education at the State University College at Buffalo for 35 years until she retired in 1967. When she retired, she became the first recipient of the college’s Citation of Appreciation. Besides teaching, Mrs. Heyman wrote for three magazines to help elementary school teachers use children’s artwork to understand the individual child. She passed away on March 5, 2000.
Oral History

Dr. John T. Horton

Born September 29, 1902 in Bolivar, New York, John T. Horton received his B.A. degree in 1926 from the University of Buffalo. He earned both a M.A. and Ph.D. degree in History from Harvard University in 1929 and 1935 respectively. Horton began his teaching career after graduating from the University of Buffalo and was appointed a regular faculty position in 1946. Two years later, he became Chairman of the Department of History and Government, serving in that position until 1967.

Horton taught in the areas of Federal, State, and Local Government, and New York State History, and was known to be an expert on the history of the Niagara Frontier. His book, James Kent: A Study in Conservatism, was awarded the Albert J. Beveridge Prize of the American Historical Association in 1939. Horton was the 1971 recipient of the University at Buffalo's Samuel P. Capen Alumni Award for his many years of service as a scholar, administrator, and teacher at the University. He retired from teaching in 1973 as Professor Emeritus and received the 1974 Augsperger Local History Award from the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society.

President Muriel A. Howard

Muriel A. Howard served as the president of Buffalo State College from 1996 to 2009. She was the seventh president of Buffalo State and the college's first female president. Prior to coming to Buffalo State, Howard was the vice president for public service and urban affairs at the University at Buffalo, where she served in various leadership capacities over a 23-year period.

Under Howard's leadership, the college greatly increased and enhanced its academic programs and services, expanded its reputation for teacher preparation, and became known for its leadership in the arts and culture. Howard also oversaw the expansion of the college's facilities and buildings:

- 2003: Previously known as Upton Hall Auditorium, Warren Enters Theatre is fully refurbished and dedicated to Professor Emeritus Warren Enters, the Tony Award–winning director who taught at Buffalo State from 1968 to 1992. Warren Enters Theatre now houses performances from the college's theater and dance programs.
- 2008-2009: Howard oversees the implementation of $350 million in new capital construction projects, including the construction of a new science and math complex, a new 503-bed apartment-style residence hall will be under construction, and renovation of the main academic quad.

During her tenure as president of Buffalo State College, Howard was widely recognized for her contributions to public higher education, service to the community, and her commitment to diversity.

President D. Bruce Johnstone

Dr. D. Bruce Johnstone received his B.A. in Economics from Harvard College in 1963, M.A. in Social Science
D. Bruce Johnstone taught Economics and History in Westport, Connecticut from 1964-1966. While he was pursuing his Ph.D, he was Assistant Director for the University of Minnesota Center for Economic Education. In 1969, he became Administrative Assistant to U.S. Senator Walter Mondale, a post he held until 1971. In 1971, Dr. Johnstone became Project Specialist at the Ford Foundation. After leaving the Ford Foundation, he went to the University of Pennsylvania where he held a few jobs including Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Education, Vice President for Administration and Executive Assistant to the president.

In 1979, Dr. Johnstone became president of the State University College at Buffalo. During his tenure as president, he was responsible for bringing the archives of the Courier-Express Newspaper to the College’s Archives & Special Collections Department in the E. H. Butler Library. He held that post until 1988 when he became SUNY Chancellor. Dr. Johnstone was chancellor until 1996. From 1995-2006 he taught courses in higher education finance, governance, curriculum, and international comparative higher education at the University at Buffalo.

**Sister Martin Joseph Jones**

Sr. Martin was born in Kansas City, Missouri, October 19, 1923. She grew up in Houston where she graduated from John H. Reagan High School in 1941. In 1943, she entered the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur and professed perpetual vows in 1952. She earned a Bachelor of Arts at Our Lady of Victory College, and in 1956, she earned a Master’s in Library Science from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Sr. Martin taught and was a librarian in the Dallas-Fort Worth area until appointment as head librarian at the University of Dallas came in 1956. Then, in 1961, she left the university to supervise the establishment of diocesan high school librarians and taught at Nolan High School at Fort Worth.

Sr. Martin came to New York in 1968 and taught social studies and religion at Mount St. Mary’s Academy in Kenmore. In 1969, she came to the State University College at Buffalo as a reference librarian. She then worked as an assistant in the Periodical Department. In 1975, she became the college’s first archivist. During her tenure, many of the special collections we have today came to the archives including: the Courier-Express Newspaper Collection, and the Tom Fontana Collection. Additionally, she conducted an oral history project where she interviewed former and current professors and presidents etc. Sister Martin retired in 1995. She passed away on April 29, 2013.

**Shirley Kassman**

Shirley Kassman was born July 29, 1929. She received her B.S.Ed. in Art Education in 1951 from the State University College at Buffalo. She taught art at South Junior High School in Niagara Falls, NY from 1950-1952. From 1952-1958 she was taught art at Hamburg Junior High School. In 1958, she received her M.S. in Art Education from the State University College at Buffalo.
In 1958, Shirley Kassman was hired as a faculty member in the Art, Education, and Design Department and became a full professor. Among the courses she taught during her tenure were: printmaking, essentials of art, essentials of visual art, and women in art. Professor Kassman was the originator and Director of the High School Art Workshop at the State University College at Buffalo. Specifically, she supervised art student teachers.

Shirley Kassman was a nationally recognized artist with works in permanent collections on the East and West coasts and was very active in the women’s movement. She passed away September 7, 1991.

**Dr. Joseph M. Kelly**

Joseph Kelly received his B.A. in 1961 from Villanova University, his M.A. in 1963 from the University of Detroit, his Ph.D. from Loyola University in Chicago in 1970, and his J.D. from Northern Illinois University in 1979.

From 1965-1975 Joseph Kelly taught at St. Francis College, College of Racine, and University of Michigan. From 1975-1980 he was Racine County Board Supervisor. Between 1979 and 1983 Dr. Kelly practiced law in both Illinois and Wisconsin and was lecturer at Loyola University, Lakeland College, and Carthage College. From 1983 to 1987 he was Associate Professor of Law at the Nevada College of Law. From 1985 to 1990 he was in the faculty of the National Judicial College at the same time he was in private practice of law.

Joseph Kelly is currently a professor of business law at the State University College at Buffalo. He is an expert on gaming topics including native casinos. He is associate of Catania Consulting Group. He is co-editor of Gaming Law Review.

**Dr. Charles P. LaMorte**

Charles P. LaMorte was born March 10, 1922. He earned his Bachelor’s in Science and Humanities in 1949, his Master’s in Student Personnel and Social Studies in 1950, and Doctorate in Student Personnel Administration, and Guidance in 1955 from Columbia University. He served in the Air Force during WWII. He was an admissions assistant at Columbia University from 1953-55.

In 1955, Charles LaMorte came to the State University College for Teachers at Buffalo as an Assistant to the President and as an Assistant Professor of Education. In 1961, Dr. LaMorte was appointed Dean of Students, a post he held until 1964. From 1964 to 1970, he held the position of Vice President for Student Affairs. He continued to teach while in this position. After Vice President was promoted to Coordinator of the Student Personnel Administration Program and taught in the Department of Behavioral and Humanistic Studies. Additionally, he was chairman of that department from 1976-79. He retired in 1991. Dr. LaMorte passed away on February 24, 2006.

**Dr. Edna Lindemann**

Edna Melbohm was born February 25, 1915. In 1938, she earned a Bachelor’s in Art Education from the
University of Buffalo and a diploma from the Albright Art School, where she taught classes. Mrs. Lindemann was a magne cum laude Master’s graduate in Art from Northwestern University and did graduate studies under Eliel Saarinen at the Cranbrook Academy of Art. She earned her Doctorate in Art Education from Columbia University.

Dr. Lindemann taught in the Buffalo Public Schools, at the University of Vermont, and New York University, then in 1954 joined the faculty at State University College for Teachers at Buffalo (now SUNY Buffalo State), where as director of development and director of cultural affairs she designed interior spaces on a great deal of the campus. She later became assistant professor of design and taught exhibition techniques classes. Dr. Lindemann also helped preserve architectural fragments and artifacts from landmark Buffalo buildings.

In 1967, Dr. Lindemann was named curator of the new Charles Burchfield Center (now the Burchfield-Penney). In 1972, she was named director of the center. During her tenure, which lasted until she retired in 1985, the Burchfield Art Center acquired more than 400 of Burchfield’s works and began a collection of works by living artists from Western New York.

**Dr. Robert W. MacVittie**

Robert MacVittie was born December 29, 1920. He received his Bachelor’s in Education from Oneonta State College and his Master’s and Doctoral degrees in Education from New York University. Before coming to Buffalo in 1953, Dr. MacVittie taught sixth grade at Pine Plains Central School, junior high social studies at Middletown Memorial School, and served as principal of the Montowese, Conn., Elementary School, and the Ridge Road Elementary School in North Haven, Conn.

In 1953, Dr. MacVittie became Principal of the Campus School at the State University College for Teachers at Buffalo, a post he held until 1956. During his time in Buffalo Dr. MacVittie was active with the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda schools and, in 1954 and 1955, moderated the “Live and Learn” series on WBEN-TV. He was also professor of school administration and director of elementary and secondary education at the college before serving as its dean from 1958 to 1963, when he was named President of Geneseo State.

After retiring from the Geneseo State Presidency in 1979, MacVittie became Director of Alumni Affairs at his alma mater, Oneonta State College. He served as interim President of Fredonia State College for six months in 1985, and of Geneseo State during the 1988-89 academic year. He passed away on April 22, 1997.

**Dr. Horace (Hank) Mann**

Horace Mann was born December 12, 1921. He received his undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College. During WWII he served as a navigator-bombardier aboard B-29 bombers in the Pacific. He flew 35 missions over Japan, earning a Distinguished Flying Cross and Purple Heart.

After the war, Mann was hired by the New York City public schools to teach children with developmental disabilities. He soon realized that there was a need for advanced teacher training in this emerging field and began studying how to best prepare others to teach children with special needs. In 1953, Penn State University
Oral History

granted Mann its first-ever Doctorate in Special Education.

Mann nearly joined the faculty at Boston University before President Harvey Rice of the State University College for Teachers at Buffalo contacted him with the chance to head the college’s fledgling Exceptional Children Education Department. In 1977, the White House tapped him as a delegate on children and youth issues. He retired in 1992 and passed away in 2010.

Dr. Ruth Muck

Ruth Slacer was born July 17, 1910. She married Gordon Muck. Mrs. Muck earned a B.S. in Education and an M.S. in Supervision at the State University College at Buffalo. From 1931-1942 she was a teacher in the one-room Pomeroy School in the town of Lockport. She taught all eight grades.

In 1942, Mrs. Muck accepted a position in the primary area of the Campus School where she directed an experimental non-graded program for several years. She later became Professor of Elementary Student Teaching at the State University College at Buffalo. In 1966, Mrs. Muck earned a Doctoral degree from the University at Buffalo. She retired in 1976 and passed away on March 17, 2006.

Dr. Emerson E. Neuthardt

Emerson E. Neuthardt earned his B.S. in Industrial Arts Education from the State University College at Oswego, M.A. in Supervision and Administration from New York University, and an Ed.D. in Administration and Higher Education from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Before coming to Buffalo Dr. Neuthardt taught at Oswego State Teachers College and Cornell University. He was also supervisor of Industrial Arts for the Delmar, New York public schools. He joined the State University College at Buffalo in 1946. He was professor of Industrial Arts. He retired in 1979.

Dr. Neuthardt served as Junior Aviation Consultant for the New York State Education Department; Consultant Air Attache for the French Embassy in Washington, D.C.; and United States Delegate to the World Confederation of the Teaching Profession held in Frankfort, Germany and in Istanbul, Turkey.

Dr. Harold F. Peterson

Dr. Harold F. Peterson earned his B.A. degree from Knox, College, a master’s degree from the University of Minnesota; and a Ph.D. from Duke University. Dr. Peterson joined the State University College at Buffalo, then known as the State Teachers College at Buffalo, in 1933. Dr. Peterson was named “University Professor” in 1969 and designated professor emeritus of the History and Social Studies Department when he retired in 1970. At the time of his retirement, he was chairman of the department. Dr. Peterson was the first faculty member of the State University College at Buffalo chosen to receive the State University Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. In 1973, he was named a Distinguished Professor of the State University System.
In addition to teaching at the State University College at Buffalo, Dr. Peterson was visiting professor at the University of Buffalo for several years. Beyond those scholarly achievements, Dr. Peterson was also a community leader. He was one of the founders of the Buffalo Council on World Affairs (who cited him as “one of the nation’s leading authorities on Latin-American history”). Dr. Peterson also was a pioneer in educational television, teaching college level courses on Latin America at WNED-TV in Buffalo. Dr. Peterson was a veteran of WWII, serving as an Army officer with military intelligence. He was an officer in the Army Reserves from 1946-1955. Dr. Harold F. Peterson passed away on November 9, 1983.

Dr. Julia C. Piquette

Julia Piquette was born January 24, 1927. She earned her Bachelor's in Speech from Northwestern University in 1948, followed by a Master's in Speech Education in 1952 and a Doctorate in Philosophy in 1963. A radio actress in the 1940s, Julia Piquette adapted a number of literary works for scripts that were performed by Reader's Theatre, a student group. She also wrote several original scripts and directed a number of children's theater productions.

Dr. Piquette joined the faculty of the State University College for Teachers at Buffalo in 1952 as a speech instructor in the English department. She became an assistant professor in 1954, an associate professor in 1960 and a full professor in 1965. Dr. Piquette was chairwoman of the Speech and Theater Arts Department from 1972 to 1977 and played a key role in adding radio and television production to the program. She helped oversee its transformation into the journalism, broadcasting, and speech department in 1977 and headed the department from 1981 to 1984. She retired in 1987.

Buffalo State's Communication Department presented her a Lifetime Dedication Award in 2000. In 2009, she endowed the Dr. Julia Piquette Communication Scholarship Fund for juniors majoring in programs in the Communication Department. Dr. Piquette passed away on April 30, 2011.

Dr. Milton Plesur

Dr. Milton Plesur was born April 15, 1927 in Buffalo. He attended Public School #21 and Bennett High School. Dr. Plesur graduated from the New York State College for Teachers at Buffalo in 1947. He received his Masters from University of Buffalo in 1949 and his Ph.D. from the University of Rochester in 1952. In 1955, he joined the History Department faculty at the University of Buffalo until his retirement in 1987. Dr. Plesur passed away in 1987.

Dr. Leonard Poleszak

Leonard Poleszak was born on March 4, 1928. He received his B.S. in Industrial Arts Education from the State University College at Buffalo in 1948, an Ed.M. in Secondary School Administration from the University of Buffalo in 1956, and a. Ed.D. in Industrial Education, Higher Education, and Student Training from Michigan State University in 1964.
Dr. Poleszak taught at two high schools before joining the U.S. Army Special Services in 1954. In 1956, he joined the State University College at Buffalo faculty as an assistant professor in the Industrial Arts Education Division. Dr. Poleszak retired in 1983 as professor of Behavioral and Humanistic Studies. He served as chair of that department from 1979 to 1983. During his time at the college he directed and supervised the college’s Teacher Corps Program from 1967 to 1970. Dr. Poleszak was a charter member of the board of directors of the Buffalo State College Foundation and served the foundation in many offices, including chair. He also served as liaison officer of the Alumni Association and as a member of its board of directors. Dr. Leonard Poleszak passed away March 3, 2009.

Dr. Harvey Rice

Harvey M. Rice graduated from Concord College in Athens, West Virginia, in 1929. He earned a master’s degree at West Virginia University in 1933, and a Ph.D. in History at Ohio State University in 1938. He was a Navy veteran of WWII and taught high school and college history courses when the war ended.

Dr. Harvey Rice was named president of the State Teachers College in Oswego, N.Y. in 1947. Three years later, he became the second president of the State University College at Buffalo (which was then known as the State University College for Teachers at Buffalo), a position he held until he was named the 10th president of Macalester College in St. Paul Minnesota. He was president of Macalester for ten years.

Under President Rice, the State University College at Buffalo became one of the first colleges in the nation to include faculty and students in its policy making bodies. He was instrumental in developing a $21,275,000 building program. During his tenure the enrollment more than doubled. Dr. Harvey Rice passed away on November 15, 1992.

Dr. Houston T. Robison

Houston Robison earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees at the University of Oregon and his Ph.D. in History at the University of Chicago. Prior to coming to Buffalo in 1949, Dr. Robison taught in the public schools in the state of Oregon for thirteen years as a teacher, principal, and curriculum coordinator. During his time at the State University College at Buffalo, Dr. Robison served as Professor of History for thirteen years, Director of the Arts and Sciences faculty, Dean of Instruction, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the college’s acting President for ten months following the departure of Paul Bulger. In 1969, he received the President’s Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Howard G. Sengbusch

Dr. Howard G. Sengbusch was born December 14, 1917. He was a 1939 graduate of the State Teachers College at Buffalo. He held a doctorate from New York University. Howard Sengbusch was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and a captain with the U.S. Public Health Service.

A member of the Buffalo State faculty from 1951 to 1981, Sengbusch served over the years as a professor of biology, head of the college's Arts and Sciences Division and the first director of the Great Lakes Laboratory,
established by Buffalo State in 1966. In addition to his 31 years at Buffalo State, he was a former adjunct professor of biology at Georgia Southern and Florida State universities.

During his time in Buffalo, Dr. Sengbusch was vice president and acting president of the Buffalo Zoological Society. Known worldwide is an authority on parasitology, Dr. Sengbusch was one of five scientists sent by the National Science Foundation in 1962 to Central America and Panama to study tropical medicine and parasitology.

Dr. Sengbusch served as science education consultant to the Burmese government under a Fulbright grant. During 1969 and 1970, he was a visiting professor at the University of Mysore in India, doing research into human parasites. He also studied in the Philippines and Mexico. Dr. Sengbusch passed away on February 4, 1999.

Mary Shea Giffoniello

Mary Shea was born in Buffalo on November 24, 1900 to Michael and Josephine Carr Shea. Her father built Shea’s theater. Until she was twelve the family lived at 43 Vermont Street in Buffalo. She taught writing and history in New Jersey and married Emile Giffoniello in 1929. She returned back to Buffalo in the 1930’s and passed away on April 21, 1986. The SUNY Buffalo State Archives & Special Collections has a small collection donated by Mary concerning her father, Michael Shea.

Dr. Harold Gene Steffen

Dr. H. Gene Steffen was born January 3, 1919. He graduated from the State Teachers College at Buffalo in 1940 and earned a Ph.D. from Cornell University. He served as a second Lieutenant in the Army Air Corps from 1943-46. After the war, Dr. Steffen joined the faculty of the New York State College for Teachers at Buffalo. During his time at the college he was professor of industrial arts and served as acting director of E. H. Butler Library from 1964 to 1965. Dr. Steffen also started the Instructional Resources Center and served as its director until his retirement in 1984. He passed away on October 7, 2007.

Dr. Ruth Sugarman

Dr. Ruth Sugarman earned her bachelor’s degree from the State Teachers College at Buffalo and went on to receive her master’s degree from Northwestern and her Doctorate in Education from the University of Buffalo (1950).

Dr. Sugarman joined the faculty of the New York State College for Teachers at Buffalo as a fifth-grade demonstration teacher in the School of Practice after teaching in Niagara Falls public schools. Dr. Sugarman served as a third, fourth, and fifth-grade demonstration teacher in the School of Practice, and served as both assistant and acting principal. In 1955, she was appointed Professor of Elementary Education at the college, and
in 1956, she was appointed interim principal of the Campus School (formerly the School of Practice). Dr. Sugarman became principal, a position she held until she joined the education faculty in 1963. She retired in 1975.

Dr. Ruth Sugarman’s publications included reviews and evaluation of children’s books and several articles for the Journal of Geography. She was coauthor of a teachers’ manual for fifth grade geography, and in 1955, presented a study in teaching conservation education to the National Council of Geography Teachers. Dr. Sugarman was in demand as a speaker on many topics relating to education and professional development. Dr. Ruth Sugarman passed away on February 10, 2011.

Dr. Clement Tetkowski

Dr. Clement Tetkowski earned a Bachelor of Science degree from New Jersey State Teachers College, then served with the U.S. Army Military Police in North Africa and Italy during WWII. After the war, he earned a Master of Arts degree and a Doctorate from Columbia University.

Dr. Tetkowski taught art and design at the State University College at Buffalo for 34 years. He served as chairman of the design department for 10 years before retiring from the college in 1983. In 1961, Dr. Tetkowski became founding director of the Siena Semester Program. Dr. Clement Tetkowski passed away on August 27, 1998.

Madeline K. Turner

Madeline Turner earned her B.S. in Nursing Education from the University of Buffalo, and her M.A. from Columbia University. Before coming to the State University College at Buffalo, she was a Nurse Director of Student Health at the University at Buffalo. She served as an Army Nurse in Europe during WWII and in the army reserves. Ms. Turner joined the faculty of the State University College at Buffalo in 1953. She was coordinator of the Student Health Center. She retired in 1977. Madeline Turner passed away on October 21, 1993.

Dr. Frances Tyau

Frances Tyau was born July 19, 1919. She received her Ed.B. in Elementary Education from the University of Hawaii, her M.A. in Teachers Education from the Teachers College in Columbia, MA. Before coming to Buffalo, she was an elementary teacher in public schools in Hawaii, an intern teacher supervisor for the Hawaii Dept. of Education and the University of Hawaii, taught summer courses at the University of Hawaii, and was instructor at Western Illinois University. Frances Tyau joined the faculty of the State University College at Buffalo in 1959 as a member of the the College Learning Laboratory, later known as the Campus School. Ms. Tyau retired June 8, 1985. At the time of her retirement she was associate professor of education. She passed away on July 11, 2012.
Oral History

Dr. John Urban

Dr. John Urban was born on May 31, 1909 in Slovakia and came to the United States in 1912. He earned his B.S. in Education at Kent State University in 1930. He was awarded his Master of Education and Doctorate of Educational Research from Columbia University. From 1930-1936 he taught at Randolph Township High School in Ohio. From 1936 to 1946 he was a science teacher in Millburn, New Jersey.

Dr. Urban came to the New York State College for Teachers at Buffalo in 1946 as full professor of sciences and biology. Dr. Urban chaired the science department for 12 years. He was instrumental in establishing the college’s first Lake Erie aquatic field station, the forerunner of the Great Lakes Laboratory. Other long lasting achievements during his tenure at the college were: a college camp program to help students learn about their natural environment, the development of a planetarium, and the building and equipping of a science building. Dr. Urban co-authored a variety of textbooks. Dr. Urban retired in 1978. He was named Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of biology. In 1982, the auditorium in the Science building was named after him. Dr. John Urban passed away on October 8, 1989.

Marjorie Van Antwerp (granddaughter E. H. Butler Sr.)

Marjorie Van Antwerp was born in 1911 to Roscoe and Ada Butler Mitchell. Her mother was the daughter of Edward H. Butler Sr. She passed away on November 29, 1990. Edward H. Butler was born in 1850. In 1873, he started the Buffalo Sunday News. In 1880, he started the Buffalo Evening News. He passed away on March 9, 1914. The E. H. Butler Library at the State University College at Buffalo is dedicated in his memory and houses the E. H. Butler Sr. Papers in the Archives & Special Collections Department.

Harriet Vogelsang (Rockwell)

Harriet Vogelsang was born July 22, 1929 to Dr. and Mrs. Harry Rockwell. She grew up in the “Campus House” adjacent to Rockwell Hall. She graduated from the college in 1951. Her class was the last class that to which Dr. Rockwell presented diplomas. Harriet Rockwell married Clifford Vogelsang. She passed away on July 20, 2012.

Dr. Harry Westcott Rockwell was named principal of the Buffalo State Normal School (now known as Buffalo State College) in 1919. In 1926, the name of the institution changed from the Buffalo State Normal School to the New York State College for Teachers at Buffalo. Rockwell became the college’s first president.

During his tenure, Buffalo State experienced tremendous growth. In 1919, the student body numbered 275 students. When Rockwell retired in 1951, the student body had grown to 2,022. Rockwell presented over 10,000 diplomas and awarded more than 5,000 degrees in his 32 years of service. Under his guidance, the college moved from its 3.5 acre normal school site (presently Grover Cleveland High School on Fourteenth Street) to its 55-acre Elmwood Avenue location.
Oral History

Through Rockwell’s efforts, the college won state approval as a teachers college, became the first state operated college to offer a B.S. in Elementary Education, won an “A” rating from the American Association of Teachers College, and began granting master’s degrees for its graduate programs. He also instituted a building plan for the college.

From 1931 to his retirement in 1951, a student union, two dormitories, and a library were built; a science and industrial arts buildings were in the blueprint stage and a fine arts building was in the planning stage. Rockwell Hall was named for him as a symbol of his dedicated service to the college.

Laverne R. Zimmer

Mr. Zimmer’s educational background is extensive- bachelor’s degree from SUNY Geneseo; master’s degree and doctoral study at Stanford University; and doctoral study and doctoral candidate at Indiana University. Professor Zimmer served his country for three years with twenty-two months of combat duty in the E.T.O during WWII.

Professor Zimmer taught at various levels of education- elementary, secondary, and college. Before coming to the State University College at Buffalo he taught at New York University. Professor Zimmer was Associate Professor of Education at the Campus School. In 1969, he received the Distinguished Professor Award. He retired in the spring of 1981. He passed away on July 8, 2005.

Dedications and Event Descriptions

Butler Ice Sculpture

The Butler Ice Sculpture was dedicated on October 27, 1983. It was designed by Carl Nesjar, a Norwegian painter, sculptor and graphic artist best known for his collaborations with Pablo Picasso. He was born in 1920 in Norway. He passed away May 23, 2015. The Ice Fountain was a gift from the Butler Foundation and Kate Butler Wallis. The abstract sculpture was 20 feet at its highest point, 40 feet in length, and approximately 15 feet wide. It lifted nine steel arms above a shallow reflecting pool, but was eventually removed due to ongoing necessary and costly repairs.