Special Collections,
G-ETS Archives,
and NIC Archives
@ The Styberg Library
About Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
Garrett Biblical Institute – Garrett Theological Seminary
• First Methodist seminary in the Midwest
• Established in 1853
• Eliza Clark Garrett, a widow of the late Chicago mayor, Augustus Garrett and a member of the Clark Street Society, the first United Methodist Church in Chicago, left a considerable inheritance for the founding of the seminary in early December
• A group of Methodist leaders invited John Dempster to organize the institute on Dec. 26, 1853
• The school was officially opened on Jan. 1, 1855
• It was renamed as Garrett Theological Seminary in 1962
Union Biblical Institute – Evangelical Theological Seminary
• In 1837 a group of German settlers in the Naperville area formed a society of the Evangelical Association

• In 1870 a small college of the Evangelical Association moved from Plainfield to Naperville, and it is now known as North Central College

• In 1873 Union Biblical Institute was established as an adjunct to the college

• The name was eventually changed to Evangelical Theological Seminary
Chicago Training School for City, Home and Foreign Missions
• With a new vision of Christian women leadership, a ministry of deaconesses who minister to the needs of the city, Lucy Rider Meyer and her husband, Josiah Meyer, convinced a group of Chicago Methodists to endorse the organization of a training school.

• The school opened at 19 W. Park Avenue in 1885 and moved into a building at the corner of Indiana Ave. and 50th St.

• It was merged with GBI in 1934.
Mergers

• In 1934 Chicago Training School and Garrett Biblical Institute merged
• In 1968 the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church merged to form the United Methodist Church
• In 1974 Garrett Theological Seminary and Evangelical Theological Seminary merged and became Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
About The Styberg Library
The United Library was established in 1981 when the collections of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (Methodist) and Seabury-Western Theological Seminary (Episcopal) were merged, and then, it was renamed as the Ernest and Bernice Styberg Library in May, 2017.

With the retirement of the two co-directors in 2007 the first solo director was hired.

In 2009 with the purchase of Seabury collection by Garrett, Seabury circulation desk was closed and Garrett became the sole point of access to the collection.
Collections

• About 400,000 volumes in the collection as well as subscription to more than 500 periodicals and access to numerous electronic databases in partnership with Northwestern
• A broad collection of biblical and theological studies
• American and English materials in Methodist and Anglican studies
• Ancient Near Eastern studies and biblical archaeology
• Patristics
About
Special Collections
Methodist Special Collection

• A varied set of materials embracing Methodism from its inception in the 18th century to the present day
• Journals, letters and papers from Ezekiel Cooper and William Colbert collections
• Of particular interest are several letters written by John Wesley, Francis Asbury, and Thomas Coke
• A large number of books, pamphlets, and periodicals including approximately 500 titles of 18th Century imprints by John and Charles Wesley, John Fletcher and George Whitfield
Hibbard Rare Book Collection

• Between 1907 and 1920, Lydia Beekman Hibbard (1834-1920) donated about $23,000.00 to the Hibbard Egyptian Library at Western Theological Seminary

• Two Western professors, Olaf Toffteen (Professor of Semitic Languages and Literature 1907-1910) and Samuel A. B Mercer (Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Literature 1910-1922) were responsible for the initial development of this library
• The Hibbard Egyptian Library’s holdings encompassed the fields of Egyptology, Semitic Languages, and Near Eastern archaeology

• Mummy of a young girl – gift to Lydia Hibbard in 1911 for supporting Sr. Flinders Petrie’s excavation of the Roman cemetery at Hawara, Egypt
Keen/Yi Bible Collection

• The collection initiated by Paul Edwin Keen, Professor of New Testament and Exegesis at the Evangelical Theological Seminary from 1927-1957

• Over 700 English Versions and Revisions of individual testaments or the entire Bible

• 225 out of 275 extant Bible Translations available in the Keen collection
• Among the outstanding first editions are Matthews Bible (1537), Taverner Bible (1539), Geneva Bible (1560), Bishops Bible (1568), Rheims New Testament (1582), first edition of the King James Bible (1611), and the Douai Old Testament (1610)

• Also present is the personal library of Bishop John Seybert, an Evangelical Association bishop of the mid-nineteen century
About

G-ETS Archives
Key Holdings

• Institutional archives from GBI/GTS, ETS, Chicago Training School, and G-ETS
• Faculty publications
• Former presidents and faculty papers including Edmund Soper, Murray Leiffer and Georgia Harkness
• Bishops papers including Leontine Kelly
• Sermon collections from notable preachers
• Kimball Young collection on Mormon family research
About Northern Illinois Conference Archives
Holdings:
• Conference official records
• Closed church records
• Publications
• Personal papers

Contact:
• Northern Illinois Conference Commission on Archives and History
• General Commission on Archives and History