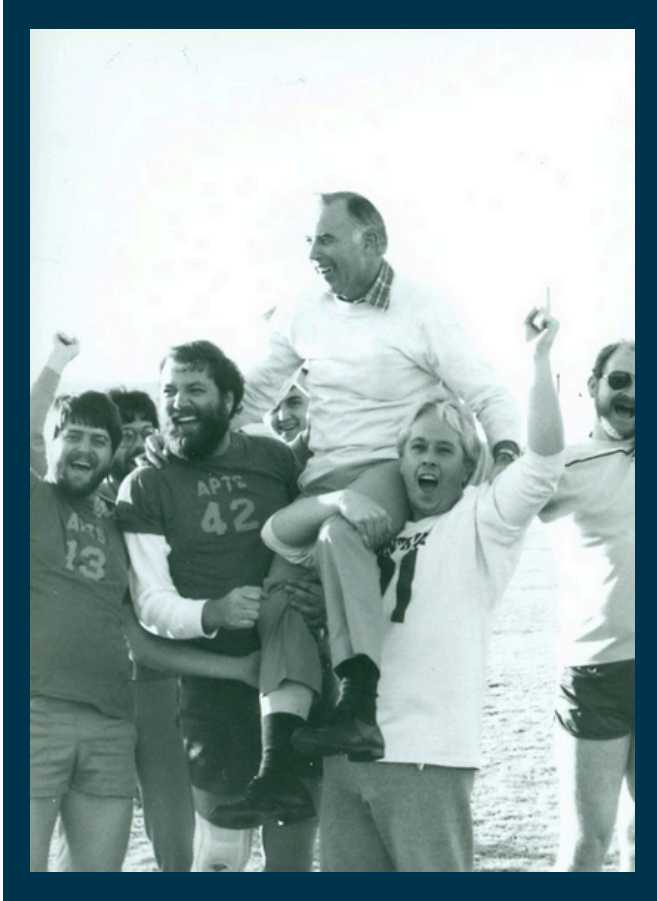


News from the Archives



Polity Bowl, circa 1980

What are Archives?

- Archives are places for documents, artifacts, photos, and other materials to be stored, documented, and preserved for future research. Archives are places where you can access materials from events, places, and people from the past.

What's in the Austin Seminary Archives?

- Our collection focuses on Austin Seminary and its history, alumni, & related entities, and the history of the Presbyterian Church in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma.
- Access our materials at:
www.austinseminary.edu/archives

Who do the Archives serve?

- You! We are here to make collections accessible to the Austin Seminary community, researchers, and the general public.

What's new in the Archives?

- Featured in this issue:
 - Polity Bowl
 - Chili Cook-Off
- Recently processed collections: Jorge Lara-Braud papers and Fane Downs papers
- New Digital Collections website:
www.austinseminarydigital.org

Archives Contact Information

Email: archives@austinseminary.edu

Website: www.austinseminary.edu/archives

Location: Wright Learning and Information Center, Room 303

Phone: 512-404-4874

Contribute to the Archives!

Are you part of the Austin Seminary community and have something you'd like to share with us?

If you have old photos, documents, flyers, or something else you'd like to contribute to the Archives, please **contact us!**

Polity Bowl

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary students play football against the students of the Seminary of the Southwest every year in the Polity Bowl. Austin Seminary and Seminary of the Southwest fans and players look forward to the football game for its spirit of both competition and fellowship.

Although there have been reports of the game being played as far back as the 1950s, our photographic records in the Austin Seminary Archives have proof of the game only back to the early 1980s. Since that time at least, the game has been held fairly consistently in the fall. A series of practices (for both the players and the cheerleaders) and pep rallies culminate in the final, exciting event. Two teams bring their all to the gridiron, but only one gets to take the Polity Bowl trophy home.



Austin Seminary students playing football at Mo-Ranch in the 1950s



Austin Seminary students form a huddle during the 2012 Polity Bowl

Although the exact start year of the Polity Bowl is unknown, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary students have long enjoyed playing football in their downtime. In the 1950s and 1960s, games were played on campus, in local parks, and even at Mo-Ranch.

Polity Bowl

"California has the Rose Bowl. Texas has the Cotton Bowl. Yet, surpassing them all is a bowl game filled with honor, tradition, and pride. Each year, two teams battle for glory, for honor, and bragging rights. We are speaking, of course, of Polity Bowl."

Kairos Newsletter, November 16, 2007

Fans sitting in the bleachers at a 1980s Austin Seminary Polity Bowl game



The Polity Bowl is meant to celebrate both football victory, as well as the fellowship on and off the school between Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the Seminary of the Southwest. While there is certainly a feeling of spirited competition in the run-up to the game, there is also an overwhelming sense of friendship and camaraderie between the two teams. While we may partake in some gentle ribbing, we are really here to support each other on our educational and spiritual journeys.



Holy Spirit Squad cheerleaders, 2012

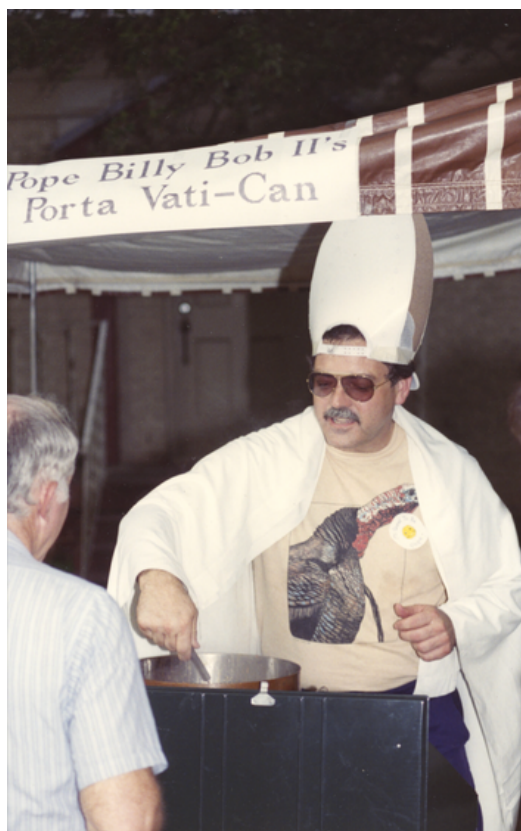
Austin Seminary students playing touch football, 1955



Chili Cook-Off

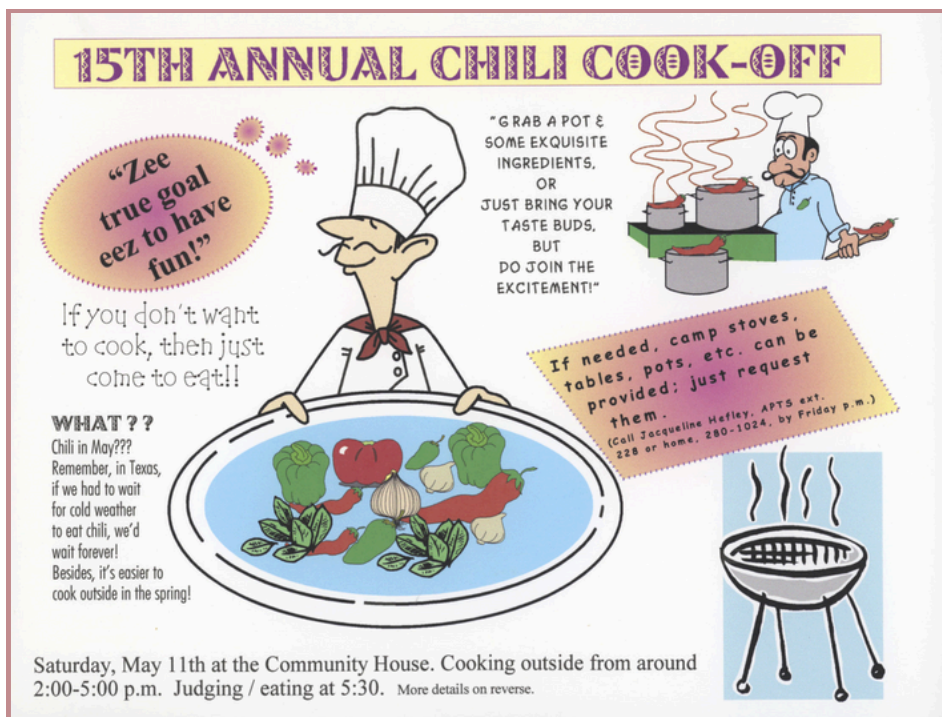
The annual Chili Cook-Off has become a beloved staple for the Austin Seminary community over the years.

The following is a selection of flyers for the Chili Cook-Off, participants in their element, and event attendees. Some of these will be on view in the Wright Center on the 3rd floor in November.



Cook-Off participant,
Team "Pope Billy Bob
II's Porta Vati-Can"

1994



Chili Cook-Off flyer
circa 2003



Event attendees
2002



Chili Cook-Off Participant, 2002

Chili Cook-Off flyer, 1997

10th ANNUAL APTS CHILI COOK-OFF May 17, 1997

The APTS Student Senate proudly presents an **END-OF-THE-YEAR COMMUNITY BASH - THE 10TH ANNUAL APTS CHILI COOK-OFF**. Whether you participate as a Chili Chef or a spectator, you are guaranteed to be amused and well-fed. Teams will begin cooking on Saturday anytime after noon. Tasting and judging is set for 5:00pm. All will dine after the judging. This **EVENT-TO-RIVAL-ALL-OTHERS** will take place in the Community House parking lot. Please bring a dessert to round out the menu.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE? Anyone. Past teams included students, faculty, staff, friends.

WHAT DO I NEED? A recipe, a theme, and a team.

WHAT IS PROVIDED? A table, and, if needed: Coleman stove, large pot, utensils. Chefs will be reimbursed for ingredients (around \$25.00 per team). We will also provide bowls, spoons, drinks, crackers.

HOW MUCH TO MAKE? Since we will feed the community, and since we ran out of chili last year, please plan on doubling (or even tripling-if small) recipes.

ANYTHING AND ANY THEME goes. We've had nuns with "Sisters of the Sacred Heartburn" chili, Hillbilly Road-Kill, Kenyan, Where's The Beef? (Veggie), Cincinnati, Tequila Mockingbird, Codependent, Blues Brothers, and Wolf Brand chillis.

JUDGING will consider both the goodness (or uniqueness) of the chili and the cleverness of the theme. If you don't want to cook chili, please join us for the dining. Simply bring an appetite and an opinion.

DESSERT - if you aren't cooking chili, consider bringing a dessert.



14th Annual Chili Cook-Off! May 12, 2001

The tradition continues this Saturday afternoon in the Community House parking lot. This has always been a wonderful event where community revels in silliness and friendship. Join us as we celebrate another year well-done.

Join us as a team or join us just to dine. Teams, in all their wacky Chili Cook-Off glory, will cook chili (after 1:00pm) then kick back while their concoctions simmer.

Chili will be judged around 5:30pm. Feast at 6:00pm
The more the merrier: More teams = more chili!

Chili Cook-Off flyer, 2001

Chili Cook-Off participant, Team
"Never Been Done Chili"

2002



Recently Processed Collections

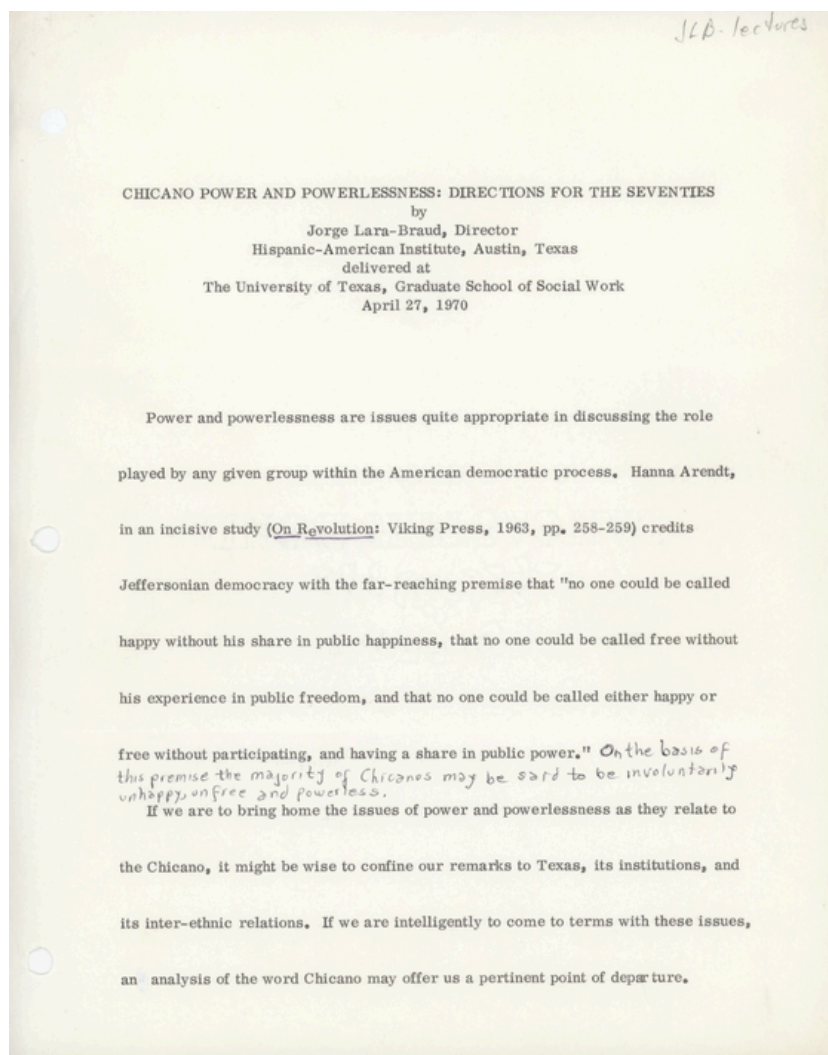
Jorge Lara-Braud papers, 1950-2014

The Jorge Lara-Braud papers contain the records, addresses, sermons, publications, and teaching materials of Jorge Lara-Braud, pastor and civil rights activist. Lara-Braud was an advocate for Mexican American and Latin-American causes, notably founding the Hispanic American Institute. Lara-Braud was an alumnus of Austin Seminary, graduating in 1959 with a Master of Divinity, and was the assistant professor of Mission and Ecumenicism at Austin Seminary from 1964-1966.

Collection inventory: txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00161.xml



Jorge Lara-Braud giving the baccalaureate address at Stanford University, 1989



Article: "Chicano Power and Powerlessness: Directions for the Seventies" by Jorge Lara-Braud, Delivered April 17, 1970, at The University of Texas

Recently Processed Collections

Fane Downs, 1953-2020

The Reverend Dr. Fane Downs II (1935-2019) was a professor at McMurray College before becoming an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Sermons, speeches, research, correspondence, photographs, and ephemera document Downs' pastorates in each of the five presbyteries in Texas through the years of 1989 to 2005. Records, scrapbooks, and publications document aspects of Downs' personal life. Downs was an alumna of Austin Seminary, graduating in 1988 with a Master of Divinity.

Collection inventory: txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00160.xml



Rev. Dr. Fane Downs providing the sacrament, circa 1990s

To see descriptions of other collections in our archives:
www.austinseminary.edu/archives

To view our digital collections: austinseminarydigital.org

If you would like to access any of these collections, please email us at archives@austinseminary.edu or stop by the Wright Center, Room 303

Highlights from the Archives

The Theolog

1925-present

Formerly 'The Seminite,' the Austin Seminary Bulletin was established in 1925. Renamed in 1941, 'The Theolog' as we know it today is an iteration of the Bulletin's Student Edition that functions as a yearbook and announcement catalog. It's a fun time capsule for the school and student body over the years.

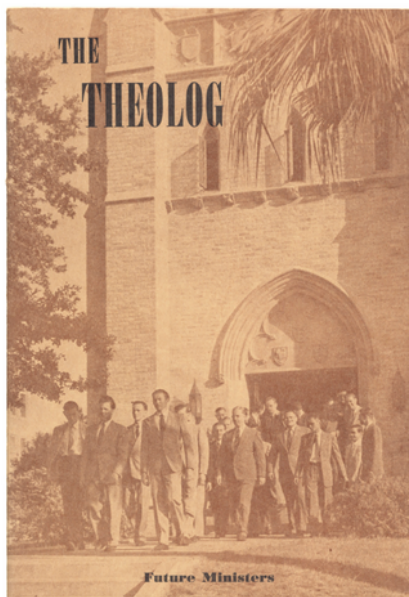
The Theolog was published with hopes that, "prospective candidates for the Gospel Ministry may have their interest in this Seminary kindled through the perusal of this modest effort. It is the hope that the memories of bygone days shall be refreshed in the minds of the Alumni of the Seminary as they look on familiar scenes; and it is further trusted, that the men and women of the Presbyterian Church may be led to the feeling of definite responsibility to this institution and its efforts to train worthy leaders for the spiritual life of men in this and coming generations."

The Archives holds physical copies of each publication for viewing. Come by room 303 to take a look!

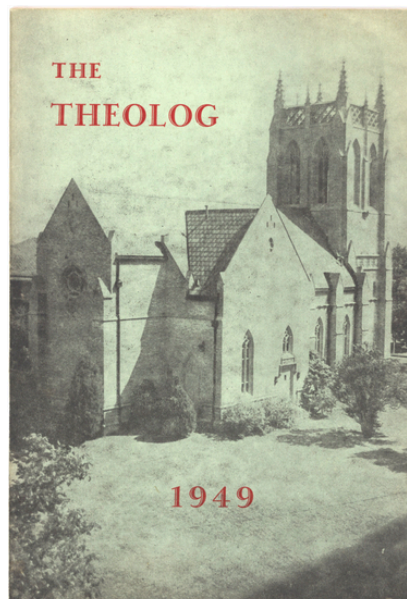
Digitized versions are available through our digital collections at austinseminarydigital.org



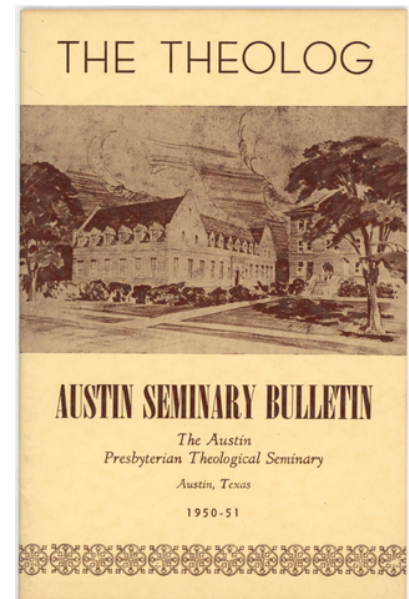
1941



1948



1949



1950-51

Archives Staff



Rodrigo Leal

Learning Technologies Librarian and Archives & Records Manager
rleal@austinseminary.edu

Job responsibilities: By day I am the lead admin for MyLearning, Austin Seminary's learning management system, by night* I manage the Austin Seminary Archives and the Seminary's records management program.

*I don't actually do this at night

When should a student come see you?

Anytime you have issues or questions related to MyLearning, please do not hesitate to contact me for help! Alternatively, if you want to take a trip through the history of Austin Seminary or the Presbyterian Church in the Southwest, stop by the Archives!

Fun facts: I make collages from old magazines, am into film photography, and am actively looking for more ways of becoming a luddite.



Robyn Pereira

Archives Assistant
rpereira@austinseminary.edu

Job Responsibilities: I process and arrange archive collections, create finding aids, pull collections and materials for researchers, and assist Rodrigo with other projects.

When should a student come see you?

If you need help understanding finding aids, have research or information-seeking questions, or want to learn more about what archives are for.

Fun facts: I'm a first-generation American from Canada, I sing soprano in a classical choir, and my hobbies include reading, crochet, and gardening.

Announcements

Upcoming physical exhibit: Polity Bowl and Chili Cook-Off

Come check out a new physical exhibit on the third floor of the Wright Library and Learning Center this November.

Materials on view include:

- Photographs
- Flyers
- T-shirts



An Austin Seminary student runs with the ball in a 1980s Polity Bowl



The Digital Collections at Austin Seminary provide access to recorded sermons, lectures, and webinars, alongside digitized versions of materials from the Archives at Austin Seminary.

We recently migrated to a new platform for digital collection access. Check it out at www.austinseminarydigital.org

Current digital exhibits include:

- Austin Seminary Library through the Ages
- Austin Seminary and the African American Experience
- For Home & Country: Austin Seminary during World War I
- Winsome Winners: The Polity Bowl