Donald A. McGavran Papers on Microfilm

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Donald A. McGavran Papers on Microfilm
Dates: 1917-1977
Collection Number: CFT00126
Creator/Collector: McGavran, Donald A. (Donald Anderson) (1897-1990)
Extent: 1 Box, 0.5 linear feet
Repository: Fuller Theological Seminary-David Allan Hubbard Library Archives
Pasadena, California 91182
Abstract: Donald McGavran (Dec 15, 1897 - July 10, 1990), also known as “the Father of the Church Growth Movement,” was the founding Dean of the School of World Mission at Fuller Theological Seminary. The microfilm collection contains copies of documents related McGavran’s life and ministry from 1897 - 1965.
Language of Material: English
Access
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Preferred Citation
Donald A. McGavran Papers on Microfilm. Fuller Theological Seminary-David Allan Hubbard Library Archives

Biography/Administrative History

Donald McGavran (Dec 15, 1897 - July 10, 1990), also known as “the Father of the Church Growth Movement,” was the founding Dean of the School of World Mission at Fuller Theological Seminary. Dr. McGavran served as Dean from 1965-1971, and was Emeritus faculty from 1980-1990. The United Christian Missionary Society of the Disciples of Christ Church sent the McGavrans as missionaries to central India in 1923. During his work, McGavran’s philosophy of mission altered from primarily evangelistic work to focus on developing the spiritual lives of Christian believers through discipleship. In 1958, McGavran resigned from mission work and pursued his goal to start an academic school focusing on church growth. He began the Institute of Church Growth at Northwest Christian College in Eugene, Oregon in 1961. The Institute transitioned to Fuller Theological Seminary in 1965. It was renamed the Graduate School of World Mission and Institute of Church Growth.

Scope and Content of Collection

The microfilm collection contains copies of documents related McGavran’s life and ministry from 1897 - 1965. The collection consists of eleven rolls of microfilm labeled Introduction, Letters (rolls 1-8), Manuscripts (rolls 8-10) and Minutes. The box also includes a bound volume index, entitled “Donald Anderson McGavran: A Register of His Papers in the Northwest Christian College Library, Special Collections Division.”

Indexing Terms
Church growth
Missions
Missiology
McGavran, Donald A. (Donald Anderson) (1897-1990)
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
India