

RG 2/13 - EDEL/MALCOLM (1946-1961)

Series 1 LaVallee Case

SERIES 1 – LAVALLEE CASE DESCRIPTION

Series 1, the LaVallee Case, contains materials related to the termination of Dr. Laurent R. LaVallee, assistant professor of economics. In 1956, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to dismiss LaVallee as a result of his failure to answer questions about his alleged participation in Communist activities. This series is divided into ten sub-series: Board of Trustees, Correspondence, Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, Faculty, Faculty Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure, Legal, News Clippings, Notes, Press Release and Students. The Board of Trustees sub-series contains minutes from the June 1, 1956 meeting at which the Board voted to terminate LaVallee, as well as a resolution passed that same day which declared it unacceptable for any Communist or Communist sympathizer to hold a position at Dickinson College.

The Correspondence sub-series is the largest and includes letters generated and received by the President's Office, as well as letters written by other administrators and faculty that were shared with the college president. Two significant correspondents were Boyd Lee Spahr, president of the Board of Trustees, and David Kohn, the president's attorney. This sub-series is divided into nine categories: American Association of University Professors, Faculty Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure, David Kohn, Laurent LaVallee, Miscellaneous, and Boyd Lee Spahr. The Miscellaneous category includes letters related to minor college business, as well as responses to the LaVallee case written by alumni and members of the academic community.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees sub-series includes minutes from a hearing held on April 20, 1956, as well as a copy of the committee's recommendation to terminate LaVallee. The Faculty sub-series includes minutes from faculty meetings during which the LaVallee Case was discussed. The Faculty Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure committee includes statements and reports produced by the committee in response to the LaVallee Case. The Legal sub-series includes formal legal documents pertaining to the termination of LaVallee. It contains the charges against LaVallee, transcripts and an incomplete set of exhibits from LaVallee's hearing, as well as the brief prepared by Dr. LaVallee's attorney, Raymond Bradley. The News Clippings sub-series contains articles pertaining to the LaVallee termination clipped from campus, regional and national publications. The Notes sub-series includes items collected by President William Wilcox Edel as he prepared his case against Dr. LaVallee. It contains notes from meetings, drafts of letters, and articles related to academic freedom and Constitutional law. The Press Release sub-series includes one press-release announcing the LaVallee hearing. The Students sub-series contains a Statement of Belief prepared by students in response to charges against LaVallee. All items in this series are arranged chronologically, with undated items placed first.

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1.1 Board of Trustees

1.1.1 1956

1.2 Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees

1.2.1 1956

1.3 Correspondence

AAUP

1.3.1 Edel, William Wilcox - 1956

Congress

1.3.2 Edel, William Wilcox - 1956-1957

Copied Correspondence

1.3.3 AAUP - 1956

1.3.4 Miscellaneous - 1957-1958

1.3.5 Spahr, Boyd Lee - 1956-1960

Dickinson Chapter of the AAUP

1.3.6 Edel, William Wilcox - 1956

Faculty Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

1.3.7 Edel, William Wilcox - 1956

Kohn, David

1.3.8 1956

LaVallee, Laurent

1.3.9 2 June 1956

Miscellaneous

1.3.10 Edel, William Wilcox - 1956

1.3.11 Edel, William Wilcox - 1957

Spahr, Boyd Lee

1.3.12 Edel, William Wilcox - 1956

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Series 1 LaVallee Case (cont.)

1.4 Faculty

1.4.1 1956

1.5 Faculty Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

1.5.1 1956

1.6 Legal

1.6.1 Facts to be Proven and Statement of Charges - Apr. 1956

1.6.2 LaVallee Hearing Testimony - 20 Apr. 1956

1.6.3 LaVallee Hearing Testimony, exhibits, LaVallee brief - 20 Apr. 1956

1.7 New Clippings

1.7.1 1956-1957

1.8 Notes

1.8.1 Edel, William Wilcox – Undated-6 Apr. 1953

1.8.2 Edel, William Wilcox - 23 Sept., 1953-Winter 1956

1.8.3 Edel, William Wilcox - 24 Feb. 1956-23 Aug. 1956

1.9 Press Release

1.9.1 Press release - 1956

1.10 Students

1.10.1 Statement of Belief - 1956

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Series 2 AAUP Censure

SERIES 2 - AAUP CENSURE DESCRIPTION

On April 25, 1958, the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) voted to censure the administration of Dickinson College. The organization charged the college with failure to observe academic due process and the wrongful termination of Dr. Laurent R. LaVallee. The censure was removed in April 1963, at which time the AAUP was satisfied that the College had made sufficient improvements in faculty-administrator relations and governance procedures. This sub-series is divided into six sub-series: *AAUP Bulletins*, Correspondence, Faculty, Miscellaneous, News Clippings, and Notes. The *AAUP Bulletins* sub-series includes clippings from this quarterly journal related to the censure of Dickinson College and its removal.

The Correspondence sub-series contains letters dealing with President Edel's attempt to have the AAUP censure of the college's administration removed. In addition to letters exchanged directly with the AAUP, this sub-series includes correspondence with the Dickinson Chapter of the AAUP and Boyd Lee Spahr, the president of Dickinson's Board of Trustees. The sub-series also includes general correspondence with alumni and members of the academic community, who often supported the termination of LaVallee. The sub-series is separated into six sub-divisions: AAUP, AAUP Investigation Committee, Copied Correspondence, Dickinson Chapter of the AAUP, Miscellaneous, and Boyd Lee Spahr.

The Faculty sub-series contains a resolution considered by Dickinson professors as an official response to the AAUP's censure of the College's administration. The Miscellaneous sub-series contains a piece on college governance printed in the *AAUP Bulletin*. The News Clippings sub-series includes pieces from campus, regional and national publications. The Notes sub-series contains papers used by President William Wilcox Edel as he constructed his argument against the AAUP. All items in this series are arranged chronologically, with undated items placed in front.

2.1 AAUP Bulletin

2.1.1 *AAUP Bulletin* clippings - June 1959-Dec. 1960

2.2 Correspondence

AAUP

- 2.2.1 Edel, William Wilcox - 1956
- 2.2.2 Edel, William Wilcox - 1957
- 2.2.3 Edel, William Wilcox - 1958
- 2.2.4 Edel, William Wilcox - 1959
- 2.2.5 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1959
- 2.2.6 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1960
- 2.2.7 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1961

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Series 2 AAUP Censure (cont.)

2.2 Correspondence (cont.)

AAUP Investigation Committee

2.2.8 Edel, William Wilcox - 1957

Copied Correspondence

2.2.9 Miscellaneous - 1957-1958

2.2.10 Spahr, Boyd Lee - 1960

Dickinson Chapter of the AAUP

2.2.11 Edel, William Wilcox - 1959

2.2.12 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1959-1960

Miscellaneous

2.2.13 Edel, William Wilcox - 1956

2.2.14 Edel, William Wilcox - 1957

2.2.15 Edel, William Wilcox - 1958

2.2.16 Edel, William Wilcox - 1959

2.2.17 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1959

2.2.18 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1960

2.2.19 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1961

Spahr, Boyd Lee

2.2.20 Edel, William Wilcox - 1957

2.2.21 Edel, William Wilcox - 1958

2.2.22 Edel, William Wilcox - 1959

2.2.23 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1959

2.2.24 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1960

2.3 Faculty

2.3.1 29 May 1958

2.4 Miscellaneous

2.4.1 "Faculty Participation in College and University Government," *AAUP Bulletin*,
Summer 1960

2.5 News Clippings

2.5.1 1958-1960

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Series 2 AAUP Censure (cont.)

2.6 Notes

- 2.6.1 Edel, William Wilcox – 1956-1959
- 2.6.2 Malcolm, Gilbert - 1960