St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.). Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Records, 1950-

SJU Archival Collection 30

56 cubic ft. (116 archive boxes)

Update: June 5, 2020

**ABSTRACT:** Collection contains records of the Vice President for Institutional Advancement at St. John’s University. This position was formerly called Director of Development. The Institutional Advancement Office cultivates philanthropic giving and government funding for the University, and maintains relations with alumni.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:** The collection includes reports, correspondence, lists, statistics, minutes, brochures and other documents pertaining to fundraising campaigns and projects, grants, and alumni relations. There are also materials related to public relations and some special events.

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:** The St. John's University Institutional Advancement Office has its origin in the St. John's Alumni Association. One of the original purposes of the Alumni Association, founded in 1882, was to further the interests of the school. In 1949, the executive board of the Alumni Association, realizing that Benet Hall and the barracks then used on campus were inadequate for student housing needs, established a Building Fund. Fr. Walter Reger, OSB, as national secretary-treasurer of the Alumni Association, was also secretary of the Building Fund. In 1954, donors in the Associates program, created by the executive board of the Alumni Association, could designate to which of four funds (two Alumni Association projects and two St. John's Abbey endeavors) their money should go. A "One Hundred Year Development Program" is first mentioned in 1955; Walter Reger as Alumni secretary was head of the Development Fund. The Alumni Office and Development Office were later separated. In 1976, an Executive Director of Development position was created. The following year, the title changed to Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

In 2003, Alumni Relations became part of Development and Alumni Relations, renamed one year later to Development and University Relations.

The Vice Presidents have been:
Walter Reger, OSB (Alumni Association Secretary), 1949-1958  
Walter Reger, OSB (Director of Development), 1958-1963  
Donald M. Conway, 1964-1972  
Michael Ricci, 1973-1976  
Roy M. Rasmussen (Executive Director of Development), 1976-1977  
Roy M. Rasmussen (Vice President for Institutional Advancement), 1977-1979  
Michael Ricci (Acting Vice President for Institutional Advancement), 1979-1980  
Jim DeChaine (Vice President for Institutional Advancement), 1980-1981  
Donald LeMay, OSB, 1981-1984  
Alberic Culhane, OSB, 1984-1987  
John Crosby, 1987-1999  
Robert Culligan, 1999-

**ARRANGEMENT:** The files are organized alphabetically.

**ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The collection is open to all members of the public, and there are no access restrictions on most of the materials. Access to some personnel information is restricted. See Archivist.

**COLLECTION CITATION:** This collection should be cited as:

St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.). Vice President for Institutional Advancement. SJU Archival Collection 30. St. John’s University Archives, Collegeville, Minnesota.

**RELATED COLLECTIONS:** See also [AC 11, Alumni Office](http://apps.csbsju.edu/sjuarchives/Inventory.aspx), for materials related to alumni activities before 2003.

**ACQUISITION:**


**INVENTORY:** For contents, search for “Institutional Advancement Office” in the Inventory List ([http://apps.csbsju.edu/sjuarchives/Inventory.aspx](http://apps.csbsju.edu/sjuarchives/Inventory.aspx)).
SUBJECT TERMS:

- St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.)—Administration.
- St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.)—Finance.
- St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.)—Alumni.