



New England Association of Teachers of English Records

1901-2014

4 boxes (2 linear feet)

Call no.: MS1011

Collection overview

Established in 1901, the New England Association of Teachers of English (NEATE) was the first association of English teachers in America. Through conferences, executive board meetings, and the regular publication of "The Leaflet," NEATE aimed to bring together New England's English teachers to study the methodology and history of the field, as well as observe innovations and new practices in the world of education.

While the collection is expected to grow, it currently consists of meeting minutes, conference records, correspondence between members, two published histories of the organization, and two early record books of NEATE ranging in date from 1901-1938.

Background on New England Association of Teachers of English

On February 23, 1901, the New England Association of Teachers of English (NEATE) met for the first time at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The organization of 300 teachers, led by an executive board of five men and two women, set forth on their mission: "To advance the study and the teaching of English language and literature," throughout the schools of New England.

As the first association of English teachers in America, NEATE was involved with many national decisions concerning the public and private education systems. In 1916, NEATE assisted the College Board in creating the College Entrance Examination Board's first Comprehensive Examination in English, starting a long-lasting relationship between the two organizations. NEATE also collaborated with the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) since the council's formation in 1911. New England was the proud host of several NCTE conventions, including one held in Boston in 1981 to commemorate NEATE's eightieth birthday.

The requirements to join NEATE involved an application process, but since its inception, NEATE applicants didn't even have to be a teacher of English in order to become a member. Most of the initial communication within the association was through their meetings. Eventually, "The Leaflet" became a regular publication of NEATE as a way to spread information between meetings and conferences, as well as stimulate conversation during these events. Covering topics such as grammar, written work, and the importance of a large teaching

staff in secondary schools, "The Leaflet" became a point of pride for NEATE.

Scope of collection

The records of NEATE offer a unique look at the history of educational systems of America. In issues of "The Leaflet" dating from the early 1900s, one of the greatest debates within the organization is how to incorporate the rising media forms of film and radio into the classroom. Letters between members of the executive board give a behind-the-scenes look at the complicated dynamics surrounding each election, while personal invitations from past students to high school reunions offer a glimpse into the profound effect NEATE members had on their classrooms. The detailed minutes of the 1970s conferences indicate a formal switch from the usage of the word "Chairman" to "Chairperson" as the organization made a conscious effort to use non-sexist language. Flyers advertising conferences, promoting appearances by famous figures such as Robert Frost and Stephen King, aim to draw new members to join NEATE.

Organized chronologically by year, the NEATE collection focuses on the executive board of the association, consisting of mostly minutes of meetings and correspondence. Annual reports of the secretary and president, as well as membership directories, election materials, and financial information provide detailed records of the association. Conference materials include minutes, advertisements, agendas, and correspondence, mostly in the form of invitations. Copies of "The Leaflet" and booklets of the winners of an annual poetry competition are included. The collection also contains newsletters from NEATE and those of New England high schools, as well as curriculum planning for various English courses. The organization's history and objectives are brought together with a 1981 "Memory Book of NEATE," and several versions of the NEATE Constitution.

Inventory

Record book of NEATE	1901-1918	Box 3: 1
Record book of NEATE	1919-1938	Box 4: 1
Conference materials: program, invitations	1910-1927	Box 1: 1
The English Leaflet	1950	Box 1: 2
Documents on copyright of the "Leaflet"	1952	Box 1: 3
Executive board: conference reports, surveys, correspondence	1954-1969	Box 1: 4
Executive board: minutes, conference planning, constitution	1956-1958	Box 1: 5
Executive board: minutes, finances, correspondence	1956-1957	Box 1: 6
Correspondence	1956-1964	Box 1: 7
Executive board: committee reports, correspondence	1956-1963	Box 1: 8
Executive board: minutes, member lists, correspondence	1958-1961	Box 1: 9
Walén, Harry: articles, correspondence	1962-1990	Box 1: 10
Executive board: minutes, member lists, correspondence	1962-1965	Box 1: 11
The English Leaflet: finances, correspondence	1963-1965	Box 1: 12
Membership records: member lists, list of conferences, correspondence	1964-1966	Box 1: 13
An introductory unit in the history of English literature and language for junior high	1965-1968	Box 1: 14
Membership figures and dues	1968-1975	Box 1: 15
Executive board: minutes, member lists, correspondence, applications	1966-1967	Box 1: 16
Executive board: minutes, correspondence	1968-1969	Box 1: 17

Information and suggestions for local chairmen of association conferences	1968	Box 1: 18
Executive board: minutes, member lists, correspondence	1968-1969	Box 1: 19
Newsletters, programs	1969	Box 1: 20
NEATE: Invitations, Questionnaire, Flyers	1969-1974	Box 1: 21
Summer study program package	1969	Box 1: 22
Executive board: finances, post office correspondence	1969-1970	Box 1: 23
Executive board: minutes, member lists, correspondence	1970	Box 1: 24
Annual reports of the secretary	1970-1973	Box 1: 25
Report of the future of NEATE: drafts, copy of constitution	1971-1972	Box 1: 26
Executive board: member lists	1971-1973	Box 1: 27
Newsletters	1971-1974	Box 1: 28
Executive board: minutes, agenda, correspondence	1971	Box 1: 29
Program for spring conference	1971	Box 1: 30
Executive board: minutes, reports	1972	Box 1: 31
Executive board: correspondence	1972	Box 1: 32
Conference materials: guide for planning one-day conferences (draft)	1972	Box 1: 33
Conference materials: guide for planning one-day conferences	1972	Box 1: 34
Executive board: minutes, reports, correspondence	1973	Box 1: 35
Executive board: minutes and correspondence	1973	Box 1: 36
Boston College High School Newsletter	1974	Box 1: 37
NEATE fall conference	1974	Box 1: 38
NEATE luncheon: invitation, minutes	1974 Dec	Box 1: 39
Executive board: minutes, correspondence, election information	1974	Box 1: 40
Executive board: minutes, finances, conference materials, correspondence	1974	Box 1: 41
NEATE correspondence with NCTE	1974	Box 1: 42
Executive board: calendar, finances	1974	Box 1: 43
Executive board: correspondence and finances	1974-1975	Box 1: 44
Executive board: minutes, finances, conference materials, correspondence	1975	Box 1: 45
Executive board: committee documents, minutes, correspondence	1975	Box 1: 46
Executive board: minutes, finances, conference materials, correspondence	1975	Box 1: 47
Executive board: minutes, newsletter, correspondence, finances	1975	Box 1: 48
Executive board: minutes, conference planning, correspondence		Box 1: 49
NEATE constitution: draft, by-laws	1975	Box 1: 50
Executive board meeting: correspondence, minutes	1975	Box 1: 51
Nomination and elections committee: correspondence and reports	1975	Box 1: 52
School and college report: Mulligan, Louise	1975	Box 1: 53
NEATE publications: Gleason, Marion	1975	Box 1: 54
Executive board: correspondence, finances	1975	Box 1: 55
Executive board meeting: minutes, correspondence	1975 June	Box 1: 56
Reports on spring conferences	1975	Box 1: 57
Allen, Lee: abstracting service	1975	Box 1: 58
Proposal for NCTE grant	1975	Box 1: 59
Executive board: elections and resignations	1975	Box 1: 60
Executive board: meetings, president's annual report	1975-1976	Box 1: 61
Executive board: roster, agenda, report to NCTE	1975-1976	Box 1: 62
Executive board: minutes, newsletter, correspondence	1976	Box 1: 63
Executive board: conference materials, minutes, correspondence	1976-1978	Box 1: 64

Executive board: minutes, correspondence	1977	Box 1: 65
NEATE resolutions	1977-1978	Box 1: 66
Executive board: directory, minutes	1978	Box 1: 67
Budget proposals, finances	1978	Box 1: 68
Executive board: minutes, directory	1979	Box 1: 69
Executive board: minutes, correspondence, flyers	1979-1980	Box 1: 70
Executive board: conference planning, minutes, correspondence	1983-1983	Box 1: 71
Executive board: agendas, correspondence, conference materials	1984	Box 1: 72
Executive board: member list, conference materials, correspondence	1985	Box 1: 73
Executive board: conference materials, correspondence, directory	1986	Box 1: 74
Executive board: minutes, directory, correspondence	1987-1988	Box 1: 75
Conference materials: programs, invitations	1988-1999	Box 1: 76
Executive board: correspondence, conference materials	1989	Box 1: 77
Executive board: conference materials, correspondence	1990	Box 1: 78
Executive board: directory, conference planning, correspondence	1990-1995	Box 1: 79
Executive board: correspondence	1991-1992	Box 1: 80
Executive board: correspondence	1991-1992	Box 1: 81
Executive board: correspondence	1991-1993	Box 1: 82
Executive board: minutes, calendar, conference materials	1992	Box 1: 83
Program for United Church of Christ Massachusetts conference	1992	Box 1: 84
Pacsetter English 12 course: planning	1992	Box 1: 85
Executive board: correspondence, conference materials	1993	Box 1: 86
Executive board: schedules, correspondence	1995	Box 1: 87
Executive board: minutes, conference planning, correspondence	1996-1998	Box 1: 88
Executive board: agenda, correspondence	2001	Box 1: 89
Conference materials: programs, invitations	2003-2017	Box 1: 90
Conference materials: flyers, forms	2010-2014	Box 1: 91
The Memory Book of the New England Association of Teachers of English	1981	Box 2: 1
The Memory Book of the New England Association of Teachers of English	1981	Box 2: 2
The Memory Book of the New England Association of Teachers of English	1981	Box 2: 3
The Memory Book of the New England Association of Teachers of English	1981	Box 2: 4
Leaves of Memory: a Review of the Last Twenty Years	2001	Box 2: 5
Conference materials: poetry competition booklets	2011-2012	Box 2: 6

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Gift of New England Association of Teachers of English, 2017.

Processing Information

Processed by Isabelle Eastman, October 2018.

Language:

English

Copyright and Use ([More information](#))

Cite as: New England Association of Teachers of English Records (MS 1011). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

Search terms

Subjects

- English teachers--New England
- New England Association of Teachers of English
- Teachers--History--19th century
- Teachers--History--20th century

Contributors

- New England Association of Teachers of English **[main entry]**