

9/9/20

Arts and Sciences

Languages and Cultures

Mary Lou Fenstemaker John Papers, 1940-2004

Dr. Mary Lou Fenstemaker John, professor and chairperson of languages and cultures at Bloomsburg University, came to Bloomsburg from Detroit in 1926 at the age of two. That year Dr. John's father, Howard F. Fenstemaker, a 1912 graduate of the Bloomsburg State Normal School, was hired by the school to teach French, Latin, Spanish, and German. In 1945 she received her B.S. in education from the Bloomsburg State Teachers College, and was certified to teach French, Spanish, English, and Social Studies. She earned her master's in History from Bucknell University, and in 1978 earned a PhD in French from Pennsylvania State University. While in college at Bloomsburg, Dr. John was president of CGA, a member of the Drama Club, and sang soprano in the Women's Chorus. She was also a member of Alpha Psi Omega (national honorary society in theatre), and Kappa Delta Pi (national honorary society in education). Before Dr. John joined the Bloomsburg faculty, she taught Spanish for two years at Central Columbia High School. As a professor, John served as Director of Cultural Affairs and Director of International Educations. She was also the advisor for the International Club, Phi Sigma Iota (national foreign language honor society) and the French Club. During her teaching career, Dr. John added the exchange teachers program to England and helped organize trips to Europe and Canada. In 1979, she organized a Japanese program at BU. Dr. John was a member and former president and secretary of the American Association of Teachers of French as well as secretary of the Pennsylvania Sate Modern Language Association. She was also a member of the First English Baptist Church and was on the National Scholarship Board for American Baptists. She retired from the University in 1986 and passed away in 2011 at the age of 86.

Box 1:

Bloomsburg Alumni, 1982-2001

Maroon and Gold papers

Alumni Association Newsletters

BU Alumni Board Directory

Bloomsburg Business and Professional Women's Club, 1987-2002

Programs and Directories

Bucknell, 1960-1999

Alumni Information and Newsletters

Class Schedules and Past Report Cards

Correspondence, 1943-1945

Howard Fenstemaker

Mary Fenstemaker

Harry John

Correspondence, 1944-1945

Correspondence, 1945

Correspondence, 1971-1978

Betty L. Fisher

Jacquie Berben

Professor Aleksandra Gruzinska

Allen and Gene Murphy: letters from their missionary work in Caracas, Venezuela 1985

Russ and Rhonda MacCachran

"Louie" Chairman of the department of French Culture and Civilization 1981

Correspondence, 1995-1999

Suh Shih Wen: Writing from Taiwan

"Louie" (Louis Thompson)

Russ MacCachran

Patsy Nelson Davies

Hugh Chapman Jr.

Prof. Aleksandra Gruzinska

Fenstermaker, Howard F.

Last will and testament

Biographical documents

Bloomsburg Career documents

Fenstermaker Library Fund, 1990-1995

Fenstermaker, Mary

Biographical Information

Box 2:

International Students

Letters and postcards from International Students throughout career

International Education Task Force, 1989

Administrative notes and documents

International Technology

Workshop Information

Penn State French Department Newsletter, 1970-2004

Penn State Personal

Dissertation

Alumni Association Newsletters

Previous Courses and Schedules

Phi Sigma Iota

The Forum

Various letters and Pamphlets

PSMLA Minutes, 10/9/1984 - 4/6/1986

PSMLA

Newsletters

Recommendations, 1945-1996

Retirement Scrapbook

Retirement party guest list

Scrapbook, 1940-1993

Various Articles, Cards, and Newspaper Clippings

Speeches by MLJ, 1976-1989

Translations and Talks, 1983-2003