



Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library

DOUGHERTY (J. CHRYS III) PAPERS, 1953-1978

Descriptive Summary

Title: J. Chrys Dougherty III papers

Dates: 1953-1978

Accession Number(s): 1992-012

Extent: One foot, two inches

Language: Materials are written in English.

Biographical Note:

John Chrysostom Dougherty III (b. May 3, 1915) is a Texas lawyer who is active in many philanthropic religious, civic, and legal organizations. Dougherty's uncle paid for his undergraduate education at the University of Texas and Law School at Harvard on the condition that he would someday pass along the favor to someone else. Dougherty was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1940. He became a decorated military man while serving in World War II, and when he returned home he formed the Graves & Dougherty law firm in Austin, Texas with his father-in-law, Judge Ireland Graves. His wife Molly Ireland, whom he married in 1942, died in 1977. They had two children, Mary Ireland and J. Chrys Dougherty IV. Dougherty remarried twice.

In addition to carrying out his uncle's request, Dougherty was active in many philanthropic religious, civic, and legal organizations. Dougherty is a founding director of Texas Appleseed, an association dedicated to promoting social justice and providing legal service to the poor. Revered for his dedication to the cause, there are awards in his name for excellent volunteer legal service both within and outside of Texas Appleseed. Dougherty was an officer of the Philosophical Society of Texas for many years, and served on the Board of Trustees for the Advanced Religious Study Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching Presbyterian theological education in the United States by providing supplementary funding for four prominent seminaries, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Colombia Theological Seminary in Georgia, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, from its inception in 1955. In addition to

serving as a Board member and occasional donor, Dougherty advised the foundation regarding legal matters.

Scope and Contents:

One foot, two inches of correspondence, minutes, financial and legal documents, reports and printed material (1953-1978), arranged in three series, document the involvement of J. Chrys Dougherty in religious organizations and activities. The majority of the records document the Advanced Religious Study Foundation. The collection also includes records relating to the September 1957 United States Conference for the World Council of Churches Faith and Order Study on "The Nature of the Unity We Seek," and material concerning the Christian Faith and Life Community in Austin, Texas. The material is arranged in series representing the three organizations documented in the collection.

The Advanced Religious Study Foundation material was received in three expandable wallet folders, and original groupings have been maintained at the folder level but the order of groupings has not. The series is divided into three sub-series: Board of Trustees, Reports on Use of Grant Money, and General. The first sub-series is comprised of material created and used internally by the Board of Trustees, 1955-1977, in meetings focused on use of grant money and correspondence regarding activities, policy, and the future of the foundation. The second sub-series contains voluminous reports recording the yearly use of grant money by each of the four seminaries supported by the foundation as well as grant requests for the next year, spanning 1957-1976. The third sub-series, General, 1955-1978, concerns a wide scope of the foundation's activities. The sub-series contains varied material, primarily financial documentation and correspondence with seminaries applying for grants. The requests, without exception, were rejected. Several copies of the story of the foundation, which Dougherty was writing in conjunction with APTS President David L. Stitt, are also in this sub-series.

The second and third series, Faith and Order Study Conference and Faith and Life Community, respectively, comprise a very small amount of the collection, and documentation of each is sparse. The Faith and Order Study Conference material contains a large quantity of papers from the conference, study material, correspondence, and printed brochures. The Faith and Life Community material is comprised of only a few letters soliciting funds, a newsletter, a brochure, and a donation card.

Related Collections:

See also the Advanced Religious Study Foundation Records at the Austin Seminary Archives.

Restrictions:

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

Index Terms:

Dougherty, John Chrysostom III (J. Chrys), 1915-

Advanced Religious Study Foundation.

Faith and Life Community.

World Council of Churches. Commission on Faith and Order.

Preferred Citation: J. Chrys Dougherty III papers, 1953-1978, Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Inventory:

Box ***Contents***

B048	Advanced Religious Study Foundation, 1955-1978: Board of Trustees, 1955-1977: Meeting materials, rules and by-laws, 1955-1975 Correspondence, 1955-1976 Correspondence—secretary, 1955-1973 Meeting materials and grant reports, 1956-1977 Reports on Use of Grant Money, 1957-1976: Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary reports to Advanced Religious Study Foundation, 1958-1976 Columbia reports to Advanced Religious Study Foundation, 1957-1976
B049	Louisville reports to Advanced Religious Study Foundation, 1957-1976 Union reports to Advanced Religious Study Foundation, 1959-1976 General, 1955-1978: “Advanced Religious Study Foundation Story” and general material, 1955-1973 Financial, 1956-1977

Box **Contents**

Correspondence, 1975-1977
Grant correspondence and financial, 1976-1978
Grant correspondence, 1977-1978
Seminary Bulletins (APTS, Colombia, Louisville,
Union), 1962-1977

B050 **Faith and Order Study Conference, 1953-1957, undated:**

Regional Faith and Order Committee—
correspondence, 1955-1957
Regional study group materials, 1956-1957
Conference papers, undated
General, 1953-1955

Faith and Life Community, 1957, undated:

Correspondence and newsletter, 1957
Printed materials, undated