

ROBERT V. NAUMAN PAPERS

Mss. 5021

Inventory

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Christopher Bienvenu

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Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2023

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SUMMARY

Size	11 linear feet
Geographic Locations	Baton Rouge, LA
Inclusive Dates	1900-1990, undated
Languages	English and Spanish
Summary	This collection contains the working files of Dr. Robert "Bob" V. Nauman. These working files contain correspondence, information on the National Science Foundation Summer Program at LSU, Faculty Senate records, publications, and various other working files.
Access Restrictions	None.
Reproduction Note	May be reproduced
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Citation	Robert V. Nauman Papers, Mss. 5021, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Location(s)	111:1-6, OS:N

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Robert "Bob" V. Nauman was born in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, on December 6, 1923. He graduated with honors from Stroudsburg High School in 1940. At age 16, he entered Duke University from which he received a bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1943 at age 19 and was ranked second in his graduating class. Nauman won three varsity baseball letters at Duke, was a member of the Duke Student Senate, Phi Beta Kappa and many other academic honorary fraternities, and he was president of both the Duke chapter and the University of California chapter of Sigma Chi social fraternity. After his Marine Corps service, he entered the graduate school of the University of California at Berkeley. He received his Ph.D. Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1947 at age 23 after working in molecular spectroscopy with Professor Gilbert N. Lewis. From 1947 to 1953, Nauman worked as a research associate with Nobel Laureate Peter Debye, of Cornell University. He then became an assistant professor of chemistry in the University of Arkansas for nine months. In 1953, he moved to Baton Rouge where he was successively assistant, associate, and full professor (in 1963) of chemistry. At Louisiana State University, he taught physical chemistry, general chemistry, and physics. His research was in the area of molecular spectroscopy and photochemistry. Nauman directed the research of 35 LSU Ph.D. students and published more than 60 refereed articles, most of which were scientific papers. At LSU, he was president of the LSU Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi (research society) chapters. He was the author and primary source of ideas for the successful 1964 LSU Science Development Proposal (Centers of Excellence) to the National Science Foundation that formed the base for LSU becoming a Class I Research University. Nauman and Nick Canaday, an English professor, were the developers of the LSU Faculty Senate. He wrote the by-laws for the LSU Faculty Senate and for several college policy committees. He was the president of the transitional Senate and the elected second president of the active Senate. He wrote three long-range plans for the development of LSU; many of his ideas were adopted. He was also chairman of the College of Chemistry and Physics Policy Committee; he served on many LSU committees including search committees for chancellor and several deanships. He received a Fulbright grant in 1966 and took his young family to live in Chile where he taught chemistry at Federico Santa Maria University in Valparaíso, Chile. He was later named as a distinguished professor of that university by the Chilean government. He died in 2009.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains the working files of Dr. Robert Nauman. Contained within are correspondence, faculty senate records, publications, and other research and teaching files. The correspondence consists mostly of professional communications with Dr. Nauman. This includes communications with former Ph.D. candidates and fellow researchers. There is a large section of information about the National Science Foundation Summer Institute housed at LSU from 1959-1966. The working files series includes files related to grants, studies, and research performed by Nauman and others. The publications series contains mostly publications by Dr. Gilbert N. Lewis of the University of California, Berkeley, but also has some publications by Nauman.

LIST OF SERIES

Series I. Correspondence, 1952-1989

Series II. National Science Foundation, 1959-1979

Series III. Working Files, 1941-1990, undated

Series IV. Faculty Senate Files, 1955-1989

Series V. Publications, 1900-1973

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series I. Correspondence, 1952-1989

This series contains correspondence to and from Robert Nauman. Much of the correspondence is professional in nature and contains letters of reference, letters from former Ph.D. candidates, and communications with fellow researchers. Included in this series is correspondence with former colleagues at the Universidad Technica Frederico Santa Maria in Chile. This series is arranged alphabetically. Folders 1-19 are compiled of correspondence that didn't make up enough to have their own folder. Folders 20-22 are some of his personal correspondence that was labeled such in his files. The remainder of the series is arranged in alphabetical order by last name.

Series II. National Science Foundation, 1959-1979

This series contains files on the National Science Foundation, including the LSU National Science Foundation Summer Institute. The Summer Institute was a program for interested parties to participate in summer school to earn credits towards a Master's or Doctoral degree. Many of these students proceeded to receive their graduate degrees as a result of this program. It also strove to improve the science knowledge of current teachers, helping high school teachers to become more proficient in their respective science. Much of the information contained in this series deals with the funding, such as grant proposals and budgets, guides, and summaries for each year. This program was funded through grants received from the National Science Foundation submitted by Robert Nauman for the years 1959-1966. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series III. Working Files, 1941-1990, undated

This series contains the working files from Robert Nauman. These files relate to his teaching career at LSU. Included in this series are files related to grants, studies, and research performed by Nauman and others. Also found in these files is correspondence with various universities where he interviewed for Dean positions. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series IV. Faculty Senate, 1955-1989

The Faculty Senate Files Series contains files about the faculty senate at LSU. Contained in these files are correspondence, minutes, and agendas for the faculty senate, including his notes with his thoughts about the topics. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series V. Publications, 1900-1973

This series contains publications by researcher Gilbert N. Lewis, with whom he studied at the University of California, Berkley, and a handful of them published by Nauman. These publications are all chemistry related and are reprintings from their original publications. The last two publications are publications from the National Science Foundation and the LSU Faculty Senate on which he worked. This series is arranged chronologically.

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			<i>The Drexel Triangle</i> , Vol. XLIV, No. 24, October 6, 1967
			<i>State University at Buffalo Reporter</i> , Vol. 4, No. 16, January 25, 1973