

UA1981.38

Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs
Blue Key National Honor Fraternity
Loyola Chapter Records

Dates: 1930-1982

Creator: Assistant Dean of Students

Extent: .5 linear feet

Level of description: Folder

Processor & date: William Lum and Valerie Browne, January 1988; updated by K. Young, January 2014

Administration Information

Restrictions: None

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Provenance: Transferred to the University Archives in July of 1981 by Helen Lavelle, Assistant Dean of Students and moderator of Blue Key.

Separations: None

See Also:

Administrative History

Blue Key National Honor Fraternity was founded at the University of Florida in 1924. The Loyola Chapter, established in 1926, became the nineteenth of the organization. Among the founding members of the Loyola Chapter were Rev. Robert C. Hartnett, S.J., later the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. William Schoen, later the Dean of the School of Dentistry; and Dr. Paul S. Lietz, later the Chairman of the History Department. Blue Key required that its members "be recognized as all-round students, in scholarship, college activities, high moral standing, and personality." Each student selected for membership had to satisfy the faculty members and dean of his college as to his fitness for membership.

Membership initiation took place each spring at a dinner-dance. On this occasion each of the selected students received their membership award, a key. This event provided an opportunity for honoring those who had served Loyola University and the student body.

An organizational change which took place in Blue Key is chronicled in the 1958 Loyolan (p. 186): "Three years ago the local chapter was reorganized as a service group designed to assist the administration and faculty, and to support and encourage all student organizations." Thereafter, Blue Key members were appointed student marshals for all convocations and commencements, and they served the Dean of Admissions as recruiters

of new students from Chicago-area high schools. Each year the chapter bestowed awards upon the outstanding faculty member of the year, the organization of the year, and the student groups which distinguished themselves in the areas of academic, cultural, and social activity.

According to Section 7 of its Constitution and Statutes of Procedures of 1968, Blue Key National Honor Fraternity defined itself as "a general honor society which bases its eligibility primarily on all-around leadership in student affairs and in high scholastic achievement." Prior to 1973 the Loyola Chapter selected only pledges from the upper classes and graduate programs of the schools of Business Administration, Dentistry, Arts and Sciences, Law, and Medicine as well as University College. In 1973, the all-male membership of Blue Key voted to admit women members for the first time, and sophomores were also allowed admittance. Through a change in its constitution in 1976 the Loyola Chapter limited membership to undergraduates in the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Nursing, the School of Business, the School of Education, and the Dental School.

Series

SERIES 1: RECORDS OF REV. WILLIAM FINNEGAN, S.J., DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, 1930-1950, Box 1

This series relates to the early records of Loyola's chapter of Blue Key. The files are arranged alphabetically, and materials contained within are organized chronologically.

SERIES 2: LATER YEARS OF BLUE KEY, 1950-1982, Box 1

This series contains records of various officers and advisors/moderators of the Loyola Chapter of Blue Key. Files are arranged alphabetically, and materials contained within are organized chronologically.

Subjects:

Blue Key National Honor Fraternity

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Box	Folder Title	Date
SERIES 1: RECORDS OF REV. WILLIAM FINNEGAN, S.J., DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, 1930-1950		
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1	2	Correspondence with National Headquarters 1930, 1937
1	3	Finances, Suspension 1949-1950
1	4	Induction Dinner 1937, 1947
1	5	Membership Applications and Applicants 1935
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SERIES II: LATER YEARS OF BLUE KEY, 1950-1982		
1	8	Academic Council - College of Arts and Sciences (minutes of the meeting - Sept. 1980) Sept. 1980
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1	26	Possible Future Projects	1969-1971
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