
Inventory of the Picnic Day Board of Directors Records AR-122

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University of California, Davis Library, University Archives

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Title: Picnic Day Board of Directors Records

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Physical Description: 20 linear feet

Date (inclusive): 1952-2014

Abstract: Since 1909, Picnic Day has provided the University of California, Davis with the means of showcasing the campus and the achievements of its students, staff, and faculty. Every year the event is organized by the Picnic Day Board of Directors, which is composed entirely of students. The collection includes reports, financial records, meeting minutes, and publicity materials that document the Board's work in organizing UC Davis' annual open house.

Researchers should contact Archives and Special Collections to request collections, as many are stored offsite.

Language of Material: Collection materials in English.

Administrative History

The first "Dedication Basket Picnic" was held May 22, 1909 to honor the opening of North Hall, the first dormitory. The event drew an estimated 3,000 people by train, horse and wagon, or automobile.

Festivities included introductory remarks by Leroy Anderson, Superintendent of the University Farm, English and Spanish Ballads sung by Mrs. Mary Roberts Coolidge, a dedicatory address by Edward J. Wickson, Dean of the College of Agriculture, and additional addresses by H.A. Jastro, President of the State Agricultural Society and Benjamin Ide Wheeler, President of the University of California. Tables were arranged in the Dairy Barn for the basket picnic and guests were advised to "bring a cup and spoon, since coffee with cream and sugar will be served by the University."

Picnic Day has since become the annual open house for the campus and has grown into one of the largest student-run events in the U.S.

Scope and Content

The collection includes reports, financial records, meeting minutes, and publicity materials that document the Board's work in organizing UC Davis' annual open house.

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is arranged in chronological order.

Related Materials

Archives and Special Collections also holds the Picnic Day Collection, AR-075. This collection contains programs, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia from Picnic Day celebrations.

Access

Collection is open for research.

Processing Information

Sara Gunasekara processed this collection with assistance from student employee Carena Leung. This collection was processed under the Guidelines for Efficient Archival Processing in the University of California Libraries.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], AR-122, Picnic Day Board of Directors Reports, Archives and Special Collections, UC Davis Library, University of California, Davis.

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Subjects and Indexing Terms

Picnic Day Board of Directors--Archives

Picnic Day

University of California, Davis--History

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