

Department of Foreign Languages records

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Finding aid written in English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

1st edition

Tennessee Tech University Archives

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<https://www.tntech.edu/library/research/archives>

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Summary Information

Repository: Tennessee Tech University Archives
Creator: Tennessee Technological University. Department of Foreign Languages
Creator: McGee, Sidney Lamont, Dr. (Sidney Lamont), 1897-1976
Title: Department of Foreign Languages records
Identifier: RG-0000-0163
Date: 1947 - 2021
Physical Description: .46 Cubic Feet
Physical Description: 188.12 Megabytes : 63 files
Language of Materials: English
Container Information: Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Content Description

Tennessee Tech University Department of Foreign Languages annual report, brochures, newsletters, scrapbook, self-studies, syllabi, website, and foreign language student organization flyers.

Digital materials can be accessed online at:

https://tntech.access.preservica.com/index.php?name=so_7f146124-1526-4b92-82ac-6cfe33c5c476

See also:

RG 8 Sidney [Doc] McGee papers - <https://archives.tntech.edu/repositories/3/resources/46>

RG 164 College of Arts and Sciences records - <https://archives.tntech.edu/repositories/2/resources/111>

Accession 2021-0044 Jo Anne Clark photograph albums - <https://archives.tntech.edu/repositories/3/accessions/227>

Arrangement

Materials are arranged alphabetically by folder title, then chronologically by date of creation.

Historical Note

As of 2021, the Department of Foreign Languages offers foreign language courses and extracurricular opportunities for students. The Department supports a major, minor, and double majors in foreign languages with concentrations in French, German, and Spanish; offers English as a Second Language (ESL) courses to help international students; collaborates with the College of Business for the International Business and Cultures (IBAC) major and a joint degree. The Department supports study abroad experiences for majors and non-majors alike, and promotes cultural awareness through classes taught in English for non-majors. The department also organizes symposia, film series, lectures, and

cultural events.

Mary Harden served as the first formal foreign language teacher at Tennessee Polytechnic Institute in 1919. Tech functioned as a high school and junior college at the time. By the 1929-1930 academic year, the state legislature had elevated Tech to a 4-year undergraduate institution. The Bachelor of Science degree with a major in English was the only program that required foreign language credits. In the 1931-1932 academic year, foreign language requirements were included in the curriculum for the new Bachelor of Science in Science degree. The 1933-1934 bulletin listed a new focus in Foreign Languages under the General Bachelor of Science in English degree. John Meadows joined the faculty as a language teacher by 1938. By the fall 1939 term, Meadows and Mary Harden left Tech.

Dr. Sidney L. McGee is traditionally considered the founder of the Department of Foreign Languages. McGee began teaching at Tech in fall 1939. He expanded course offerings in French and chaired the department.

From 1941 to 1946, the foreign language faculty merged with English faculty in the new Department of Language and Literature because of low enrollments during World War II. The departments split again after the war in 1946, returning the foreign language faculty to the Department of Foreign Languages. Dr. McGee and part-time instructors, including Marjorie McGee, taught French and German courses. Spanish courses were offered infrequently based on the availability of instructors.

In the 1970s, the new Chair Dr. Phillip Campana advocated for and recruited more tenure-track faculty members with doctorates to raise the prestige of the department. In Fall 1971, the Department began offering English as a Second Language courses. The Department also moved to Prescott Hall. In the 1972-1973 academic year, the Department initiated a student chapter of Alpha Mu Gamma and a student produced foreign language newspaper, La Gazette.

In the winter 1977 quarter, the Department formerly opened the English Language Institute to provide more English as a Second Language coursework. The Department actively recruited international students to enroll in the Institute and other degree programs at Tech. Faculty in the department also informally advised Tech students on studying abroad.

Chairs of the Department of Foreign Language have included:

Dr. Sidney L. McGee, 1939-1941

Dr. Sidney L. McGee, 1946-1968

Dr. Phillip Campana, 1970-2003

Dr. Marketta Laurila, 2004-2014

Dr. Mark Groundland, Interim, 2014-2017

Dr. Martin Sheehan, Interim, 2017-

References:

A Report on a Self-evaluation Study by the Department of Foreign Languages, 1962 April, page 1-3.

College of Arts and Sciences Annual Report for 1971-1972, page 6.

College of Arts and Sciences Annual Report for 1972-1973, page 8.

College of Arts and Sciences Annual Report for 1976-1977, page 3.

College of Arts and Sciences Annual Report for 1983-1984, page 6.

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Controlled Access Headings

- Alpha Mu Gamma. Eta Psi chapter (Tennessee Technological University)
- Amigos (Tennessee Technological University)
- Avant-Garde (Tennessee Technological University)
- Brochures
- College students -- Societies, etc.
- Der Deutsche Klub (Tennessee Technological University)
- Language and languages--Study and teaching
- McGee, Sidney Lamont, Dr. (Sidney Lamont), 1897-1976
- Travel
- Universities and colleges -- Departments
- Universities and colleges -- Departments -- Administration
- Universities and colleges -- Departments -- Evaluation
- Universities and colleges -- Employees
- Universities and colleges -- Faculty
- Universities and colleges -- Faculty -- Travel

Collection Inventory

Annual Report, 1975 June

Box 1; Folder 1 (Text)

**Language of
Materials:** English

Brochures, 2016 - 2021

Box 1; Folder 2 (Mixed Materials)

**Language of
Materials:** English

**Controlled Access
Headings:** • Brochures

Enrollment numbers by major and courses, 1950 - 1961

Box 1; Folder 3 (Text)

Language of English
Materials:

International Business and Cultures brochures, circa 2010s-2017

Box 1; Folder 4 (Mixed Materials)

Language of English
Materials:

Peer Review of the Department of Foreign Languages, 2002

Box 1; Folder 5 (Text)

Language of English
Materials:

Photograph of radio broadcast by senior class presidents of 13 high schools on Vocational Guidance Day at Tennessee Tech, 1947 March 21

Box 1; Folder 6 (Mixed Materials)

Language of English
Materials:

Controlled Access

Headings:

- High school students
- Radio broadcasting
- black-and-white photographs
- photographs

The Polygot newsletter, Fall 2014-2019

Box 1; Folder 7 (Text)

Digital Access

Digital issues of the newsletter can be accessed at:

https://tntech.access.preservica.com/uncategorized/so_5cd8ce3a-6647-40e3-8959-c4003dd44585/

Language of Materials: English

Language of Materials: German

Language of Materials: French

Language of Materials: Spanish; Castilian

Controlled Access

- Headings:**
- Barnard, Deborah
 - College students -- Societies, etc.
 - Foreign study
 - Groundland, Mark
 - Gruber, Julia
 - Hays, Colleen
 - Humita, Cristina
 - Kazakova, Elena
 - Language teachers
 - Laurila, Marketta
 - Newsletters
 - Olsen, Michael
 - Sheehan, Martin
 - Universities and colleges -- Faculty
 - Universities and colleges--Alumni and alumnae
 - Viera, David, 1943-2015
 - Villalba, Manuel

President Derryberry's remarks at the Faculty Workshop relative to the institutional self-study with notes by Sidney L. McGee, circa 1961-1963

Box 1; Folder 8 (Text)

Language of Materials: English

- Controlled Access Headings:**
- Universities and colleges -- Accreditation

Scrapbook, 2004 December-2019 November

Existence and Location of Originals

The Department of Foreign Languages shared the scrapbook with the Archives for digitization and digital access. The Archives returned the scrapbook to the Department.

Self-study of the Department of Foreign Languages, 1962 - 1963

Box 1; Folder 9 (Text)

Language of Materials: English

Self-study of the Department of Foreign Languages, 1993 Spring

Box 1; Folder 10 (Text)

Language of English
Materials:

Self-study of the Department of Foreign Languages for Performance Funding Project, 1995 Fall

Box 1; Folder 11 (Text)

Language of English
Materials:

Self-study of the Department of Foreign Languages, 2002 December

Box 1; Folder 12 (Text)

Language of English
Materials:

Sidney L. McGee's Ohio Valley Conference football schedule with handwritten notes, 1969

Box 1; Folder 13 (Text)

Language of English
Materials:

Controlled Access

Headings:

- College sports
- Football
- Ohio Valley Conference
- Tennessee Technological University Golden Eagles (Football team)

Student organization flyers, circa 2010s-2020

Box 1; Folder 14 (Mixed Materials)

Language of English
Materials:

Study Abroad brochure, 2019

Box 1; Folder 15 (Mixed Materials)

Language of English
Materials:

Controlled Access

Headings:

- Foreign study
- Tennessee Technological University. Study Abroad Office

Syllabi, 2019 - 2021

Contents

Syllabi for English as a Second Language, English, French, German, and Spanish courses offered by the Tennessee Tech University Department of Foreign Languages.

The syllabi are available online here:

https://tntech.access.preservica.com/uncategorized/so_15bd497e-3539-4051-8fa0-37054744582b/

Physical Description: 12.57 Megabytes : 54 PDF files

Language of Materials: English

Language of Materials: French

Controlled Access Headings:

- Outlines and syllabi

Website, Captured on 2021 February 10

Scope and Contents

Website of the Tennessee Tech University Department of Foreign Languages. The website was captured on February 10, 2021.

The website can be accessed online here:

https://tntech.access.preservica.com/uncategorized/io_9297b620-e3c1-489f-b524-c6bb4192448b/

Physical Description: 22.8 Megabytes : 1 WARC file

Language of Materials: English

Controlled Access Headings:

- Web sites