



Margaret Howie Papers (C4786)

Collection Number: C4786

Collection Title: Margart Howie Papers

Dates: 1969-1983

Creator: Howie, Margaret 1931-2021

Abstract: The records of the Margaret Howie Papers consist of correspondence, meeting minutes, newspapers, and newsletters about collective bargaining at Stephens College between the years 1969 and 1983. These records also consist of policy papers, court documents, proposed agreements, and other documentation regarding collective bargaining.

Collection Size: 1.3 cubic feet
(38 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research but may be stored offsite. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The donor has given and assigned to the University of Missouri all rights of copyright, which the donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Margaret Howie Papers* (C4786); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the University by Margaret Howie on March 23, 1997 (Accession No. CA5705).

Processed by: Processed by Isabelle Urbina, March 4, 2026

Historical Note:

Margaret Howie was born in Wauneta, Nebraska, in 1931 and died in 2021. She was a graduate of the University of Nebraska with a dual major in Anthropology and English in 1952. She also attended the University of Denver where she received her master's degree in library science in 1954. After doing archeology work in 1953 and working at a library in Denver in 1959, she took a part time cataloging position at the Hugh Stephens Library of Stephen College in 1969. Two years later she worked full-time in this position and became head of technical services in 1977. During her years at Stephens College, she supervised the transition from the traditional card catalog to an electrical cataloging system.

Margaret Howie was also active in labor organization and collective bargaining among Stephens faculty with the American Federation of Teachers starting in the year 1975. Collective bargaining is a process of negotiation between representatives of workers and employers to establish conditions of employment. The negotiations may cover not only wages but hiring practices, layoffs, promotions, job functions, working conditions and hours, termination, and benefit programs. This system is usually put in place by elections held by the employees where they vote to organize or not to organize.

Margaret Howie was a very active member in Stephens Federation of Teachers and was the vice president and membership co-coordinator of the organization while working at Stephens College. She believed strongly in collective bargaining being the best way to handle Stephens College's existing problems.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following series:

Collective Bargaining

Scope and Content Note:**Collective Bargaining**

These records consist of supporting documents for collective bargaining. Records include documents explaining how to handle collective bargaining and sample contracts. There is also correspondence advocating for collective bargaining and showing concern from Stephens faculty about collective bargaining. These records also contain proposed drafts of guidelines from Stephens Federation of Teachers to Stephens College pertaining to tenure, conditions of employment, retirement, academic responsibilities, leaves and grants. Margaret Howie's personal notes show her own ideas for the guidelines and contain ideas about health insurance, teaching load, and other amendments for the guidelines. The records contain newspaper articles that pertain to student life, collective bargaining issues, faculty cuts, budget cuts, and many other important issues at Stephens College.

These records also contain meeting minutes for Stephens Federation of Teachers about dues, financial documents, and many other aspects of their organization. There are also newsletters from Stephens Federation of Teachers giving updates about the organization, announcing meeting times, election dates and times, and releasing other important information for members. In this collection there are also court papers between Stephens College and Stephens' Federations of Teachers. These documents pertain to unit determination for Stephens Federation of Teachers

and on who should get to vote in the collective bargaining elections. The records are arranged in alphabetical order and are dated between the years of 1969-1983.

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