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FINDING AID TO THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CHINESE STUDENTS COLLECTION, 1920-1930

**Purdue University Libraries
Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections
Research Center
504 West State Street
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2058
(765) 494-2839**

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Processed by: Mary A. Sego, June 16, 2014

Descriptive Summary

Creator Information	Legacy collection, creator unknown
Title	Purdue University Chinese Students collection
Collection Identifier	MSP 155
Date Span	1920-1930
Abstract	The collection consists of brochures and programs from the Chinese Students' Alliance Conference, Mid-West Section, hosted by Purdue University, 1921 and 1925. Also included are a "Chinese Students at Purdue" brochure, a Purdue University Chinese Students' yearbook for 1927, a booklet, in Chinese, used to recruit potential Chinese students in 1930 and correspondence between the Purdue Club of China (P.S. Wu, secretary-treasurer) and W.M. Hepburn, Librarian.
Extent	0.2 cubic feet (1 mss box)
Finding Aid Author	Mary A. Sego, 2014
Languages	English and Chinese
Repository	Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries

Administrative Information

Location Information:	ASC
Access Restrictions:	Collection is open for research.
Acquisition Information:	Legacy items; donors various and unknown.
Accession Number:	Unknown
Preferred Citation:	MSP 155, Purdue University Chinese Students collection, Karnes Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries
Copyright Notice:	Purdue University

Subjects and Genres

Organizations

Chinese Students' Alliance in the United States of America
Purdue Club of China
Purdue University. Chinese Students' Club

Topics

Chinese students--United States
Purdue University--students
Purdue University--foreign students
International students

Form and Genre Types

Booklets
Brochures
Correspondence
Programs
Yearbook

Occupations

Student

History of the Chinese Students' Alliance

The Chinese Students' Alliance was a nationwide organization of Chinese students studying in the United States, the first nation to which modern China sent students for an education. The first students were 30 boys, arriving in 1872. The numbers of visiting students remained small until 1909 when the United States began sending Boxer Indemnity funds to China. By 1915 there were more than 1,200 Chinese students in the United States, 800 of these students in colleges and universities formed the membership of the Chinese Students' Alliance. The alliance published the *Chinese Students' Monthly* in the United States and the *Chinese Students' Quarterly*, a Chinese language journal, in Shanghai.

The Alliance was divided into 3 sections; the Eastern, Midwest and Western. Each section was composed of a number of local Chinese Students' Clubs. Each year during early September, an annual summer conference was held by each section at some convenient location for the purpose of bringing the Chinese students together to exchange ideas and discuss important problems. The three conferences were held at the same time but in difference locations. The length of the conferences varied from one to two weeks, and the grounds at which they were held were usually universities of fame, where the facilities could accommodate the purposes of the conference. Purdue University was the site of the 12th Mid-West Conference in 1921 and the 16th in 1925.

The conferences proved themselves to be of great value to the Chinese students. It gave them the opportunity of making acquaintances with their fellow-countrymen and of freely exchanging ideas, which they were unable to do during their school work. It also afforded better understanding between the American people and the Chinese. The Chinese Students' Alliance was active until 1931.

Source(s):

Burg, David F. "Chinese Students' Alliance." *Encyclopedia of Student and Youth Movements*. New York: Facts On File, Inc., 1998. *Modern World History Online*. Facts On File, Inc. Web. 17 June 2014.

Yu, C.C. "The Chinese Students' Alliance in the United States." *Young China*, July 1921. Web. 17 June 2014.

Bevis, Teresa Brawner. "The Chinese Students' Alliance." *A History of Higher Education Exchange: China and America*. New York : Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, 2013. Web. 17 June 2014.

Collection Description

Scope

The Purdue University Chinese Students collection (1920-1930; 0.2 cubic feet) documents the Chinese Students' Alliance Conference, Mid-West Section, hosted by Purdue University in 1921 and 1925. The collection consists of various brochures and programs from the conferences. Other material included is a "Chinese Students at Purdue" brochure; a Purdue University Chinese Students' Yearbook; a booklet, in Chinese, used to recruit potential Chinese students in 1930 and correspondence between the Purdue Club of China (P.S. Wu, secretary-treasurer) and W.M. Hepburn, Librarian, in regards to a donation by the club to the Purdue University Library of *Millard's Review*. Types of materials include: booklets, brochures, correspondence, programs and yearbook.

Descriptive Rules

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Processing Information

All materials have been housed in polyester sleeves, acid-free folders and an acid-free box.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

1 Box *Correspondence, Programs, Brochures, Booklets and Yearbook, 1920-1930*

Folder

1. Correspondence between the Purdue Club of China (P.S. Wu, secretary-treasurer) and W.M. Hepburn, Librarian, 1920
2. Brochures and programs, Chinese Students' Alliance in U.S.A., Conference, Mid-West Section, Purdue University, 1921

Item

1. General program, "The Twelfth Annual Conference, Mid-West Section, Chinese Students' Alliance in U.S.A." Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, September 1 to 8, 1921
2. Program, public entertainment, "The Twelfth Annual Conference, Mid-West Section, Chinese Students' Alliance in U.S.A." Fowler Hall, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, September 6, 1921 (4 copies)
3. Brochure, "The Twelfth Annual Conference, Mid-West Section, Chinese Students' Alliance in U.S.A." Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, September 1 to 8, 1921 (2 copies)
3. Brochure, "The Chinese Students at Purdue," Purdue University, LaFayette, Indiana, edited, October, 1924 by the Alumni Committee of the Chinese Students' Club of Purdue University
4. Brochure, "Announcement Of The Sixteenth Annual Conference, Mid-West Section, Chinese Students' Alliance, Conference Theme, Nationalism and China," Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, September 4th to 11th, 1925 (2 copies)
5. Yearbook, Purdue University Chinese Students', includes "extracts from the diary of a Chinese student in Purdue," 1927
6. Booklet, in Chinese, prepared by the Chinese Student Club of Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, U.S.A., April, 1930 (4 copies)
7. Program, Chinese benefit, presented by the Chinese Students' Club of Purdue University, undated