



## **Descriptive Summary:**

*Title:* The Alumni Association Collection

*Repository:* Northern State University Archives & Special Collections, Beulah Williams Library

*Creator:* Northern State Alumni Association

*Dates:* 1904-1944, 1952-1979

*Extent:* 1 linear foot

## **Administrative Information**

*Acquisitions Information:* This collection was donated by an unknown donor

*Processing Information:* This collection was processed by Toni Mayer

*Access Restrictions:* None.

*Copyright Notice:* Literary rights and copyrights, when applicable, have been assigned to Beulah Williams Library

*Preferred Citation:* [Item Name], The Alumni Association Collection, Beulah Williams Library Archives and Special Collections, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD.

## Biographical Note

The Alumni Association was founded to promote a lifelong relationship between students and Northern State Teachers College after graduation. Additionally, the Alumni Association established a scholarship fund supported by alumni donations for students who needed aid to be able to attend college. A big feature of the Alumni Association was an annual meeting during Gypsy Days for alumni with milestone graduation anniversaries. They also hosted a variety of other meetings, both on campus and across the United States, to keep in touch with alumni near and far. Banquets and meetings were funded by ticket sales priced to cover the cost of attendance.

The Alumni Association was initially supported by a quarterly fee charged as part of the general attendance fees. In 1935, alumni interested in membership had the option of a yearly fee of \$1.00 or paying \$4.50 for a lifetime membership. By the 1970s, students were unhappy with mandatory membership dues as part of the general attendance fees, and after a series of hearings the fee was reduced in favor of the Alumni Association being funded by alumni donations.

## Scope and Content

This collection is divided into three series, *Alumni Association Formation*, *Materials Sent to Alumni*, and *Alumni Association Mandatory Fee Hearing*. This collection contains the following formats: letters, newspaper articles, bulletins, event programs, and meeting minutes. This collection is entirely in English.

## Series Descriptions:

Series 1: Alumni Association Formation Boxes: 1, 2 Dates: 1904-1939

This series contains items pertaining to the formation of the Alumni Association, such as constitution drafts, membership dues, and a book of meeting minutes from the first alumni meetings. This series was left in its original order.

Series 2: Materials Sent to Alumni Boxes: 1 Dates: 1932-1936, 1944, 1952-1979

This series includes items sent from the Alumni Association to alumni such as newsletters, event invitations, alumni directories, and fundraising letters. This series has been further divided into 4 subseries, Alumni Directories, Alumni News and Bulletins, Meetings and Banquets, and Fundraising.

#### Subseries 2a: Alumni Directories

This subseries contains 1961 alumni directories for two and four year students, a 1934 list of graduates with current addresses, and the directory for the 50 year graduation anniversary of the 1902 graduates. These items have been arranged chronologically.

#### Subseries 2b: Alumni News and Bulletins

This subseries contains editions of the Alumni News and Alumni Bulletin. These items have been arranged chronologically.

#### Subseries 2c: Meetings and Banquets

This series contains invitations to the various meetings and banquets held throughout the country, including the annual Gypsy Days alumni meeting. This series has been arranged chronologically.

#### Subseries 2d: Fundraising

This series contains letters asking for donations to the Alumni Association scholarship fund. This series has been arranged chronologically.

### Series 3: Student Council Hearing for Mandatory Alumni Association Fee    Boxes: 1

Dates: 1973-1974

This series contains items relating to the 1974 Student Council hearing concerning the mandatory Alumni Association fee. This series has further been arranged into 3 subseries: Poll Results, Hearing Documents and Correspondence, and Student Activities Committee Meeting Minutes.

### Subseries 3a: Poll Results

This subseries contains blank and completed copies of the poll sent to NSU students and alumni about feelings towards the mandatory Alumni Association fee. This subseries is arranged alphabetically.

### Subseries 3b: Hearing Correspondence

This subseries contains correspondence between the Student Council President Stan Heffner and various NSU and Board of Regents officials. These items have been arranged alphabetically.

### Subseries 3c: Student Activities Committee Meeting Minutes

This subseries contains copies of the meeting minutes from the hearing committee and has been arranged alphabetically.

## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

### 1. Series Title: Alumni Association Formation

#### Box #1

FF1 Alumni Association Constitution Drafts, n.d.

FF2 Alumni Association Membership Dues, 1935

#### Box #2

Item 1 Minutes of the First Alumni April 2, 1904- June 1, 1939

### 2. Series Title: Materials Sent to Alumni

a. Subseries 2a: Alumni Directories

Box # 1

FF3 List of Graduates with Home Address and 1934 Address and Occupation, 1934

FF4 1902 Golden Anniversary Year Booklet Northern State Teachers College, 1952

FF5 Northern State Teachers College Alumni Directory, 1961

b. Subseries 2b: Alumni News and Bulletins

Box # 1

FF6 Northern Normal and Industrial School Alumni Bulletin, 1936

FF7 Northern State Teachers College Alumni News, 1944, 1957, 1971

FF8 Alumni News Address Form, 1973

FF9, N Club Alumni Newsletter, 1975

c. Subseries 2c: Meetings and Banquets

Box # 1

FF10 Northern State Teachers College Alumni Banquet Program, 1932

FF11 SDEA Banquets, 1958-1959, 1968

FF12 Alumni Meetings Held by NSC Alumni Associates, 1961-1973

FF13 Meetings for Seniors, 1970-1974

FF14 Alumni Meetings 1968-1974

FF15 Gypsy Day Invitations 1968-1973

FF16 Distinguished Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet Programs, 1977, 1979

d. Subseries 2d: Fundraising

Box # 1

FF17 Scholarship Fund Letters, 1960-1975

FF18 50<sup>th</sup> Gypsy Day Order Form, 1968-1969

3. Series Title: Student Council Hearing for Mandatory Alumni Association Fee

a. Subseries 3a: Poll Results

Box #1

FF19 Alumni Association Fee Poll Results, 1974

b. Subseries 3b: Hearing Correspondence

Box # 1

FF20 Correspondence About Alumni Association Fee Hearing, 1973-1974

FF21 Exponent Articles About Alumni Association Dues, 1974

FF22 Heffner Position Paper Presented to South Dakota Board of Regents, 1974

c. Subseries 3c: Meeting Minutes Student Activities Committee

Box # 1

FF23 Budget Request to Student Activities Committee, 1974

FF24 Student Services Committee Meeting Minutes and Report, 1974