

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

**Benson, Henry N., Sr. and Henry N. Benson, Jr. Materials  
concerning duties of the Gustavus Board of Trustees and Related  
Church Organizations, 1877-1980s.**

**GACA Collection 163**

**Benson, Henry N., Sr. and Henry N. Benson, Jr. Materials concerning duties of the Gustavus Board of Trustees and Related Church Organizations, 1877-1980s. GACA Collection 163. 1 Records Center Carton and 1 ½ Hollinger boxes.**

**ABSTRACT:**

The Henry N. Benson, Sr. and Henry N. Benson, Jr. collection contains investment and endowment fund information and correspondence. Fund information relates to investments made on behalf of Gustavus Adolphus College and funds for Gustavus Adolphus College and others. Correspondence details specific events, payment collection, and financial information. The majority of the collection pertains to the Board of Trustees of Gustavus Adolphus College.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:**

**Henry Nathaniel Benson, Sr.** (1 August 1872 - 10 May 1960) graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1893 and from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1895. He had his own law practice in St. Peter. Benson served on the Gustavus Adolphus College Board of Trustees from 1902-1944. He was Treasurer from May 1903 - March 1906 and President from December 1916 - May 1944, after which he elected President emeritus. He was also Chairman of the Committee for the Augustana Pension Fund and as the founder and first President of the Lutheran Brotherhood of the Augustana Lutheran Church. He served in the Minnesota State Senate from 1910-1922 and was the state's Attorney General from 1929-1932. He was also a Nicollet County Probate Judge and organized and served as President and director of the Nicollet County Historical Society, as well as being President of the Minnesota State Historical Society from 1902-1944.

**Henry Nathaniel Benson, Jr.** (4 June 1916 - 30 November 1993) graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1937 and attended the University of Minnesota Law School. After graduation he worked at West Publishing Company in Ohio before serving in the army. He spent four and a half years in the army, participating in the Tunisian campaign and spending time in Europe. He returned to St. Peter where he became a partner in his father's law firm. He was elected to the Gustavus Adolphus College Board of Trustees in 1951 and served as Secretary until 1957.

\*Information taken from collection and *Gustavian Weekly*

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

This collection is divided into three sections: funds (arranged alphabetically), correspondence (arranged chronologically), and miscellaneous.

**Funds, 1919-1962:** This series contains information pertaining to different funds. Some investment funds, some pensions funds, and some endowment funds.

**Correspondence, 1902-1962:** This series contains mostly correspondence. It also contains some financial information and some legal documents.

**Miscellaneous, 1877-1980s:** This series contains miscellaneous materials. These materials range from publications to Board of Trustees minutes to Gustavus Adolphus College programs and catalogues and other various materials.

**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:**

Benson, Henry N., Sr. and Henry N. Benson, Jr. Materials concerning duties of the Gustavus Board of Trustees and Related Church Organizations, 1877-1980s. GACA Collection 163. Gustavus Adolphus College Archives, St. Peter, Minnesota.

**ACQUISITION:**

Henry Benson donated part of this collection during 1952.

Gloria Benson (wife of Henry Benson, Jr.) donated part of this collection during March 1990.

**PROCESSED BY:**

Previous archives staff created the biographical sketch and a rudimentary index for collection.

Adrianna Darden processed this collection and developed the finding aid during October 2009.

**RELATED COLLECTIONS IN THE ARCHIVES:**

Board of Trustees of Gustavus Adolphus College. Records of the Board of Trustees of Gustavus Adolphus College, 1942-Ongoing. GACA Collection 183.

Hendrickson, Roy. Materials Concerning Roy Hendrickson and the Board of Trustees, 1920s and 1946-1954. GACA Collection 136.

**SUBJECT HEADINGS:**

Benson, Henry N. (Henry Nathaniel), 1872-1960.

Benson, Henry Nathaniel, Jr., 1916-1993.

Gustavus Adolphus College. Board of Trustees.

Gustavus Adolphus College--Swedish Lutheran Board of Education.

Gustavus Adolphus College--Finance.

College trustees--Minnesota--St. Peter.

Gustavus Adolphus College--Alumni.

<b>GACA Collection 163</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
<b>Funds, 1919-1962</b>		
Annual Fund Information, 1937-1962	1	19
The Augustana Laymen's Pension Committee / The Augustana Pension and Aid Fund, 1919-1923 (1 of 2)	1	21
The Augustana Laymen's Pension Committee / The Augustana Pension and Aid Fund, 1919-1923 (2 of 2)	1	22
Boston Fund, 1954-1962	1	3
The George Putnam Fund of Boston, 1949-1961	1	12
General Electric Company, 1958	1	5
International Paper Company, 1958-1961	1	4
Minnesota Conference College Endowment, 1920	3	7
Northern Natural Gas Company, 1944-1960	1	11
Pan American Sulphur [sic], 1955-1961	1	6
San Diego Gas and Electric Company, 1942-1960	1	7
State Street Investment Corporation, 1948-1962	1	2
Sun Glow Industries, Inc., 1940-1944	1	8
Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation, 1950-1960	1	10
United States Steel Corporation, 1932-1957	1	9
Wellington Fund, 1949-1962	1	1
<b>Correspondence, 1902-1962</b>		
Documents/Correspondence, Regarding Removal of Gustavus Adolphus College to Minneapolis, 1902-1904	3	1
Correspondence and Financial Papers, 1903-1905	2	7
Correspondence, Regarding Subscriptions from Various Congregations, 1904	3	2
Correspondence and Financial Papers, 1904-1907	3	3
Correspondence and Financial Papers, 1908	2	8
Correspondence and Financial Papers, 1909-1911	3	4
Correspondence and Financial Papers, 1949-1954	2	17
Correspondence and Financial Papers, 1955-1962	2	18
Correspondence, Regarding Mattson Resignation, 1911-1912	2	10
Correspondence, 1912-1917	2	9
Correspondence, Relating to Delinquent Endowment Pledges, 1913-1916	1	14
Correspondence, Regarding Jacob Uhler Celebration, 1915	2	12
Legal Documents and Correspondence, 1927-1960	1	20
Correspondence, Regarding Debt Collection, 1933-1954	2	5
Correspondence, Regarding Bernadotte Visits, 1933, 1945-1948	3	11
Correspondence and Legal Documents, Regarding New Buildings, Dining Hall and Men's Dormitory, 1954-1958 (1 of 2)	1	16
Correspondence and Legal Documents, Regarding New Buildings, Dining Hall and Men's Dormitory, 1954-1958 (2 of 2)	1	17
<b>Miscellaneous, 1877-1980s</b>		
Augustana Lutheranen, 1955 & "An Unbroken Line of Leadership,"	2	16

1956 & Testimonial Dinner Program, 1929		
“The Brotherhood of the Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church”, 1954	2	2
<i>College Breezes</i> Constitution, undated	3	8
<i>Gustaviana</i> , March 1894	2	14
Minnesota College and Gustavus Adolphus College, 1913, 1919	2	11
Gustavus Adolphus College Catalogues, 1877-1881, 1885-1886	2	3
Gustavus Adolphus College Event Programs, 1968-1978	1	18
Gustavus Adolphus College Tentative Study of General Arrangement of Buildings and Grounds Map, 1945	2	1
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1902-1915	3	6
Board of Trustees Minutes and Reports, 1954-1962	1	15
The Lutheran Minnesota Conference Annual Convention Minutes, 1947, 1953	2	6
“En tour with the Bensons” scrapbook, 1929	2	13
Henry Benson et. al. / Elizabeth A. Davis et. al., 1938-1964	1	13
John A. Johnson Campaign, 1916	3	10
Lagerstrom <u>Kantata</u> and Commentary, 1927	2	15
Lyric Chorus, 1916-1917	3	9
Papers and Correspondence (financial information, minutes), 1913-1918	3	5
Various Magazine and Newspaper Articles, 1890s-1980s	2	4