

THE SOCIETY OF BIOLOGICAL PSYCHIATRY RECORDS

The Oskar Diethelm Library
DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry
Weill Cornell Medical College
525 East 68th Street
New York, New York 10065

Arranged and described by:
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Provenance

The Society of Biological Psychiatry presented its records to the Archives of Psychiatry (now the Oskar Diethelm Library) of New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center in 1988.

The processed collection detailed on this finding aid is comprised of 2 cubic ft. of records housed in five .4 cubic ft. boxes. There are an additional 5 large boxes of unprocessed records that were sent at a later date. They have been stored with the collection but not integrated into it.

There are no restrictions regarding use of the collection.

History

The Society of Biological Psychiatry was founded in 1945 to encourage the study of the biological causes and treatments for psychiatric disorders. According to the Society's statement of purpose, its role is "is to promote excellence in scientific research and education in fields that investigate the nature, causes, mechanisms, and treatments of disorders of thought, emotion, or behavior." The Society is composed mainly of physicians in the fields of neurology, psychiatry, psychology, neurophysiology, electro-encephalography, neuroanatomy, neurosurgery, neuropathology and neurochemistry who are interested in the biological basis of behavior. Membership is by invitation only and is international in scope.

The Society holds annual meetings that include the presentation of papers and scientific exhibits, a President's reception, and an annual dinner. The official journal of the Society is *Biological Psychiatry*. The officers of the Society are the President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Assistant Secretary.

Scope and Content

The collection includes the constitution, bylaws, incorporation papers, and correspondence of officers. This includes a limited amount of correspondence of the President, 1969-1981, and the Secretary-Treasurer, 1964-1972. Most of the correspondence pertains to annual meetings, research awards, and other business matters. In addition, some material relates to the World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry. There are also drafts of minutes of the 1980 Executive Council meetings, general correspondence regarding the 1980 and 1981 annual meetings, and some financial records.

The collection also includes membership dues ledgers providing names and years of membership from 1947-1983, and published programs of the annual conventions and scientific programs, 1963-1987. In addition, the collection includes an incomplete set of printed membership directories from 1980-1987.

Inventory

Box 1

Folder 1	Constitution and bylaws	1975
2	State of California Articles of Incorporation Includes original constitution and bylaws, membership list	1973
3	State of California Articles of Incorporation	1973
4	Office of the President – George N. Thompson	1969-1971
5	Office of the President	1980
6	Office of the President – correspondence re: seeking donations from pharmaceutical companies	1981
7	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer	1964
8	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer	1965
9	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer, includes meeting program	1966
10	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer, includes membership list	1967
11	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer	1968
12	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer	1969
13	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer	1969-1970
14	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer	1971
15	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer, annual meeting	1971
16	Office of the Secretary-Treasurer	1972
17	Copies of agenda, financial statements, and minutes	1972

Box 2

Folder 1	<i>Journal of Biological Psychiatry</i>	1968-1971
2	A.E. Bennett Research Award, Gold Medal Award	1976-1979
3	World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry – proposed withdrawal from World Federation	1978
4	World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry	1979-1981
5	World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry	1981
6	Bank records and income correspondence	1969-1971
7	Financial reports	1980, 1983
8	Executive Council agenda, 1980 meeting	1980
9	1980 meeting – general	1980
10	1980 annual meeting – general	1980
11	1981 annual meeting – general	1981
12	Executive Council meeting	1981

Box 3

Folder 1	Membership dues ledger A – E	1960-1983
2	Membership dues ledger F – K	1959-1983
3	Membership dues ledger L – R	1966-1983
4	Membership dues ledger S – V	1959-1983
5	Membership dues ledger W – Z, senior members A – E	1947-1983
6	Senior members L – Z, corresponding members	1947-1983

Box 4

Annual convention and scientific programs	1963-1981
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Box 5

Annual convention and scientific programs	1986-1987	
Folder 1	Membership directory	1980
2	Membership directory	1983
3	Membership directory	1985-1986
4	Membership directory	1986-1987