



University Archives
University of Wisconsin-Stout

Finding Aid for Robert S. Swanson Personal Papers, 1946-2013

Stout Series 103

Overview of Collection

- Repository:** UW-Stout Archives and Area Research Center
315 10th Ave. East
Menomonie, WI 54751
715-232-2300
archives@uwstout.edu
- Collection Number:** Stout Series 103
- Creators:** Robert S. Swanson, 1924-2013
- Title:** Robert S. Swanson Personal Papers
- Dates:** 1946-2013
- Quantity:** 8.8 cubic feet
- Location of Collection:** 14-5-B
- Languages:** English
- Summary:** This collection includes biographical materials of Chancellor Swanson, correspondence, committee minutes, course materials, student papers, speeches and publications.

Biographical Note

Robert S. Swanson, a native of Superior, Wisconsin, was born October 3, 1924, and passed away January 27, 2013. Swanson first came to Stout as a student in 1942, but his studies were interrupted by the Second World War. Following duty as a staff sergeant in an anti-tank company in Europe, he returned to Stout in 1946. In his junior and senior years, he taught classes in woodworking and was appointed to a half-time position on the faculty when he entered graduate school. his changed to a full-time position after he

received his master's degree in 1950. Five years later he was awarded a doctorate in education from the University of Minnesota. In the following years he served as chair of the Woodworking Department, Assistant Dean and later Dean of the School of Applied Science and Technology, Director of the Summer Session and in 1966 he was appointed Dean of the Graduate College. It was under his leadership that the enrollment in the Graduate College tripled and the number of degree programs offered doubled. In September 1972, he was appointed Chancellor of UW-Stout. He served as Chancellor from 1972-1988.

In addition to his activities as a teacher, Swanson was active in other areas of education as well. He had a textbook published on "Plastic Technology" and had numerous articles published in the areas of Education and Technology. In 1967, he was named "man of the year" by the American Council of Industrial Arts Teacher Educators and was made an "honorary member" of the National Association of Teacher Educators in 1970. Swanson served as a member of the Menomonie Board of Education for ten years. In 1958, he was the winner of an award for research by the American Technical Society for his study on "The Operational Definition and Measurement of Educational Philosophy.".]

Scope and Content Note

The bulk of the collection includes course materials pertaining to classes taught in industrial education and educational statistics. Also included is information related to seminars and courses taught at other institutions of higher education. There are some student papers, but most of the material consists of daily lesson plans, tests and handouts.

Much of the material relates to departments that Swanson worked in. Included are minutes of meetings, studies, circulars and correspondence. In addition, there is information relating to the American Industrial Arts Association, American Vocational Association and other organizations. The correspondence deals with companies, universities and individuals. Of special interest is the correspondence with the Di-Acro Company that developed an invention of Swanson's and for whom he later served as a consultant.

Related Collections

Stout Series 24: Chancellor's Office Subject and Correspondence File

Administrative Information

Processing Note:

Currently this collection is being physically processed and rearranged. If you would like to view materials from this collection, please contact the UW-Stout Archives and Area Research Center at archives@uwstout.edu.

Access Restrictions:

There are no access restrictions on the materials, and the collection is open to all members of the public in accordance with state law.

Use Restrictions:

The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming to the laws of libel, privacy, and copyright which may be involved in the use of this collection (*Wisconsin Statutes* 19.21-19.39)