ADVANCED RELIGIOUS STUDY FOUNDATION RECORDS, 1955-1977

**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Advanced Religious Study Foundation records  
**Dates:** 1955-1977  
**Accession Number(s):** 2010-002  
**Extent:** 18 inches  
**Language:** Materials are written in English.

**Administrative History:**

The Advanced Religious Study Foundation was formed in 1955 with the purpose of supporting the advancement of Christian religious education through the establishment of scholarship funds and the support of institutions engaged in the preparation, education, and training of religious leaders. Laurence H. Favrot served as the president of the foundation as well as a board member of the Favrot Fund which provided financial support to the foundation throughout its existence. The Advanced Religious Study Foundation provided support to four institutions: Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Columbia Theological Seminary, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, and Union Theological Seminary. The Advanced Religious Study Foundation fulfilled its purpose by giving financial aid to faculty members for post graduate research and for proposals that would strengthen teaching programs.

**Scope and Contents:**

Eighteen inches of correspondence, board minutes, financial reports, grant reports and curriculum reports (1955-1977) are arranged in eleven series to document the creation and activities of the Advanced Religious Study Foundation. The first series, History, includes documentation related to the creation of the foundation and is primarily comprised of drafts of “The Story of the Advanced Religious Study Foundation” which was composed by board members in 1973. The second series, Policy, contains undated documents detailing the purposes and procedures of the foundation at varying stages of its existence.

The third series, Correspondence, which accommodates a third of the collection, includes foundation correspondence and is arranged in four sub series: board of trustees, Favrot Fund, seminary presidents, and the foundation secretaries. Individuals of interest include President Laurence H. Favrot, and secretaries; James I. McCord (1955-1959), J. Rodman Williams (1960-1964), and Prescott Williams (1973-1976).

For information on this collection, contact the Austin Seminary Archives at 512-404-4875, archives@austinseminary.edu, or visit us at www.austinseminary.edu/archives

The fifth series is comprised of grant requests and curriculum consultations on Christian education programs (1955-1970). Items of interest include the documentation relating to a study of Christian education programs conducted by Laurence H. Favrot in 1958.

The sixth series, Seminaries, contains records for the four seminaries: Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Columbia Theological Seminary, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, and Union Theological Seminary. Each sub series is arranged in two sub sub series: correspondence (1955-1970) and reports (1957-1975). The correspondence is primarily between the seminary presidents and the foundation secretary with occasional correspondence from grant recipients on sabbatical. The reports sub series contains annual reports from the seminaries to the Advanced Religious Study Foundation detailing the use and expenditures of the current year’s grants and requests for the following year’s grants.

Processing Information:
Processed by Whitney Hughes, Archives Assistant, April 2010.

Restrictions:
Materials are available by appointment only. Contact the archivist for details.

Index Terms:
Favrot, Lawrence H.
Williams, J. Rodman (John Rodman)
Williams, Prescott H., 1924-
Advanced Religious Study Foundation.
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.
Columbia Theological Seminary.
Favrot Foundation.
Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.
Union Theological Seminary in Virginia.
Christian education.
Theology--Study and teaching--United States.

Preferred Citation: Advanced Religious Study Foundation records, 1955-1977, Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
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          | Seminary Presidents, 1969-1976  
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