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Guide to the Bro. Daniel Burke Papers

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Guide to the Bro. Daniel Burke Papers

UA.01.041

Finding aid prepared by Catherine Carey

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Summary Information

Repository	La Salle University Archives
Creator	Burke, Daniel
Title	Bro. Daniel Burke Papers
Date	1960s-1990s
Extent	19.5 Linear feet
Language	English

Preferred Citation

Bro. Daniel Burke Papers (UA.01.041), La Salle University Archives, Connelly Library.

Biographical Sketch

Daniel William Burke was born in Pittsburgh in 1926. In 1944 he received both the Robe of the Christian Brothers and also the religious name of Brother Fidelian of Mary. He would be known to everyone by this name until 1966 when the Christian Brothers reverted to their baptismal names and surnames.

In 1945 Brother Fidelian moved to the Christian Brothers' house of studies in Washington, D.C. After receiving a bachelor's degree in English from Catholic University with Phi Beta Kappa honors, he taught mostly English at West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys, La Salle Hall, and De La Salle College.

Brother Fidelian was named to the faculty of La Salle College in 1957 as assistant professor of English. In 1960 he became the Vice President for Academic Affairs, a post which he held for nine years. He attained master's and doctoral degrees in English from Catholic University. Professionally, he was made full professor in 1968.

Brother Daniel was chosen as the 25th president of La Salle College in June of 1969. He was the last La Salle president to be chosen by the superiors of the Christian Brothers. Brother Daniel was the first La Salle president to have a formal inauguration ceremony in October of 1969. He was re-elected by La Salle's Board of Trustees to a second five-year term in 1974. Two years later, however, Brother Daniel announced his desire to voluntarily step away from the presidency to pursue research and writing.

Perhaps the most significant milestone that Burke oversaw as president was La Salle's becoming a co-educational institution in September 1970. Other major accomplishments included the expansion of the Honors Program, overseeing revamped curricula, the beginning of the Concert and Lecture Series, Building Blocks Day Care Center, Continuing Education for Women, the Urban Studies Center, and the MBA program. Campus improvements included the construction of Olney Hall, Hayman Hall (later expanded as Hayman Center), and the Wister Hall Library Annex.

Of special interest to Brother Daniel was an avid desire to build a teaching art collection at La Salle. In November 1975 the La Salle Art Gallery officially opened its doors in the lower level of Olney Hall. Brother Daniel became its director in 1981. The collection was later expanded and renamed the La Salle University Art Museum.

Scope and Contents Note

The Bro. Daniel Burke Papers span the time from his inauguration as president in 1969 to his role as the founder and director of the La Salle Art Gallery (later the La Salle University Art Museum) in the 1980s and 1990s. The materials also touch on his time as an english professor, though the bulk of the material is from his time as president. Of note are the meeting minutes and enclosures for the Board of Trustees

and the College Council, documentation of the discussion of the university's move to coeducation, and planning documents related to the creation of the Urban Studies and Community Service Center.

Arrangement Note

The Bro. Daniel Burke Papers are arranged in five series: Subject Files, Lectures and Talks, Psalter for the New American Bible, and Manuscripts for Publications. The subject files came in from Burke's office in unlabeled envelopes. The materials were refoldered and labeled with the subject matter of their contents and kept in their original order. As such, the folders are not in alphabetical order and many of the subjects repeat. The other four series arrived labeled by Burke and this original order was preserved.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

La Salle University Archives

Controlled Access Headings

Subject(s)

- La Salle University--History.

Subject Files

Collection Inventory

Subject Files	
	Box
College Council (Promotion & Tenure) (has restrictions)	1
College Council (Open Door Program, ROTC)	1
College Council	1
Committee on Decision Making	1
Tri-State College Library Program	1
Committee on Decision Making Process	1
College Council	1
College Council	1
College Council	1
College Council	1
College Council (Tenure & Promotion)	1

Subject Files

College Council	1
College Council	1
College Council (Feasibility Study for MBA Programs at La Salle)	1
College Council	1
Correspondence (Thank Yous)	1
American Foundation for Negro Affairs	1
Office of Admissions	1
Academic Affairs-Annual Reports	1
Annual Report-Dean of the College	1
Committee on Academic Atmosphere	1
Curriculum Committee	1
Committee on Academic Opportunity Program Commission (Restrictions)	1
Academic Affairs Committee	1
Academic Affairs Commission	1

Subject Files

Chairmen's Committee Meeting Minutes	1
Committee on Coeducation	1
Board of Trustees-Minutes	2
Board of Trustees	2
Board of Trustees	2
Board of Trustees	2
Board of Managers	2
College Council	2
Board of Trustees	2
Board of Trustees (Reports)	2
Board of Trustees	2
NCAA	2
Community Academic Opportunity Program	2
Master Plan	2

Subject Files

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Freshman Orientation Program	2
Faculty Senate	2
Correspondence re: Contracts	2
Financial Aid	3
Faculty Meeting	3
Food Services	3
Faculty Development	3
Financial Aid (1/2)	3
Financial Aid (2/2)	3
Faculty Senate (1/2)	3
Faculty Senate (2/2)	3
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Freshman Orientation	3

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Faculty Bulletin (2/2) 3

Student Development Committee 3

La Salle College Guild 3

La Salle College Guild 3

La Salle College Guild 3

La Salle College Guild 3

La Salle College Guild 3

La Salle College Guild 4

Council of President's Associates 4

Co-ed Dormitory Visitation Rules 4

Capital Campaign 4

Career Planning and Placement

Box

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Dean of Student Life	4
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Urban Studies and Community Service Center	4
Urban Studies and Community Service Center	4

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Urban Studies and Community Service Center	5
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Laschyk	5
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Academic Affairs Committee	5
Academic Affairs Committee	5
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La Salle College Guild	5
Accounting	5

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Housing	5
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Education Department	6
Education Department	5
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English Department	6
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Chemistry Department	6

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Vice President of Academic Affairs	6
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Counseling Center	6
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College Council	7
Board of Trustees-Minutes	7
La Salle College Guild	7

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Applications	10
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ROTC	10
History Department	10
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College Council	10
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