

# St. John's University (Collegeville, Minn.). Office of the President.

Records, 1930- (bulk 1951- )

## SJU Archival Collection 5

222.1 cubic ft. (528 archival boxes)

---

**ABSTRACT:** Collection contains records of the President of St. John's University. Most of the records date from 1951 to the present.

---

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:** The collection includes minutes, reports, correspondence, financial records, and some newsletters. Significant areas of the collection include the Presidents' correspondence, minutes and reports of the Board of Regents and its committees, and budgetary information. Information on awards of the University is also found here. Our largest collection by far offers an overview of many aspects of the University's history, relations, and operation.

---

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:** Before 1866, the Priors of the priory acted as ex-officio Presidents of the College. When Alexius Edelbrock became Abbot in 1875, he retained the office of President. Arno Gustin, in 1958, was the first President who was not also the Abbot since Alexius Edelbrock. Brother Dietrich Reinhart was the first President who was not ordained. Michael Hemesath was the first permanent lay President.

The Presidents have been:

Prior Cornelius Wittmann, OSB	1857-1858
Prior Benedict Haindl, OSB	1858-1862
Prior Othmar Wirtz, OSB	1862-1865
Prior Benedict Haindl, OSB	1865-1867
Father Wolfgang Northman, OSB	1867-1872
Father Alexius Edelbrock, OSB	1872-1875
Abbot Alexius Edelbrock, OSB	1875-1889
Abbot Bernard Locnikar, OSB	1890-1894
Abbot Peter Engel, OSB	1894-1921
Abbot Alcuin Deutsch, OSB	1921-1950
Abbot Baldwin Dworschak, OSB	1951-1958
Father Arno Gustin, OSB	1958-1964
Father Colman Barry, OSB	1964-1971
Father Michael Blecker, OSB	1971-1982

Father Alberic Culhane, OSB, 1980-1981 (Acting President)  
Father Gunther Rolfson, OSB, 1981 (Summer, Acting President)  
Father Hilary Thimmesh, OSB 1982-1991  
Brother Dietrich Reinhart, OSB 1991-2008  
Dan Whalen, October 2008-June 30, 2009 (Interim President)  
Father Robert Koopmann, OSB 2009-2012  
Michael Hemesath 2012-2019  
Eugene McAllister 2019- (Interim President)

---

**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 information may be restricted. See Archivist.

---

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

St. John's University (Collegeville, Minn.). Office of the President. Records, 1930- . SJU Archival Collection 5. St. John's University Archives, Collegeville, Minnesota.

---

**RELATED COLLECTIONS:** See also **AC 3**, Office of the Assistant to the President, for materials related to the Board of Regents and the St. John's Cabinet between 1958 and 2003.

---

**ACQUISITION:**

The collection was transferred to the archives by the assistant to the president or the executive secretary to the president. Accession numbers: 155, 201, 202, 203, 211, 212, 239, 263, 270, 288, 295, 302, 305, 320, 326, 336, 354, 386, 397, 450, 454A, 454B, 458P, 459P, 467, 485, 511, 514, 519, 520, 521, 522, 531, 548, 554, 564, 579, 622, 650, 659, 96-001, 96-004, 97-007, 98-010, 98-017, 99-013, 2001-006, 2002-001P, 2004-003, 2006-004, 2006-008, 2007-002, 2007-003, 2007-005, 2007-007, 2008-003, 2008-008, 2008-011, 2008-012, 2009-005, 2009-006, 2009-007, 2009-008, 2009-009, 2009-010, 2009-013, 2009-015, 2010-001, 2010-002, 2010-003, 2010-005, 2011-001, 2011-009, 2012-003, 2012-004, 2012-005, 2012-006, 2012-007, 2012-012, 2012-017, 2012-021, 2012-022, 2013-001, 2013-003, 2013-005, 2013-007, 2013-013, 2014-010, 2015-005, 2015-014, 2015-028, 2016-008, 2017-001, 2017-006, 2017-008, 2018-001, 2018-003, 2018-004, 2018-005, 2018-007, 2018-010, 2019-001, 2019-002, 2019-003, 2019-010, 2019-021, 2020-005. Accruals are anticipated.

---

**INVENTORY:** For contents, search for “President Office” in the Inventory List (<http://apps.csbsju.edu/sjuarchives/Inventory.aspx>), then sort by Collection.

---

---

**SUBJECT TERMS:**

- St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.)—Presidents.
  - St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.). Board of Regents.
  - St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.). Board of Lay Trustees.
  - St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minn.)—History.
- 
-