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## Finding Aid to the Phi Upsilon Omicron Records

### Phi Upsilon Omicron. Beta Chapter

Phi Upsilon Omicron, Beta Chapter, Records, 1915-2001

5 linear ft.

Record Group 14.1.28.6

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### OVERVIEW

**Links:** Finding Aid to the [College of Human Development and Education](#)

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### HISTORY

Phi Upsilon Omicron Fraternity is today a national honor society in family and consumer sciences. However, it began in 1909 at the University of Minnesota as the Home Economics Club, with the intent of service, professional study and advancement of home economics. On May 17, 1911, the Home Economics Club was disbanded and Phi Upsilon Omicron came into being and the Alpha Chapter was legally incorporated on December 12, 1911.

The Beta Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron Fraternity had its beginnings at North Dakota Agricultural College (NDAC) as a local sorority, Chi Gamma Psi. They originally organized in 1912, “with the purpose of promoting high scholarship and a more perfect fellowship and understanding between faculty and students.” (1914 *Agassiz*) In 1913 they petitioned the Alpha Chapter for a charter. Since nothing was heard from the Alpha Chapter, in the early fall of 1914, two members of Chi Gamma Psi took the train to Minneapolis-St. Paul to present their case for a charter in Phi Upsilon Omicron. A few weeks after returning to Fargo, they received the news that the charter had been granted and the Beta Chapter at NDAC was to be installed on November 14, 1914 in the parlor of the Annex Hotel (began the Gardner Hotel) consisting of twelve charter members. Within a few years, graduates of NDAC who were former members of Phi Upsilon Omicron began the Beta Alumnae Chapter. Although it was not formally organized until 1922, their activities date back to 1919.

In 1918, after receiving approval from the Board of Regents, the Beta Chapter rented a sorority house, four blocks from campus. In 1920 they bought a house on Twelfth Avenue (1414 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue North) and in 1926 they sold the house to Kappa Psi fraternity. The money from the sale was invested and by 1954 the funds were in excess of \$5,000. The Phi U. Alumnae and Actives gave this money to furnish the Founder’s Room in the then new Home Economics building.

The purpose of Phi Upsilon Omicron is to “advance and upbuild [sic] the science of Home Economics and to further its development throughout the Nation: As a science it represents a comparatively new field of endeavor, but it is one which will surely become of utmost importance.” (1923 *Agassiz*)

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

There are eight series in the Phi Upsilon Omicron Records: [General Chapter Series](#) (1918-1992) includes histories of the Chapter, Constitution and Bylaws, articles of incorporation, sorority house (1920-1926), initiation scrolls, installation of officers, rituals, chapter and guest books, a cookbook, various form letters, *Newsletters* (1924-1942), and various activities. The [Meeting Minutes Series](#) (1918-1987) consists of four bound journals covering 1918-1923, 1923-1924, 1949-1950, and 1981-1987. The [Financial Series](#) (1920-1991) includes: bound Account Books (1920-1945, 1948-1983), financial reports (1966-1972), receipt forms (1976, 1978), treasurer’s reports (1979-1989), audit (1985-1986), bank statements (1987-1992), and ledgers (1988-1990, 1990-1991); The [Correspondence Series](#) (1923-1958) contains letters to/from Chapter Presidents (1924-1957) and Vice Presidents (1950s), members, business concerns (1923-1930), fiftieth anniversary, and general correspondence (1940s-1950s). The [Beta Alumnae Series](#) (1923-1957) consist of bylaws, meeting minutes (1928-1934, 1952-1987, 1995-1999 [gaps]), financial records (1923-1935, 1976-2001), *Newsletters* (1929-1936, 1982, 1985, 1999), ratings and annual reports (1924-1957 [gaps]), and chapter books (1932-1957). The [Alumnae Initiates and Members Series](#) (1915-1987) includes listings of initiates from 1925 through 1952, member/alumni listings from 1915 through 1987, and the letter deactivating the chapter in 2000. The [National Series](#) (1920-1998) includes information and photograph on national Conclaves (meetings), books/monographs, and phonograph albums and the [Scrapbook Series](#) (1919-1990) consists of 26 scrapbooks. These scrapbooks present an overview of the fraternity’s activities during a seventy-year period. The

scrapbooks contain photographs, news clippings, member biographies, yearly activity programs, cards, correspondence, award and banquet programs and flyers, and special event programs. Some of the scrapbooks are in excellent shape while others are extremely brittle.

## BOX AND FOLDER LIST

### BOX 1

1/1 Finding Aid

#### General Chapter Series (1918-1992)

- 1/2 Histories of the Beta Chapter - 1920, 1940, 1958, 1967, 1979, 1 n.d
- 1/3 Constitution - Rev., 1989
- 1/4 Bylaws of Beta Chapter - April 2, 1989
- 1/5 Articles of Incorporation of the Beta Chapter of the Phi Upsilon Omicron Fraternity - Agricultural College, North Dakota. April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1923
- 1/6 Phi Upsilon Omicron House - letter (copy) from President Ladd granting permission to "conduct a sorority house" - 1918; inventory - n.d.; 2<sup>nd</sup> Mortgage and sale of house responses & proxies - 1924, 1925; finances & receipts - 1922-1929; Scroll - The Initiation Service - long version - n.d. (**Oversized - Removed to Box 3**)  
Scroll - The Initiation Service - brief version - n.d. (**Oversized - Removed to Box 3**)
- 1/7 Procedures: installation of officers - 1982
- 1/8 Founder's Day Ritual - n.d.; Ritual for Regular Meetings - n.d.
- 1/9 Active Chapter Book - 1957-1958
- 1/10 Active Chapter Book - 1958-1959
- 1/11 Guest Book - White - 1960s & 1970s
- 1/12 Guest Book - Fabric - c. 1969-1970
- 1/13 Guest Book - Blue - loose pages -1984-1985
- 1/14 *Kook-Keys: Containing Choice Recipes and Menu Suggestions*. Compiled by Beta Chapter, Phi Upsilon Omicron, 1930. [TX715.K66 1930]
- 1/15 Form Letters, invitation to apply, acceptance letter, stationery, membership certificate, sidekicks, aids to membership - 1991,1992
- 1/16 Active Members - *Newsletters* - 1924-1942
- 1/17 Articles submitted from Beta Chapter to the *Candle* - 1970s
- 1/18 Community Service Award materials - 1987-1991
- 1/19 Professional Project - Beta Chapter - "Communications - The C.H.E. Key" - 1992

**Meeting Minutes (1918-1987)**

- 1/20 Secretary's Book - Active - Meeting Minutes - 1918-1923  
Secretary's Book - Active - Meeting Minutes - 1923-1924 [**Oversized -  
Removed to Box 3)**
- 1/21 Meeting Minutes - Active - Spiral Notebook - April, 1949 - March, 1950
- 1/22 Recording Secretary's Book - Active - Meeting Minutes - September, 1981 -  
May, 1987

**Financial Materials (1920-1991)**

- 1/23 Bound Account Book - 1920-1945
- 1/24 Bound Account Book - 1948-1983
- 1/25 Financial Report - May, 1966 - April, 1968 - Northwest Audit Company
- 1/26 Financial Report - May, 1968 - April, 1972 - Northwest Audit Company
- 1/27 Receipts - national dues - c.1976, 1978
- 1/28 Treasurer Reports - 1979-1989
- 1/29 Audit - 1985-86
- 1/30 Bank Statements - 1987-1992
- 1/31 Ledger - Blue cover - 1988-1990
- 1/32 Ledger - Red Cover - 1990-1991

**Correspondence (1923-1958)**

- 1/33 Correspondence - Chapter Presidents - 1924-1957 (gaps)
- 1/34 Correspondence - Chapter Vice Presidents - 1951, 1952
- 1/35 Correspondence - Members - 1930s, 1950s
- 1/36 Correspondence - Ruth Bruegger - President, Beta Alumnae - 1957
- 1/37 Correspondence - Emily Reynolds - 1951-1954
- 1/38 Correspondence - Business - 1923-1930
- 1/39 Correspondence - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - 1958
- 1/40 Correspondence - General - 1940s-1950s

**Beta Alumnae (1923-1957)**

- 1/41 Alumnae - Constitutions & Bylaws - Phi Upsilon Omicron - n.d.
- 1/42 Beta Alumnae - Minutes - December 1919 - May 1928
- 1/43 Beta Alumnae - Minutes - June 1928 - January 1934
- 1/44 Beta Alumnae - Minutes - 1952-1987 [gaps]
- 1/45 Beta Alumnae - Minutes - 1995-1999 [gaps]
- 1/46 Beta Alumnae - Executive Committee Minutes - 2000

**BOX 1A**

- 1A/1 Beta Alumnae - Financial Statements, Reports, Receipts, Correspondence - 1923-1935 [gaps]
- 1A/2 Beta Alumnae - Ledger Book - April 1976 - January 2001
- 1A/3 Beta Alumnae - Bank Statements - September 1982 - January 1983, October 1991 - December 2000
- 1A/4 Beta Alumnae - Treasurer Reports - 1992, 1993, 1996-2000
- 1A/5 Beta Alumnae - Alumnae *Newsletter* - 1929-1936, 1982, 1985, 1999
- 1A/6 Beta Alumnae - Alba Bales Scholarship Winners - 1959-60, 1984-85
- 1A/7 Beta Alumnae - Descriptive Ratings - 1937-1951, 1953
- 1A/8 Beta Alumnae - Annual Report - 1924-1928, 1934-1953 [gaps]
- 1A/9 Alumnae Chapter Book - 1932-1933
- 1A/10 Alumnae Chapter Book - 1936-1937
- 1A/11 Alumnae Annual Report - 1940
- 1A/12 Alumnae Annual Report - 1941
- 1A/13 Alumnae Annual Report - 1942
- 1A/14 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1942-1943
- 1A/15 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1943-1944
- 1A/16 Alumnae Chapter Book - 1945-1946
- 1A/17 Alumnae Chapter Book - 1946-1947
- 1A/18 Alumnae Chapter Book - 1947-1948
- 1A/19 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1948-1949
- 1A/20 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1949-1950
- 1A/21 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1950-1951
- 1A/22 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1951-1952
- 1A/23 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1952-1953
- 1A/24 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1953-1954
- 1A/25 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1954-1955
- 1A/26 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1955-1956
- 1A/27 Alumnae Chapter Book & Annual Report - 1957
- 1A/28 Beta Alumnae - Deactivation of Chapter - November 2000

**Initiate and Member Records (1915-1987)**

- 1A/29 Initiates - 1925 - 1956 (**box 3**)
- 1A/30 Initiate Album - Beige with gold lettering - April, 1957 - November, 1982  
Account with Members who graduated 1920s-1960s (**Inner Box A**)

**BOX 2**

Membership Cards - Professional Work - 1915-1931 [gaps]; Charter

Members addresses, Honorary Members list, Alphabetical listing of past members with current address and name changes - information updated as of 1958; Membership and Addresses - Initiation dates: 1968, 1970-1979 (**Inner Box B**)

- 2/1 Membership - 1980
- 2/2 Membership - 1981
- 2/3 Membership – 1982
- 2/4 Membership - 1984
- 2/5 Membership - 1985
- 2/6 Membership - 1986
- 2/7 Membership – 1987

**National Related** (1920-1980s)

- 2/8 National Conclaves - 1920, 1921, 1922, 1924, 1936, 1938
- 2/9 National Conclaves - 1940, 1942, 1948, 1951, 1952
- 2/10 National Conclave - Fargo - June 1958; June 1998
- 2/11 *Phi Upsilon Omicron, A History 1909-1944*
- 2/12 *Ten Women of Vision in Home Economics* - Gamma Alumni Chapter, Ohio State, c.1986
- Record Album - 78 rpm - “Cavalcade of America” - parts 3 and 6 - March 15, 1948 (**Oversized - Removed to Box 3**)
- Phonograph Records - 33 1/3 rpm - Phi Upsilon Omicron Songs - sung by Kappa Chapter - c. 1962 [2 copies] - cost \$3.70 each (**Oversized - Removed to Box 3**)

**BOX 3 – Scrapbooks** (1919-1943)

- 3/1 No Title or cover - Scrapbook - 1919-1926 - news clippings, photos (Lake party, 1925, 1926; Phi U Formal, American Legion Hall, 1925; Phi Upsilon Omicron Chapter House, n.d.; Ceres Hall, n.d.; Campus View - Engineering buildings, n.d.; Aerial, n.d.; H.S. track meet at Dacotah Field, n.d.)
- 3/2 Scrapbook - “Beta Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron 1928” - loose beige pages - 1) Beta Phi Upsilon Omicron Alumnae, 2) Beta of Phi Upsilon Omicron Actives, 3) Honorary Members, 4) Scrap Book - North Dakota Agricultural College Campus Views (Chemistry Building, House - Wesley College School of Religion, Administration Building, Main Gates, Library, Practice House, Dairy Building, Veterinary Building, Engineering Buildings, Agricultural Buildings, Engineering Building, Frances Hall Extension Department, Science Hall [Side View], Science Hall [Front View], Music Hall, Chemistry Building, Experimental Plots.
- 3/3 “Phi U Scraps” - green covered felt material - Photos and information on members, newspaper clippings - Class of 1930, Class of 1931, Class of 1932, Class of 1933
- 3/4 Phi Upsilon Omicron - Scrapbook - 1934-1935 - News clippings, Graduating Seniors 1935 (photos, bios, activities during school and after graduation)
- 3/5 Black Loose-leaf - materials in Mylar enclosures - Beta Chapter of Phi

- Upsilon Omicron - History Book - Dates 1935-1939 - news items, Graduating Seniors 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939 [handwritten] (photos, bios, activities during school and after graduation), photos of Ceres and Practice House
- 3/6 Album (tan/green - 9 x 6) - "Beta - Phi U" - The History Of - 1939-1940 - news clippings, Graduating Seniors 1940 (photos, bios, activities during school)
- 3/7 Scrapbook - tan with red left border - History of Beta Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron - 1940-1941 - The Years Activities, News Items 1940-41; Phi U District Conference, Graduating Seniors 1941 (photos, bios, activities during school and after graduation)
- 3/8 Scrapbook - black cover - History of Beta Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron - 1941-1942 (Irene Josephson-Historian, Genevieve Hamilton-Assistant) - Yearly Program of Activities, *Newsletter*, 1942; News Items 1941-42; Graduating Seniors 1942 (photos, bios, activities after school)
- 3/9 Scrapbook- History of Beta Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron - 1942-1943 (Genevieve Hamilton—Historian, Bette Eckre--Acting Historian, & Janet Petersen--Assistant) - Scrapbook - *Newsletter*, 1943; News Items 1942-43; Graduating Seniors 1943 (photos, bios, activities during school and after graduation)

#### **BOX 4 - Scrapbooks (1944-1966)**

- 4/1 Scrapbook - beige with word scrapbook centered in gold - History 1944-'45 - photos, invitations, events, Graduating Seniors 1945 (bios, photos, school activities, occupation)
- 4/2 Scrapbook - beige with yellow flowers - front cover off - 1946-1947, 1947-1948 - photos, invitations, events - Graduating Senior 1946-1947, 1947-1948 (bios, photos, school activities, plans)
- 4/3 Scrapbook - [10 inches x 6½] - 1948-49 photos, clippings, events - Graduating Seniors 1949 (photos, bios, school activities, plans for the future)
- 4/4 Scrapbook - [10 inches x 6½] - 1949-50 photos, clippings, events - Graduating Seniors 1950 (photos, bios, school activities)
- 4/5 Scrapbook - [10 inches x 6½] - 1950-51 photos, clippings, events - Graduating Seniors 1951 (photos, bios, school activities)
- 4/6 Scrapbook - brown cover - [10 inches x 6½] - 1951-52 photos, clippings, events - Graduating Seniors 1952 (photos, bios, school activities)
- 4/7 Scrapbook - maroon - 1956-57 - year activities, news clippings, programs, Graduating Seniors 1957 (photos, bios, school activities, and future plans)
- 4/8 Scrapbook - Blue with gold lettering - 1957-58 - news clippings, programs, Graduating Seniors 1958 (photos, bios, school activities)
- 4/9 Scrapbook - red with scrapbook in gold - 1960-1961 - news clippings, programs, cards, correspondence
- 4/10 Scrapbook - black with scrapbook in gold -1962-63, 1961-1962 - news clippings, programs, cards, correspondence.
- 4/11 Scrapbook - light green cover - Phi Upsilon Omicron - 1964-65, 1965-66, 1966-1967 - news clippings, photos, programs.

**BOX 5 - Scrapbooks (1967-1990)**

- 5/1 Scrapbook - Beige with gold lettering - 1966-67 - Seniors (bios, photos, school activities)
- 5/2 Scrapbook - 1969-1971 - red cover - articles, photos, mitten party, national conclave, programs, clippings
- 5/3 Scrapbook - 1972-1982 - Beige with gouges cover - program for the year, National Conclave, Gift to NDSU, awards, banquets, photos, cards, programs
- 5/4 Scrapbook - Phi U - blue - "This scrapbook is a bit of this & a tad of that of yesteryear & recent past. It is a collection of programs, reports, Phi U events from 1976 - 1984. There are also some older clippings & reports that seemed to belong in a scrapbook .... So enjoy!! Jan Ljungren 1984-85 Phi Upsilon Omicron Historian
- 5/5 Scrapbook - Violet Fabric with Phi-U 85-86 stitched on cover - photos, program for the year, community project, Founder's Day, professional project
- 5/6 Scrapbook - 1987-1990 - red cover - program for the year, photos, chatter party, Founder's Day Banquet, Family Appreciation Day, National Conclave (Ohio State), fundraiser, Little I, NDSU Centennial