The John C. Gowan Collection
[1949-1986]

Descriptive Summary:

Title: The John C. Gowan Collection  
Date Span: 1949-1986  
Acquisition Number: N/A  
Creator: John C. Gowan  
Donor: The Creative Education Foundation  
Date of Acquisition: 1990  
Extent: 5 boxes  
Language: English  
Location: Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State  
Processed: 2018, Heather Hartz, Hope Dunbar

Information on Use:

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Biographical Note:
John Curtis Gowan was born May 21, 1912 in Boston, Massachusetts. Graduating from Thayer Academy, Braintree, Massachusetts, in 1929, John Gowan was only 17 when he
entered Harvard University, earning his undergraduate degree four years later. A master's degree in mathematics followed; he then moved to Culver, Indiana, where he was employed as a counselor and mathematics teacher at Culver Military Academy from 1941 to 1952. Earning a doctorate from UCLA, he became a member of the founding faculty at the California State University at Northridge, where he taught as a professor of Educational Psychology from 1953 until 1975, when he retired with emeritus status.

Dr. Gowan became interested in gifted children after the Russians gained superiority in space with the 1957 launch of Sputnik. He formed the National Association for Gifted Children the following year. He was the group's executive director and president from 1975 to 1979 and over the years wrote more than 100 articles and fourteen books on gifted children, teacher evaluation, child development, and creativity.

While at Northridge, he developed a program to train campus counselors, was nominated in 1973 as outstanding professor, and had been a counselor, researcher, Fulbright lecturer, and visiting professor at various schools including the University of Singapore, the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand, the University of Hawaii, and Connecticut State College. He was a fellow of the American Psychological Association and was also a colleague of the Creative Education Foundation.

Besides his work in Educational Psychology as specifically related to gifted children, he also had an interest in psychic (or psychedelic) phenomena as it relates to human creativity. His work in this area was inspired by the writings of Aldous Huxley and Carl Jung. Based on his work in creativity and with gifted children, Dr. Gowan developed a model of mental development that derived from the work of Jean Piaget and Erik Erikson, but also included adult development beyond the ordinary adult successes of career and family building, extending into the emergence and stabilization of extraordinary development and mystical states of consciousness. He described the entire spectrum of available states in his classic Trance, Art, & Creativity (1975), with its different modalities of spiritual and aesthetic expression. He also devised a test for self-actualization, (as defined by Abraham Maslow), called the Northridge Developmental Scale. Dr. Gowan died on December 2, 1986.

Scope and Contents:
Articles; bibliographies; book reviews; letters; newsletters; publications; and research specified by subject.

Arrangement: The collection is arranged in two series based on original order at the time of acquisition.

Inventory: see next page
**Gowan**

**Series I**

**Box 1**

**Folder 1-1**  
John Curtis Gowan: Bibliography  
Listed by year from 1953-1972

**Folder 1-2**  
John Curtis Gowan: Creativity (Development)  
What Makes Gifted Children Creative? - Four Theories; Creative Functioning of Monolingual and Bilingual Children in Singapore; Some Newer Theoretical Implications for Creative Learning; A Taxonomy of Creativity and Giftedness; Creativity and Cognitive Competence (Speech at CASPP, Disneyland, March 1964); Creativity; Why Some Gifted Children Become Creative; The Relationship Between Creativity and Giftedness; Ability: Vol. 1, Spring 1967; Incubation, Imagery and Creativity; An Updated Representative List of Methods and Educational Programs for Stimulating Creativity (updated version); Conceptualization of creativity: Relations to Intelligence and Personality Factors

**Folder 1-3**  
John Curtis Gowan: Creativity  

**Folder 1-4**  
John Curtis Gowan: Creativity, Annotated Bibliography  
Annotation of Recent Dissertations of Creativity in Teaching; A Bibliography on the Guidance of the Gifted; Journal of Psychological Studies: A Comprehensive Annotated Bibliography of Writings on the Education of Gifted Children; A Bibliography of Writings on Guidance of the Able Student; Annotated Bibliography on Creativity

**Folder 1-5**  
John Curtis Gowan: Creativity; Annotated Bibliography  
California Journal of Educational Research: Gifted Children- A Selected Bibliography); Research Resume: 1958 Addition to Annotated Bibliography on Education of Gifted Children; 1957-1958 Supplement to Annotated Bibliography of Writings on Gifted Children; 1958 Addition to Annotated Bibliography on Education of Gifted Children

**Folder 1-6**  
John Curtis Gowan: Creativity, Annotated Bibliography  
Annotated Bibliography on Creativity and Giftedness (indexed by subject)

**Folder 1-7**  
John Curtis Gowan: Creativity, Annotated Bibliography  
**Gowan**

Folder 1-8  John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews
Folder 1-9  John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews
Folder 1-10 John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews
Folder 1-11 John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews
Folder 1-12 John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews
Folder 1-13 John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews
Folder 1-14 John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews
Folder 1-15 John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews
Folder 1-16 John Curtis Gowan: Book Reviews

Folder 1-17 John Curtis Gowan: Creativity Development
- Creativity and Developmental Process; The Theory of Developmental Stages; General Semantics and Developmental Escalation as Precursors of Creativity; The Marriage and Family Counselors Quarterly, Fall 1972; The Theory of Developmental Stages; The Developmental Aspects of Creativity in Gifted Individuals; Mensa Research Journal: March, 1973; Levels of Development and Accomplishment in Superior Male Adults

Folder 1-18 John Curtis Gowan: Creativity Development
- The Development of the Creative Individual; The Existence and Significance of Decalages Between Affective and Cognitive Developmental Stages; Humanities: Journal of the Institute of Man, May 1978; The role of Imagination in the Development of the Creative Individual

Folder 1-19 John Curtis Gowan: Creativity Development

Folder 1-20 John Curtis Gowan: Disadvantaged/Underachiever
- California Personnel and Guidance Association (CPGA) News/Journal, Fall 1968; Alienation; Counseling High School Dropouts and Potential Dropouts; Exceptional Children, November 1957: Dynamics of the Underachievement of Gifted Students; Underachievement Revisited; Some Solutions to the Dropout Problem; Wasted Talent -- Our Nation’s Greatest Lost; Underachievement; The Underachieving Gifted Child-- A Problem for Everyone; Exceptional Children, April 1955

Folder 1-21 John Curtis Gowan: Disadvantaged-Under Achievers
- CASPP Newsletter: Focus on the Disadvantaged Child, Nov. 1965; Emotionally Disturbed Gifted Children; California State Federation, Council for Exceptional Children, June 1966; Guidance of the Deaf; The Guidance Of the Deaf; The California Journal for Instructional Improvement: December 1969; The Education of the Disadvantaged Gifted Youth; The View from Myopia; Issues in the Education of Disadvantaged Gifted Students
Gowan

Folder 1-22  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted  
Twenty Years of Gifted Educations: What Have We Learned?; Teaching Science to Gifted Elementary Children; The Journal of Suggestive-Accelerative Learning and Teaching, Spring 1980; Education of the Gifted in Utopia (Excerpt from J. Of Suggestive-Accelerative Learning and Teaching, 1980); Education of the Gifted in Utopia

Folder 1-23  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted  

Folder 1-24  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted  
The School Executive, November 1959; The Superintendent and a Divided Board; The Next Upswing of the Pendulum for Gifted Children; New Aspects in Guiding the Gifted In Demonstration Classes; The Gifted Child Movement, Background and History of the Gifted Child Movement

Folder 1-25  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted  
Factors of Achievement in School and College; California Teachers Association Journal, Feb.1961; The Gifted Child Quarterly, Summer 1960: Cost of Special Education Programs for Gifted Children; Educational Administration and Supervision, January 1960: The Improvement of Reading in Gifted Children; The Improvement of Reading in Gifted Children; Education, February 1960: Starting a Program for Gifted Children; Suggestions For Starting a Program for Gifted Children

Folder 1-26  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted  
Educating the Ableist

Box 1 a.

Manuscript of “The Guidance and Measurement of Intelligence, Development & Creativity

Box 2

Folder 2-1  John Curtis Gowan: Misc. (1966)  
Folder 2-2  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted
The Gifted Child Quarterly: Issues on the Guidance of Gifted and Creative Children

Folder 2-3  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted

Folder 2-5  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted
The Effect of Instructional Television on College Personnel, Costs, Staffing, Time and Space Requirements; Teaching and Learning Bulletin for Teachers and Educators in South East Asia, November 1962: Evaluating American Colleges and Universities; How to Identify Students for a Gifted Child Program; Reactions to Dr. Hoyt’s Speech on “Career Education For Gifted and Talented Persons”; The Administrative Structure of Guidance for the Able; Procedure for Identifying Able Students for a Program; The Personnel and Guidance Journal, December 1960: Organization of Guidance for Gifted Children; Suggestions for Parents of Able Children

Folder 2-6  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted

Folder 2-7  John Curtis Gowan: Gifted

Folder 2-8  John Curtis Gowan: Guidance

Folder 2-9  John Curtis Gowan: Guidance
CASPP Newsletter, Summer ‘69: Feature: The School Psychologist and the Elementary Counselor; California Personnel and Guidance
Gowan

Association; Summer 1970: Group Counseling in the Development of Self Concept; Roles of the Psychologist and Elementary Counselor; How Parents can Foster Creativity in Their Children; Action Patterns for School Psychologists, 1964; Cognitive Competence in Curriculum and Guidance; The Counselor and The Creative Child; The Counselor and the Ablest; Guidance with the Ablest

Folder 2-10  **John Curtis Gowan: Intellect**

The Semantic Contents Slab of the Guilford Structure of Intellect; A Statement by J.C. Gowan Regarding Genetic Aspects of Intelligence; Effective Thinking and Communication; Teaching and Learning, January 1963: Expanding concept of Intelligence; Intellect: An Expanding Concept; Robert Thompson. The Psychology of Thinking. p64ff

Folder 2-11  **John Curtis Gowan: Higher Functions**

The Journal of Creative Behavior, 1977: Creative Inspiration In Composers; Influence of the Practice of Transcendental Meditation on Aggression, Anxiety, Depression, Neuroticism and Self-Actualization; Journal of Humanistic Psychology, Summer 1967: TM: Some Preliminary Findings

Folder 2-12  **John Curtis Gowan: Higher Functions**

Trance, Art and Creativity; A Theory about the Collective Preconscious and Psychic Activity; Discontinuous and Cyclic Functions in Psychotonic Research; Form as the Devolution of Cosmic Substance; Art & Music as Stimulants to Right Hemisphere Imagery and Creativity

Folder 2-13  **John Curtis Gowan: Higher Functions**


Folder 2-14  **John Curtis Gowan: Student Testing**


Folder 2-15  **John Curtis Gowan: Student Testing**

California Journal of Educational Research, May 1968: A Follow-up Study of Higher and Lower Achievers; Difference in Responses of Higher and Lower Achievers to Questions Regarding High School & College Experience; Educational and Psychological Measurement: The Interest Patterns of Student Leaders; Achievement and Personality Test Scores of
Gifted College Students; Research Resume: Gifted Child Programs in California; A Survey of Programs for Gifted Children in California Elementary School Districts; Status Survey Impressions of Research on the Able; The California Criterion Scorecard of Efficacy of Structure and Function in the Evaluation of Programs for Able Youth; The Personal Profile

Folder 2-16 John Curtis Gowan: Student Testing

Folder 2-17 John Curtis Gowan: Teacher Testing

Folder 2-18 John Curtis Gowan: Teacher Testing
Teacher Attitudes Compared with Teacher Performance; The FEATS Study of Significant Teacher Behaviours; The Limitations and Possibilities of Self Report Tests in the Prediction of Teacher Effectiveness; The School Review, Winter 1960

Folder 2-19 John Curtis Gowan: Teacher Testing
Recent Research of the Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness; Recent Developments in the Measurement of Teacher Effectiveness; California Journal of Educational Research: Age Effects on the Test Scores of Women Teaching Candidates; Journal of Educational Research, May 1961; A follow-up Study of Teaching Candidates; California Journal of Educational Research: Reaction of the “K” Scale of the MMPI of Teaching Personality

Folder 2-20 John Curtis Gowan: Teacher Testing
Journal of Educational Research: The Use of Adjective Check List in Screening Teacher Candidates; The Guilford-Zimmerman And the California Psychological Inventory in the Measurement of Teaching Candidates; How can we Improve the Evaluation of Teaching?; Central
States Speech Journal: Recent Research of the Prognosis and Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness; What makes a Creative Person a Creative Teacher?; Journal of Educational Research, May 1960; Educational Horizons, winter 1955: Research; Martha Hazeltine - Educational Pioneer

Folder 2-21  John Curtis Gowan: Teacher Testing

Folder 2-22  John Curtis Gowan: Teacher Testing

Folder 2-23  John Curtis Gowan: Graduate Faculty List

Series II

Box 1

Folder 1-1  Gowan, John Curtiss Materials sent by son, John A. Gowan
Folder 1-2  Addresses [Speeches] Circa 1976
Folder 1-3  Book Reviews c. 1960-c. 1972
Folder 1-4  Book Reviews- Journals 1959-1975
Folder 1-5  Conclusion, 1979
Folder 1-6  Creativity, 1958-1982
Folder 1-7  Development, 1967-1973
Folder 1-8  Dowsing, M.D.
Folder 1-9  Electromagnetic, 1980-1981
Folder 1-10  Gifted, 1959-1980
Folder 1-11  Guidance, 1949
Folder 1-12  Higher Function, 1974-1976
Folder 1-13  Intellect, circa 1963
Folder 1-14  Levitation, 1974-1977
Folder 1-15  Miscellaneous, c. 1952-c. 1981
Folder 1-16  Morgue c. 1971-c. 1978
Folder 1-17  Musement, 1971-1981
Folder 1-18  Operations of Increasing Order, circa 1978
Folder 1-19  Psychic Contagion, M.D.
Folder 1-20  Psychic Counseling, circa 1977
Folder 1-21  Physical Medium c. 1953-c. 1977
Folder 1-22  Schizophrenia, 1964-1977
Folder 1-23  Space, circa 1977
Folder 1-24  Teacher Evaluation, 1953-1962
Folder 1-25  Translation, c. 1966-c. 1982
Folder 1-26  Tulpa, 1979

Box 2

Folder 2-1  Ball Lightning, circa 1981
Folder 2-2  Bibliography, c. 1901-c. 1974
Folder 2-3  Control Introduction, circa 1975
Folder 2-4  Copyrights, 1979-1986
Folder 2-5  Exo-Endo Thermic, circa 1973
Folder 2-6  Genius, c. 1958-c. 1980
Folder 2-7  Healing, 1975-1982
Folder 2-8  Hologram, 1968-1979
Folder 2-10  Miscellaneous, c. 1971-c. 1981
Folder 2-11  Polyhedra and Space, c. 1973-1977
Folder 2-12  Precocity, 1976-1982
Folder 2-13  Reincarnation, c. 1971-c. 1979
Folder 2-14  Siddhis, 1971-1982
Folder 2-15  Space Dust Psychokinesis, c. 1975-c. 1973
Folder 2-16  Time, c. 1977-c. 1982
Folder 2-17  Traveling Cities, c. 1971-1980
Folder 2-18  Two Fluid Models, 1980
Folder 2-19  UFO, 1973-1982
Folder 2-20  Xylem Proto Matter, 1976-1982
Folder 2-21  Sainthood, Mystic Ecstasy Healing (4.)

Folder 2-21a. Ecstasy, circa 1982
  Folder 2-21b  Sainthood, circa 1982
  Folder 2-21c  Healing, circa 1980
  Folder 2-21d  Healing, 1974-1982
  Folder 2-21e  Light, circa 1976
  Folder 2-21f  Auras, circa 1982

Folder 2-22  Vibration, Periodicity (5.)
  Folder 2-22a  Vibration, 1960-1981

Folder 2-23  Implicate (6.)
  Folder 2-23a  Implicate
  Folder 2-23b  Aspects: Implicate Unboundedness
  Folder 2-23c  Course Title Master
  Folder 2-23d  Collective Unconsciousness, circa 1982
  Folder 2-23e  Prana
  Folder 2-23f  New Theories
  Folder 2-23g  Archetype
  Folder 2-23h  Visions, 1975-1982
  Folder 2-23i  Conclusion, circa 1983
**Gowan**

**Box 3**

| Folder 3-1 | Gowan, Demos and Torrance: Creativity, circa 1978 |
| Folder 3-2 | Hernani Andrade and the Spiritsit “healers” of Brazil, circa 1975 |
| Folder 3-3 | Handouts 1975-1976 |
| Folder 3-4 | Letters 1977-1982 |
| Folder 3-5 | Mediations |
| Folder 3-6 | Miscellaneous, 1978-1980 |
| Folder 3-7 | Operations of Increasing Order, 1980 |
| Folder 3-8 | Psycotronics, 1974-1976 |
| Folder 3-9 | Production of creativity through Right Hemisphere Imagery, c. 1980 |
| Folder 3-10 | Society Which Maximises creativity |
| Folder 3-11 | Spatial Ability and Testosterone, c. 1982 |
| Folder 3-12 | Studies in Creativity, c. 1977 |
| Folder 3-13 | Use of Development Stage Theory in Helping Gifted Children Become Creative, c. 1980 |