Ethan R. Allen Papers

1944-1981

Collection Number: PP4
Date Completed: March 2011
Processed by: Olivia Solis
# Ethan R. Allen Papers

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Descriptive Summary

Title
Ethan R. Allen Papers, 1944-1981

Collection Number
PP4

Creator
Ethan R. Allen

Extent
0.4 linear feet, 1 document box

Repository
Western University of Health Sciences, The Harriet K. & Philip Pumerantz Library, Archives and Special Collections.

Abstract
The materials in this collection were created from 1944 to 1981. The files include professional correspondence, journal and news articles, newsletters, meeting minutes, and literature on the osteopathic profession. Additionally, the collection includes correspondence with the Law Offices of Tobin and Gassner regarding the d’Amico case, documents on the re-establishment of the osteopathic profession in California, and early college development material. This was an exciting time for the profession in California but also a time of hard work. OPSC (Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California) struggled to keep the profession alive at the same time generating interest and funding for the new osteopathic college, COMP. Dr. Allen helped in establishing OPSC (Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California) and COMP (College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific) as a Founding Board Member.
Administrative Information

Access
Collection is open for research.

Copyright
The Ethan R. Allen Papers are the physical property of Western University of Health Sciences, Harriet K. & Philip Pumerantz Library, Archives. Permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be directed to the Archives.

Provenance and Acquisition
This collection was received as a gift of Ethan R. Allen on August 18, 2010.

Processing Information
Processed by Olivia Solis in 2010-11. Before arriving at the University Archives, the collection was accessed by researchers who were gathering information to produce a book on the history of OPSC. The majority of the materials were housed in unmarked file folders in no perceivable order. Loose material was incorporated with existing folders or new folders were created. During processing, duplicates, rusted staples and paper clips were removed. All materials were re-housed in archival quality acid-free folders.

Preferred Citation
Folder title, Series, Box number, Collection title, followed by Archives, Harriet K. & Philip Pumerantz Library, Western University of Health Sciences.
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF ETHAN R. ALLEN, D.O.,

Dr. Ethan Allen was born in Fargo, North Dakota. As a young child, his family moved to Wyoming where he attended schools from elementary through College. In 1943, Dr. Allen graduated from the University of Wyoming majoring in Electrical Engineering. Upon graduation, he found employment with General Electrics in Indiana making electric motors for the B-29 airplane.

Dr. Allen had only been working at General Electrics a very short time when he was recruited, along with thirty other young engineers, for the Manhattan project. He received special training at Columbia University in preparation for his new job in Tennessee making components for the atomic bomb. His work then took him to Detroit and Milwaukee with the aerospace corporation.

It was as this last location that Dr. Allen first heard about the osteopathic profession. Wanting to do something new and different, a friend planted the seed of curiosity. Dr. Allen knew nothing about osteopathy, but he soon learned as much as he could from the local library. Although, he became interested in pursuing this profession, it would have to wait. Dr. Allen was drafted into the military in 1944. He chose the Navy and was sent to San Diego for basic training. He received further training in Corpus Cristi as a radio radar technician.

Upon his discharge in May of 1946, he returned to the University of Wyoming to pursue his new profession. His first year at the university focused on requirements needed to declare himself a pre-med student. Eventually, Dr. Allen obtained his D.O. degree after graduating from the College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons in Los Angeles in 1951. He then went on to intern at the Glendale Community Hospital in Glendale, California.

Dr. Allen has held numerous professional and community positions: Vice President of the California American College of Osteopathic Family Practice State Society; President of Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California; Founding Chairman for the Board of Directors of the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific; Treasurer, Board of Directors-COMP; American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates; President, Whittier Y’s Men’s club; Chairman Staff Parish, Whittier Methodist Church; President of the Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol & Drug Abuse Recover House; and finally
Commissioner to the California Health Manpower Policy Commission. He continues to hold an office in the Board of Trustees for COMP. Furthermore, he is sole owner of the Osteopathic medical Clinic in Norwalk, CA since 1985.
SCOPE AND CONTENT

The materials in this collection were created from 1944 to 1981. The files include professional correspondence, biographical information, newspaper and journal articles, correspondence, committee meeting minutes and information on the early development of The College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (COMP). The collection documents Dr. Allen’s involvement as a Board member in the Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California (OPSC) and as a Founding Board Member of the osteopathic college – COMP.

The collection contains information on the history of osteopathy in California, the activities of OPSC in helping to re-establishing the osteopathic profession in California. It also reveals the direction and planning in launching a new osteopathic college. Their efforts are documented in fundraising and interest generating correspondence and literature as well as routine administrative activities.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series I: Biographical Information

Arrangement: none

This very small series contains a biographical sketch of Dr. Allen. It contains a curriculum vitae, a couple of press releases and a certificate of recognition from Gloria Molina, Supervisor, First District, County of Los Angeles, California.
Series II: Subject Files

Inclusive Dates: 1944-1981
Arrangement: Alphabetical and thereunder chronological

This series consists of mostly printed materials, such as newsletters, and newspaper and journal articles. The articles cover a variety of subjects from the 1962 merger of MDs and Dos in California to general health care.

Series III: Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California

Inclusive Dates: 1967-1978
Arrangement: Alphabetical and thereunder chronological

Materials in this series relate to OPSC and consist of Board of Directors correspondence and meeting minutes, including some minutes of the College Development Committee. Additionally, the series contains correspondence that illustrates the day-to-day business of the central office. Furthermore, the series includes issues of the Osteopathic newsletter “Horizons” in which Dr. Ethan Allen is the editor. Finally, correspondence between OPSC and the Law Offices of Tobin and Gassner rounds out this series.

Of particular interest are the minutes of a joint meeting between OPSC and CSO (Californians in Support of Osteopathy) in March, 1970. The objective of the meeting was to understand how each organization was contributing to the benefit of the profession and how to better integrate those efforts.

Series IV: Early College Development

Inclusive Dates 1976-1977
Arrangement: Alphabetical and thereunder chronological

This series contains materials relating to the establishment of COMP and its early developmental progress in the areas of: location, facilities, fundraising, financial status, articles of incorporation and by-laws, accreditation, and California license requirements. They consist of correspondence from the Board, reports, agreements, news articles, and meeting minutes.

One particular letter from Dr. Eby to Dr. Reed makes it clear that the College Development programs of OPSC should be transferred to WSCOM at this time in order to establish its own identity. This same letter also reveals the growing problem of division of duties between CSO and its own central office.
CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

Series I: Biographical Information, 1991-1996

1.1 Biographical Material, 1991-1996

Series II: Subject Files, 1944-1981

1.2 AOA Correspondence & Publications, 1970-1972
1.3 Articles on Osteopathic Principles & Practice, 1944-1981
1.4 CMA Material, 1970
1.5 Journal Articles, 1962-1977
1.6 Miscellaneous Material, 1970-1977
1.7 Newsletters, 1970-1972
1.8 Newspaper articles, 1969-1981


1.9 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, 1970
1.10 California State Plan for Health, August 25, 1970
1.11 College Development Committee, 1976
1.12 Correspondence 1969-1978, n.d.
1.13 “Horizons” Newsletter, 1970-1971
1.15 Tobin & Gassner, 1967-1970


1.16 Pre-COMP, 1976-1977
1.17 College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, 1977

The following materials were removed and deposited in Special Collections:

- 1 copy of “The Journal of the Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California”
  dated April, 1977
- 1 copy of “The California Clinician” dated July, 1962