Edward I. Devitt, SJ, President's Office Records
1864-1916
BC.2000.153

http://hdl.handle.net/2345/3176
# Table of Contents

Summary Information ................................................................................................................................. 3
Administrative Information ......................................................................................................................... 4
Related Materials ........................................................................................................................................ 4
Biographical note ........................................................................................................................................ 5
Scope and Contents note ............................................................................................................................... 6
Arrangement note ......................................................................................................................................... 6
Collection Inventory ...................................................................................................................................... 7
Summary Information

Library Unit: Archives and Manuscripts Department

Creator: Boston College. Office of the President.

Title: Edward I. Devitt, SJ, President's Office records

Date [inclusive]: 1864-1916

Extent: 0.1 Linear feet (4 folders)

Language: English

Language of Materials note: Materials in this collection are primarily in English, with some Latin.

Abstract: The Edward I. Devitt, SJ, President's Office records reflect the life and work of Edward I. Devitt, SJ, ninth president of Boston College.

Preferred Citation note

Identification of item, Box number, Folder number, Edward I. Devitt, SJ, President's Office Records, BC.2000.153, John J. Burns Library, Boston College.
Administrative Information

Publication Information
Processed by Stephanie Bennett, July 2013. This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit.

Restrictions on access
Collection is open for research.

Restrictions on use
These materials are made available for use in research, teaching and private study, pursuant to U.S. Copyright Law. The user must assume full responsibility for any use of the materials, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced materials. Any materials used for academic research or otherwise should be fully credited with the source. The original authors may retain copyright to the materials.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note
President's Office Records, University Archives, John J. Burns Library, Boston College.
Biographical note

Edward I. Devitt was born in St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, in November 1840. When he was a child, his family moved to Boston, where he attended public schools and graduated from Boston English High School in 1857. He attended Holy Cross College for two years and then applied for admission to the Society of Jesus. He entered the Jesuit novitiate at Frederick, Maryland, in 1859. Having studied at Frederick for four years, Father Devitt was sent to Washington to teach at Gonzaga College preparatory school. While at Gonzaga, he was selected to march in President Lincoln’s funeral procession with a group of students. After leaving Gonzaga, he studied at the Jesuit seminary at Woodstock, Maryland, and, after his ordination, taught philosophy at Woodstock College and at Holy Cross College.

Father Devitt came to Boston College as rector and ninth president in 1891. During his tenure, he paid particular attention to the development of the college’s library, increasing the size of the collection to over 23,000 volumes and helping to reorganize storage across three accessible rooms. He also oversaw significant expansion of the science departments.

After leaving Boston College in 1894, Devitt served as Curator of Historical Archives at Georgetown University. He died at Georgetown University, at the age of eighty, in 1920.

Sources


Scope and Contents note

The Edward I. Devitt, SJ, President's Office records reflect the life and work of Edward I. Devitt, SJ, ninth president of Boston College. Record types include correspondence, a certificate, and a draft of Devitt's history of Boston College from its founding to the presidency of Charles W. Lyons, SJ. A later version of this history was published posthumously in the Woodstock Letters in 1935. The correspondence and certificate of Devitt's appointment as College president are photocopies from the Georgetown University Archives.

This collection's materials share a box with two other presidential collections: Edward V. Boursaud, SJ, President's Office records and Timothy Brosnahan, SJ, President's Office records.

Arrangement note

Items are arranged in alphabetical order.
## Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston College presidency certificate of appointment, 1891 September 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitzpatrick, Peter P. to Edward I. Devitt, 1864 October 23</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>History of the Maryland-New York Province, XVI: Boston College and the Church of the Immaculate Conception, 1863-1914</em>, draft, circa 1916</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pardow, William to Edward I. Devitt regarding an admonition from Father General Luis Martin, 1894 April 10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>