

**Thomas C. Werner Papers**

**Accession Number: 2008.017**

**Quantity: Ten record carton boxes**

**Access: Majority of collection open to research; some restricted material.**

**Acquisition: Gift of Thomas C. Werner**

**Processed By: Ellen Fladger and Sara Nash**

## **Thomas C. Werner Papers**

### **Scope and Contents Note:**

The Thomas C. Werner Papers include material relevant to his time spent at Union College as a chemistry professor, a Trustee, and a member of numerous committees. Werner began his teaching career at Union College in 1971, serving as chair of the department from 1985-1991. In 1994 he was named the “Florence B. Sherwood Professor of Physical Sciences,” an endowed chair, and in 2008 he was presented with the Faculty Meritorious Service Award. As a Trustee, Werner was an active Board Member who served from 1997-2000. He also was a member of the Faculty Executive Committee (2000-2003) and was very active in overseeing undergraduate research at Union through the National Conference on Undergraduate Research. In 2002, he received the American Chemical Society Award for Research at an Undergraduate Institution, a first at Union College. Werner retired from Union College in fall 2007. The majority of the papers are from the years 1961-2006. The collection includes Union College Board of Trustees reports, correspondence, committee information, undergraduate research, grant proposals, and personal information.

The collection has been arranged according to the subject headings provided by Thomas Werner. While a small portion of the collection is not available for public viewing, the bulk of the papers have no access restrictions.

## **Thomas C. Werner Papers**

### **Biographical Note:**

Thomas C. Werner was born on June 19, 1942. He graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry from Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania in 1964. The summer following graduation, Werner worked as a chemist for Sun Oil Company. He then enrolled in a Ph.D. program in Analytical Chemistry at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Upon successfully defending his dissertation, "The Electrochemiluminescence and Fluorescence of Some Aromatic Hydrocarbons," Werner earned his doctorate in 1969. His postdoctoral appointments included Harvard Medical School (1969-1970) and Tufts Medical School (1970-1971).

Werner began his career at Union College in 1971 as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry. He rose to Associate Professor of Chemistry in 1977. During the year of 1984-1985, Werner spent his sabbatical leave working as a consultant for Instrumentation Laboratory (a world-wide biomedical company). By 1985, Werner was a tenured professor and chair of the chemistry department; a position he held through 1991. During his time at Union, Werner taught a wide-range of courses, including Fundamental Chemistry, Quantitative Analysis, Chemical Instrumentation, Chemistry and Athletic Performance, Environmental Science, and Models and Molecules. Along with chemistry courses, Werner also taught Freshman Preceptorial; a reading and writing course for freshman.

Outside the classroom, Werner was as an active member of the Union College community. For example, he served on the Board of Trustees (1997-2000), was Chair of the Faculty Executive Committee (2000-2003), a member of the Planning and Priorities Committee (2000-2003), and a member of the Committee on Faculty (1981-84, chair, 1984). Furthermore, he was a member of the American Chemical Society; a professional organization.

In conjunction with teaching and participating in various campus committees, Werner also devoted time to promoting undergraduate research at Union College. For example, he oversaw over fifty undergraduate senior theses, was an active member of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, helped implement the Steinmetz Symposium, an internal research conference at Union College, and secured numerous grants to support undergraduate research, including the Petroleum Research Fund, Henry and Camille Dreyfus Foundation, Pfizer, NSF-AIRE award, Merck Foundation, Mellon Foundation, and General Electric.

In 2008, Werner was recognized at the Alumni Convocation with the Faculty Meritorious Service Award. Other honors bestowed upon him include having been named the "Florence B. Sherwood Professor of Physical Sciences," an endowed chair, in 1994. Furthermore, he was recognized in 2007 as an outstanding alumnus of Juniata College.

Werner retired from Union College in fall 2007. He currently resides with his wife, Mary, in Schenectady, New York.

**Series**

- Board of Trustees
- American Chemical Society
- Personal
- Projects and Grants
- Union College Committees
- Middle States
- National Science Foundation
- National Conference on Undergraduate Research
- Union College Chemistry Department

## Detailed Description of Collection

Accession # 2008.017

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