Finding Aid for the St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses Records, #4765

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Collection name: St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses Records, 1886-1950s, 1970s, 1982

Repository: Rush University Medical Center Archives, Chicago, Ill.

Creator: St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses, 1885-1956

Collection Number: 4765

Language: English

Extent:
- Items: About 150 items
- Linear feet: 3.0

Abstract:

St. Luke’s Hospital was founded in 1864. In 1885, the hospital founded the Training School for Nurses. The school was more commonly known as the St. Luke’s Hospital School of Nursing. The hospital’s school for nurses filled a need for a larger and more professional nursing corps. In 1956, St. Luke’s Hospital and the nursing school, merged with Presbyterian Hospital and the Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing to become Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Hospital. The St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses records include annual announcements, 1913-1956, annual reports, 1938-1956, and yearbooks, 1919-1957. Annual announcements include lists of faculty, graduates of the school, rules, fees, and course requirements and descriptions. Reports for the St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses include reports for the school, nursing service, Nursing Council, social director, Schweppe House, and hospital administration.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Restrictions to access:
None

Acquisitions Information:
Artificial collection created from Accessions 97-136 and 96-245 and previously unprocessed items.
Processing Information:
Processed by: Gloria Ballard, December 2010
Finding aid by: Gloria Ballard, December 2010

Preferred Citation:
[Identification of item], in the St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses Records, #4765, Rush University Medical Center Archives.

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Potential Subject Headings:
Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Hospital—History, 20th century
Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Medical Center—History
Rush University Medical Center—History, 20th century
Chicago, Ill.
History of nursing. United States. Chicago (Ill.)
St. Luke’s Hospital, Chicago (Ill.)
St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses

RELATED COLLECTIONS:
St. Luke’s Hospital Records, #4768
St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Association Records
Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Hospital Records, #4705
Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association
Various photographs in RG44000
Various artifacts, particularly nursing uniforms, uniform pieces, nursing pins, and nursing caps.

HISTORICAL NOTE:
St. Luke’s Hospital was founded in 1864. In 1885, the hospital founded the Training School for Nurses. The hospital’s school for nurses filled a pressing need for a larger and more professional nursing corps. In 1893, the nursing program was increased from two to three years. In these early years, the nurses’ training was hands-on which consisted of serving in the hospital with little classroom or laboratory work. The year of 1897, brought a bequest by Elizabeth Stickney, which provided for construction of the first Nurses Training School Building. The Stickney Building served the school until 1943, when the Charles and Laura Schweppe Memorial Nurses Home was completed and
Finding Aid for the St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses Records, #4765
Rush University Medical Center Archives
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dedicated. During the years of 1939 to 1953, Madeleine McConnell served as the director of the school and of the Nursing Service. During McConnell’s tenure, the school received its accreditation from the National League of Nursing Education in 1940. In 1949, arrangements between the school and the University of Illinois allowed St. Luke’s students to earn a B.S. in Nursing. In 1956, St. Luke’s Hospital and the nursing school merged with Presbyterian Hospital and the Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing to create Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Hospital. The faculty and staff of St. Luke’s Hospital and the nursing school moved to the Presbyterian Hospital campus at Wood and Congress streets located on Chicago’s west side.

An important figure of nursing history, Adda Eldredge graduated from St. Luke’s Hospital School of Nursing in 1899 and served as an instructor at her alma mater from 1907 to 1914. Miss Eldredge was a leader in the drive toward standardizing state registration procedures for nurses in Illinois. For over five years, she persistently lobbied the Illinois state legislature to develop a registration process that would legally certify the quality of a nurse’s education. Nurses with qualifications meeting state standards could use the designation “R.N.” for registered nurse. In 1907, the State of Illinois passed the Nurse Practice Act and granted Adda Eldredge state registration number one. In 1935, The American Nurses Association awarded Eldredge the Walter Burns Saunders medal for Distinguished Service in the Cause of Nursing.

COLLECTION OVERVIEW:

The St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses records include annual announcements, 1913-1956, annual reports, 1938-1956, and yearbooks, 1919-1957. Annual announcements include lists of faculty, graduates of the school, rules, fees, and course requirements and descriptions. Reports for the St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses include reports for the school, nursing service, Nursing Council, social director, Schweppe House, and hospital administration. Other material includes correspondence, reports and writings, rules of conduct, programs, licenses and certificates, and news clippings.

ARRANGEMENT OF SERIES:
1. Annual Announcements, 1913-1956
2. Annual Reports, 1938-1956
3. Yearbooks, 1919-1957
4. Correspondence, 1929, 1956, 1970s
5. Reports and Writings, 1931-1955
6. Rules of Conduct, 1895-1950s
7. Programs, 1899-1956
8. Licenses and Certificates, 1886, 1920s-1950s
9. Clippings, 1930s-1950s, 1982
ITEMS SEPARATED:
None

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION:

Series 1. Annual Announcements, 1913-1956

30 items
Arrangement: Chronological
Scope Content: Annual announcements for the St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses include lists of faculty and graduates, rules and fees, course requirements, and course descriptions. Some announcements include pictures of the hospital campus and nursing areas. It is unclear whether announcements for 1919, 1923, 1925 and 1941 were produced.

BOX 1

Annual Announcement, 1913
Annual Announcement, 1914
Annual Announcement, 1915
Annual Announcement, 1916
Annual Announcement, 1917
Annual Announcement, 1918
Annual Announcement, 1920
Annual Announcement, 1921
Annual Announcement, 1922
Annual Announcement, 1924
Annual Announcement, 1926
Annual Announcement, 1927
Annual Announcement, 1928
Annual Announcement, 1929
Annual Announcement, 1930-31
Annual Announcement, 1931-32
Annual Announcement, 1932-33
Annual Announcement, 1933-34
Annual Announcement, 1935

BOX 2

Annual Announcement, 1935-36
Annual Announcement, 1936-37
Annual Announcement, 1937-38
Annual Announcement, 1938
Annual Announcement, 1939
Annual Announcement, 1940
Annual Announcement, 1942-44
Annual Announcement, 1944-46
Annual Announcement, 1947-49
Annual Announcement, 1949-50
Annual Announcement, 1951-52
Annual Announcement, 1953-54
Annual Announcement, 1954-55
Annual Announcement, 1955-56

Series 2. Annual Reports, 1938-1956

14 items
Arrangement: Chronological
Scope Content: Annual reports for the St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses include reports for the school, nursing service, Nursing Council, social director, Schweppe House, and hospital administration. Two versions of the 1947 annual report include a shorter and longer version.

BOX 2 (continued)

Annual Reports, 1938-42
Annual Reports, 1943
Annual Reports, 1944
Annual Reports, 1945
Annual Reports, 1946
Annual Reports, 1947 (two versions)

BOX 3

Annual Reports, 1948
Annual Reports, 1949
Annual Reports, 1950
Annual Reports, 1951
Annual Reports, 1952
Annual Reports, 1953
Annual Reports, 1954

BOX 4
Annual Reports, 1955
Annual Reports, 1956

**Series 3. Yearbooks, 1919-1957**

16 items  
Arrangement: Chronological  
Scope Content: Yearbooks for St. Luke’s Hospital Training School for Nurses do not include yearbooks for the following years: 1920, 1921, 1923-1927, and 1929-1944. Aside from individual yearbook portraits for students and faculty, the yearbooks include many photographs of nurses and nursing students at work, in the classroom, and in the dormitories.

**BOX 4 (continued)**

Yearbook, 1919 (Includes portraits of classes of 1920 and 1921)  
Yearbook, 1922  
Yearbook, 1928  
Yearbook, “The Forty-five,” 1945  
Yearbook, “PRN,” 1946  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1947

**BOX 5**

Yearbook, “The Neophyte,” 1948A  
Yearbook, 1948B  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1949  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1950  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1951  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1952  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1953  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1954  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1955  
Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1956

**BOX 6**

Yearbook, “Cap and Cross,” 1957

**Series 4. Correspondence, 1929, 1956, 1970s**
Finding Aid for the St. Luke's Hospital Training School for Nurses Records, #4765
Rush University Medical Center Archives
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About 10 items
Arrangement: Chronological
Scope Content: Correspondence includes letters regarding the nurses's endowed room at St. Luke's Hospital, 1929; a telegram referring to merger of St. Luke's and Presbyterian Hospital, 1956; and letters from alumni regarding items sent to the historical collection/nursing archives, 1956, 1970s.

BOX 6 (continued)

Correspondence regarding nurses' endowed room at St. Luke's Hospital, 1929
Telegram from John Bent, President, Board of Trustees, St. Luke's Hospital and Edith Payne, Director of Nursing to Marion Etten regarding announcement of merger with Presbyterian Hospital, 12 April 1956 [photocopy]
Correspondence with nursing school alumni regarding donations of items to historical collection/nursing archives, 1956, 1970s

Series 5. Reports and Writings, 1931-1955

About 10 items
Arrangement: Chronological
Scope Content: Reports related to St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, histories of the school, addresses given by administrators or given at the school, 1930s, 1950s.

BOX 6 (continued)

First Draft of History of St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing by Dora Goldstine, September 1931
Biography of Adda Eldredge, Reprint from the American Journal of Nursing, 1932 [from C93-067]
St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, Graduation Address, Ettie Taylor, Dean of School of Nursing, Yale University, 26 May 1944
St. Luke's Hospital, Board of Trustees Meeting Reports, (includes information regarding changes to School of Nursing and Affiliation with University of Illinois, Urbana), 1947 and 1949
History of St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing for 65th Anniversary, 1950
Report of Resurvey of St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, April 1953
Centennial Address at St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, "Florence Nightingale," by Werner K. Gottstein, MD, 11 November 1954
Program and Remarks, National League of Nurses, Allison Myers, Assistant Director in Operating Rooms, St. Luke's Hospital, includes information regarding nursing students' "tour of duty" in the operating rooms, 3 May 1955
Series 6. Rules of Conduct, 1895-1950s

About 20 items
Arrangement: Chronological
Scope Content: School of Nursing rules of conduct, instructions regarding uniforms, and related information, 1895-1950s.

BOX 6 (continued)

Rules of conduct, instructions regarding uniforms, outlines of student duties and expectations and related information, 1895-1950s.

Series 7. Programs, 1899-1956

About 40 items
Arrangement: Mostly chronological
Scope Content: Programs, mostly from commencement and graduation exercises, 1899-1950s

BOX 6 (continued)

Anniversary Dinner Honoring Harriet E. Fulmer, 15 May 1935 [from C96-046]
Mostly Commencement, Graduation, 1899-1956; a few Alumnae Association Banquets; Church Services at Grace Episcopal Church, 1951-1952

Series 8. Licenses and Certificates, 1886, 1920s-1950s

About 10 items
Scope Content: Licenses and certificates including Articles of Incorporation, 1 April 1886, and examples of diplomas conferred by St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, 1920s-1950s.

BOX 6 (continued)

Articles of Incorporation of St. Luke's Hospital Training School for Nurses, 1 April 1886 [photocopy]; Cancellation of Charter, 1902; and Certificate of Recognition of School under Illinois Nursing Act, 1932
Examples of Diplomas, 1920s-1950s; Certificate, State of Illinois Registered Nurse, 1930 Diploma, 1932 [leather cover]
Series 9. Clippings, 1930s-1950s, 1982

About 40 items
Scope Content: News clippings related to St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, 1930s-1950s, mostly from local papers or national hospital-related publications; articles from 1982 regarding former site of St. Luke's Hospital.

BOX 6 (continued)

News clippings related to St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, 1930s-1950s; 1982