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MS-052: The Papers of the Stephen H. Warner Committee

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MS-052: The Papers of the Stephen H. Warner Committee

**Description**
The Stephen H. Warner Committee, formed largely through the efforts of History Professor John Roger Stemen, began to form in the spring of 1972. It intended to encourage and perhaps renew a spirit of debate and intellectual curiosity within the Gettysburg College community.

Organized according to the values of Stephen Warner, Class of 1968, which included the “willing[ness] to take intellectual risks” and the “need for discipline in the pursuit of truth,” the committee sponsored campus-wide events known as “Warner Forums.” In addition, the committee, comprised of both students and faculty, petitioned for renovations to the College Union Building in 1988 in order to create an environment that would foster uninhibited, intellectual discussion.

This collection includes correspondence between Stephen Warner’s parents and college personnel, Warner-inspired proposed renovations to the College Union Building, and other papers relating to committee actions.

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**Keywords**
Stephen H. Warner, Stephen Warner, Gettysburg College, Vietnam War, Gettysburg alumni

**Disciplines**
Cultural History | History | Social History | United States History

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Processed by: Keith Swaney  
April 2004

Agency Sketch:
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Scope and Content:
The Papers of the Stephen H. Warner Committee consists of one box of processed materials, approximately .3 cubic feet. The collection is not extensive and does not completely document the Warner Committee from beginning to end. However, there are papers which might be of particular interest to the researcher. For instance, the correspondence file (folder three) contains much correspondence between Stephen Warner’s parents and certain personnel at Gettysburg College, including Professor Stemen and Robert E. Butler, Director of Development. Moreover, researchers of college history may find the materials regarding the proposed renovations to the College Union Building to be useful (folder 5), especially the items that discuss a potential coffeehouse and the “Warner Corner.”

Note on Related Collections: After consulting these papers, the researcher may want to read Vertical File Manuscript #209 (VFM-209) entitled “Stemen, John Roger. Letters from Stephen H. Warner, Class of 1968, and Materials about Conscientious Objectors of the Vietnam War.” Additionally, MS-044: The Stephen H. Warner Southeast Photograph Collection could be particularly useful.

Inventory, 3pp.

Folder 1  Objectives of the Stephen H. Warner Memorial Forum, arranged chronologically

Memorandum from Tom Wallace re: objectives-5/19/72, typed document, 1p. (original)

Opening Remarks by Dr. Charles Glatfelter at the Forum-1/17/73, typed document, 1p. (original)

Folder 2  **Publicity about the Warner Forum**, items arranged chronologically in folder as best as possible

News clippings from the *Gettysburg Times*-1/16/73, 1p. (copy); 4/19/76, 1p. (copy); 4/29/77, 1p. (copy)

Agendas for various forums (typed document)-5/4/77, 1p. (original & copy); 4/6-7/[?], 2pp. (original & copy); 4/23/[?], 1p. (copy)


Announcement of award clipping-no date, 1p. (copy)

Folder 3  **Correspondence**, arranged chronologically-6/8/72-4/18/78, typed letter signed, 24pp. (originals & copies)

Folder 4  **General Correspondence to “Students,” “Colleagues,” and “Friends”**, arranged chronologically-10/18/72-3/22/79, 12pp. (copies)

**Stephen Warner Committee Lists**, miscellaneous-no date, 1976-77, 1988, 5pp. (original & copies)

Folder 5  **College Union Building Renovation Proposals**, arranged chronologically

Memorandum re: College Union Expansion-1/20/86, typed document with attached sketches, 7pp. (copy)

Guide for Moderators Workshop, 2/13/[?]-typed document, 2pp. (copy)

Goals & Agenda for forum re: CUB renovations-no date, typed document, 4pp. (copy)

Petition to students & faculty re: CUB renovations-no date, typed document, 2pp. (copy)

“Tentative Schedule for Meeting” re: “Plan of attack for ‘Common Ground’”—no date, 3/15/88, typed document, 3pp. (original)

Memorandum to President [Charles] Glassick from Warner Committee-5/2/88, typed document, 1p. (original)

Proposal for “Warner Corner”-no date, typed document with handwritten sketches attached, 3pp. (copy)

Folder 6  Miscellaneous Essays

“On Becoming a Liberally Educated Person”-no author/date, typed manuscript, 4pp. (copy)

Essay re: the utility of the social sciences-no author/date, typed manuscript with handwritten notes, 7pp. (copy)

Essay re: the utility of the social sciences, by Ken Mott-no date, typed manuscript, 4pp. (original)

Essay re: the utility of the social sciences-no date/author, autographed manuscript, 12pp. (original)