

SNU's Fred Floyd Archives Receives Grant to Help Preserve History

The Oklahoma Department of Libraries, in partnership with the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, announced that Southern Nazarene University (SNU) was awarded a “Threats to Your Collection” grant of \$1,000 to purchase archival storage supplies for preservation of SNU and Bethany historic records.

The “Threats to Your Collection” grant opportunity was an outcome of a statewide survey that assessed the condition of collections held by Oklahoma’s 800 museums and libraries. The study found that almost all organizations have lost historic materials through theft, environmental damage, and other causes. Support for the grant program was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the funding arm for the National Archives and Records Administration. Grants totaling \$50,000 were awarded to 27 Oklahoma institutions.

Dr. Arlita Harris, Director of SNU’s Library, is excited to learn of the grant during the Bethany Centennial Year. Mr. Marion Snowbarger, Director of the Fred Floyd Archives, stated, “The City of Bethany was founded in 1910, just after Oklahoma Holiness College (now Southern Nazarene University) moved to this location on the far western edge of Oklahoma City. The city and college history is deeply intertwined. The archives of the City of Bethany and SNU are housed in the SNU Library. During this centennial year, the archives have been moved to a much larger, more visible and accessible space on the first floor of the library. The Grand Opening of the Paul Gray Reading Room in the Fred Floyd Archives will be held on November 7, 2009 during SNU’s Homecoming. These storage supplies will be used this summer to get all of the archives in accessible files for public display and use.”