

S. J. McKee Archives



BC 8: Brandon College Students Association

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Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Series

Series Number: 8

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1905-1967

Physical Description: approx. 65.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

The first organization involving the students of Brandon College was created in 1899 or 1900. It was entitled the Literary Society. This society was run by students and faculty to cultivate literary and musical gifts and to provide training in public speaking and in the transaction of business. In 1901, a College branch of the Y.W.C.A. was formed as well as a Students' Missionary organization. A College branch of the Y.M.C.A. followed in 1902. The Brandon College Athletic Association was created in 1904 to direct the affairs of the various athletic games.

The first idea of a Student Council-type organization began in 1906 with the creation of the Students' Committee. This committee was created in order to develop a worthy College spirit and to promote a worthy College life.

"A committee of five students shall be appointed annually early in the college session whose office it shall be to confer with the Resident Master on matters pertaining to residential life, and with the Faculty on matters pertaining to the general life of the College. This committee shall consist of five members, three resident and two non-resident. In matters relating to the residence the three resident students alone shall act. This committee shall represent the Student Body in any matters in which that body may wish to confer with the Faculty, or may of its own motion confer with the faculty on any subject thought to be of interest in promoting proper College life."

In 1909 the Debating Society was created for training in public speaking. A Publications Committee was created in 1910 to publish the new student magazine, The Quill. The Students' Committee became known as the Student Council in 1915. Also in 1915, a Committee on College Activities was formed. This consisted of the President, two faculty members and two students. It was appointed by arrangement of the College Council each year to regulate the various activities of College life. It became known as the Functions Committee in 1921.

The 1920-1921 College Calendar is the first calendar that mentions the Brandon College Students Association. It states under the heading of Student Organizations that:

"The Literary and Debating Societies, the Athletic Association, the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. are integral parts of the Brandon College Students' Association, and are managed by committees appointed by the Association."

1921 saw the formation of the Students' Christian Movement which replaced the Y.M.C.A. and

the Y.W.C.A. Under the Students' Christian Movement group, students held weekly devotional and educational services, and conducted Bible and mission study classes.

The 1936-1937 College Calendar shows that a change took place that year in the student council. Instead of just five students of the College being elected to the Council, there are now two separate councils. The calendar states that:

"The students of the men's and of the womens' residences appoint annually a representative committee of five, whose function it is to consider the interests of College life from the point of view of the residence body, conferring with the Faculty when necessary."

Although these groups of five were known as the student council, there was a Student Executive of the Brandon College Students Association that was a separate entity. It consisted of the Senior Stick, the Lady Stick (since 1923), the heads of various boards, and the class presidents. This governing student body continued until 1966 when it underwent an extensive reorganization. During that year, the positions of Senior and Lady Sticks were abolished so that the elected student president could be a man or a woman. This president would be assisted by elected 'sticks' from each faculty of Arts, Science, Education and Music. This form of government continued until 1967, when Brandon College became Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The Student Association files cover a wide variety of topics and consist mainly of minutes from various student groups and clubs on the Brandon College campus. The records are a first hand look at how student governments were run during the Brandon College era.

Series has been divided into twenty four sub-series, including: (1) Lady Stick's Notes; (2) Memorial Gymnasium Book; (3) Minutes (Literary Board); (4) Expansion Fund Committee; (5) Athletic Board Finance; (6) Finance Board; (7) Main Executive Committee; (8) Functions Committee; (9) Athletic Association/Athletic Board; (10) Contemporary Club; (11) Social Science Club; (12) BCSA Records; (13) Co-Ed Association; (14) English Club; (15) Sports Awards; (16) Record of Social Events; (17) Brandon College Ministerial Association; (18) Ledgers; (19) Freshie Week Committee; (20) Arts Banquet Committee; (21) French Club; (22) Intersarsity Night Report; (23) Publications Committee; and (24) Student Missionary Band.

Storage Location: RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Series 8: Brandon College Students Association

Related Material: RG 6 (Brandon University fonds), series 14 (BUSU - Brandon University Students Union).