

**Gustavus Adolphus College Archives  
St. Peter, Minnesota**

**Phi Alpha. Collection of the Phi Alpha Fraternity, 1907-1957.**

**GACA Collection 130**

**Phi Alpha. Collection of the Phi Alpha Fraternity, 1907-1957. GACA Collection 130. 9 folders.**

**ABSTRACT:**

The Phi Alpha collection primarily contains materials created during the organization's early years when the group was known as the Philolexian Society and Philolexian Assembly. Materials include correspondence, minutes, financial records, programs, and the debating fraternity's song. Documents from the Phi Alphas include programs. Members were known as the Philolexians and later as either the Phi Alphas or Alphas at Gustavus Adolphus College. The organization evolved from a debating society into a Greek fraternity during 1927.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:**

The Phi Alpha fraternity formed as the Philolexian Society. Philolexians held their first meeting as a recognized organization on 11 February 1908. Only males were allowed to join this debating society. This title was used from 1908 into 1914. Then, it became the Philolexian Assembly from 1914 until 1927. Members changed the name to Phi Alpha on 12 November 1927. According to the student paper, the decision to become Phi Alpha occurred after a lengthy and weighty discussion. The fraternity remained active as of spring 2009.

**RESTRICTIONS:**

There are no restrictions on use of this collection for research purposes. The researcher assumes full responsibility for observing all copyright, property, and libel laws as they apply.

Researchers must use collection in accordance with the policies of the College Archives, the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library, and Gustavus Adolphus College.

**COLLECTION CITATION:**

Phi Alpha. Collection of the Phi Alpha Fraternity, 1907-1957. GACA Collection 130. Gustavus Adolphus College Archives, St. Peter, Minnesota.

**PROCESSED BY:**

Jeff A. Jenson processed this collection and developed the finding aid during April 2009.

**SUBJECT HEADINGS:**

Gustavus Adolphus College--Phi Alpha.  
Gustavus Adolphus College--Philolexian Assembly.  
Gustavus Adolphus College--Philolexian Society.  
Gustavus Adolphus College--Fraternities.  
Gustavus Adolphus College--Student organizations.

| <b>GACA Collection 130</b>                                                                   | <b>Box</b> | <b>Folder</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| <b>Philolexian, Society and Assembly, 1907-1926</b>                                          |            |               |
| Correspondence, 1914                                                                         | 1          | 1             |
| Constitution and By-Laws, 1916                                                               | 1          | 9             |
| Financial, Cash Ledger, 1916-1920                                                            | 1          | 2             |
| Financial, Miscellaneous Papers, 1916-1920                                                   | 1          | 3             |
| Minutes, 1907-1914                                                                           | 1          | 4             |
| Minutes, 1914-1918                                                                           | 1          | 5             |
| Programs, 1914-1926                                                                          | 1          | 6             |
| Song, Philolexian Brotherhood Song, undated (Words by John H. Olson; Music by A.W. Anderson) | 1          | 7             |
| <b>Phi Alpha, 1942-1957</b>                                                                  |            |               |
| Programs, 1942-1957                                                                          | 1          | 8             |