BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
(RÜCHLIKON, SWITZERLAND)

COLLECTION

AR 649

Administration and Classroom Building, Baptist Theological Seminary, Rüschlikon, Switzerland

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
Prepared by Bill Sumners and Debbie Keen
August, 2012
Baptist Theological Seminary  
(Rüschlikon, Switzerland)  
Collection  

AR 649

Summary
Main Entry: Baptist Theological Seminary (Rüschlikon, Switzerland) Collection  

Date Span: 1949 – 1992  

Abstract: Collection of bulletins, catalogs, clippings, minutes of faculty and trustee meetings, addresses, reports, correspondence, and other material related to the Baptist Theological Seminary in Rüschlikon, Switzerland.  

Size: 2 linear ft. (5 document boxes)  

Collection #: AR 649

Historical Sketch
The Baptist Theological Seminary was founded in Rüschlikon, Switzerland by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1949. The seminary was handed over to the European Baptist Federation in 1988 and relocated to Prague, Czech Republic, in 1996 – 97.  

The history of seminary goes back to the decision of the Foreign Mission Board, SBC, to establish a European seminary and to appoint Dr. and Mrs. John D. W. Watts for the work of theological education in Europe. Property in the village of Rüschlikon was purchased, and the seminary doors were open for students in September, 1949. George W. Sadler served as acting president until the appointment of Josef Nordenhaug, who served as president from 1950 until 1960. Trustees for the seminary were selected from several Baptist conventions or unions in the countries of Europe.  

Relations with the Foreign Mission Board trustees became strained in the 1980s, and the seminary was handed over to the European Baptist Federation in 1988. The high cost of maintaining the seminary in Switzerland led the seminary to move to Prague in 1996 – 1997 and to rename the seminary the International Baptist Theologian Seminary.

Scope and Content Note
The Baptist Theological Seminary at Rüschlikon collection includes a variety of material related to the seminary, once located in Rüschlikon, Switzerland, and now located in Prague. Included in the collection are bulletins, catalogs, clippings, articles, correspondence, reports, publications, calendars, addresses, and minutes of faculty meetings and trustee meetings. The catalogs/bulletins include significant information on the course offerings and information for students about degrees and programs of the seminary. The faculty and trustee minute files
include agendas, reports, minutes of the meeting, and recommendations of the bodies. The collection includes material only on the period when the seminary was located in Switzerland.

**Arrangement**
The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by folder title

**Provenance**
Donated by Carol Woodfin, 1995

**Preferred Citation**
Baptist Theological Seminary (Rüschlikon) Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

**Access Restrictions**
None

**Subject Terms**
Baptist Theological Seminary (Rüschlikon, Switzerland)
International Baptist Theological Seminary (Prague, Czech Republic)
Southern Baptist Convention. Foreign Mission Board.
Europe – Church history – 20th century
Theological seminaries, Baptist
Theological seminaries – Europe
Baptists – Europe

**Related Materials**
John David Hughey Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, AR 711
John Allen Moore Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, AR 752
*Link*, newsletter of the Rüschlikon seminary
Pauline Moore Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, AR 734
Woodfin, Carol Gale. *Rueschlikon: the establishment and early development of an International Baptist Theological Seminary in the heart of post-war Europe*, 1987

**Container List**

**Box 1**
1.1 Administrative officers – Duties
1.2 Articles on seminary
1.3 Ballenger, Isam – Theological Resonance – Inaugural address, March, 1978
1.4 Baptist Center of Rüschlikon, 1966
1.5 Baptist World Alliance
1.6 Beasley, Murray, Paul – Notes on address
1.7 Brochures
1.8 Bulletins, 1951 – 1953
1.9 Bulletins, 1953 – 1955
1.10 Bulletins, 1955 – 1957
1.11 Bulletins, 1957 – 1959
1.12 Bulletins, 1959 – 1961
1.13 Bulletins, 1961 – 1963
1.14 Bulletins, 1963 – 1964
1.15 Bulletins, 1964 – 1966

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2.1 Bulletins, 1966 – 1967
2.2 Bulletins, 1967 – 1968
2.3 Bulletins, 1968 – 1970
2.4 Bulletins, 1970 – 1976
2.5 Bulletins, 1976 – 1983
2.6 Bulletins, 1985 – 1990
2.7 Calendars/Class Schedules, 1971 – 1984
2.8 Cards
2.9 Chapel
2.10 Charter, 1949
2.11 Church Bulletin Supplement, Jan. – Feb., 1983
2.12 Clippings, 1952 – 1988
2.13 Consultation on Theological Education, 1983
2.14 Correspondence, 1948 – 1984
2.15 Directories, 1972 – 1975
2.16 Enrollment statistics, 1952 – 1976
2.17 European Baptist Press Service
2.18 FAC Information, Dec., 1984
2.19 Fant, Clyde, “The Word Among Us” – Inaugural Address, Sept., 1982
2.20 Foreign Mission Board, 1969 – 1976
2.21 Foreign Mission Board – Administrative Committee, 1978
2.22 Foundation
2.23 Franks, J. D., “Our seven years in post-war Europe,” 1954
2.24 Graduates
2.25 Guide to Staff
2.26 History
2.27 Hughey, John David
2.28 Institute for Baptist and Anabaptist Studies
2.29 Job Descriptions
2.30 Koinonia (publication), 1983 – 1984

Box 3
3.1 Library
3.2 Link, 1978 – 1992 (scattered issues)
3.3 Lorenzen, T. – Opening Service, Sept., 1984
3.4 Lotz, Denton, “Rüschlikon – meeting place for east and west,” 1977
3.5 Minutes – Executive Board, 1978
3.6 Minutes – Executive Board, 1979
3.7 Minutes – Executive Board, Jan., 1980
3.8 Minutes – Executive Board, April, 1980
3.9 Minutes – Executive Board, Oct., 1980
3.10 Minutes – Faculty meeting, 1961 – 1967
3.11 Minutes – Faculty meeting, 1968 – 1971
3.12 Minutes – Faculty meeting, 1975 – 1976
3.13 Minutes – Faculty meetings, 1977 – 1978
3.14 Minutes – Faculty meetings, 1978 – 1979
3.15 Minutes – Faculty meeting, Jan. – May, 1980
3.16 Minutes – Trustee meeting, 1950
3.17 Minutes – Trustee meeting, 1951 – 1953
3.18 Minutes – Trustee meeting, 1954 – 1957
3.19 Minutes – Trustee meeting, 1958 – 1961
3.20 Minutes – Trustee meeting, 1962
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3.22 Minutes – Trustee meeting, 1964
3.23 Minutes – Trustee meeting, 1965
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3.25 Minutes – Trustee meeting, March, 1967
3.26 Minutes – Trustee meeting, March, 1968

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4.1 Minutes – Trustee meeting, March, 1969
4.2 Minutes – Trustee meeting, March, 1970
4.3 Minutes – Trustee meeting, January, 1971
4.4 Minutes – Trustee meeting, March, 1971
4.5 Minutes – Trustee meeting, Sept., 1972
4.6 Minutes – Trustee meeting, Oct., 1974
4.7 Minutes – Trustee meeting, March, 1976
4.8 Minutes – Trustee meeting, March, 1977
4.9 Minutes – Trustee meeting, March, 1978
4.10 Miller, Wes – “Studios and mass media, toward the future,” 1981
4.11 Missing Link, 1998
4.15 Nordenhaug, Josef – Seminary chapel address, Jan., 1957
4.16 Opening chapel – Notes, 1982
4.17 Orientation, 1984
4.18 Parker, Keith, “A mission in missions: Rüschlikon’s Rule
4.19 Parker, Keith, “Rüschlikon’s rule” in commission, Oct., 1972
4.20 Parker, G. Keith, “Rüschlikon: cross cultural center for European Baptists”
4.21 Patterson, Morgan – Scroll of Honor
4.22 Photographs
4.24 Programs, 1959 – 1984
4.25 Recommendations, 1964, 1969
4.26 Reports, 1959 – 1993 (scattered)
4.28 Ruden, Erik, “The Baptists in the European Continent”
4.29 Sadler, George W. – Inaugural address
4.30 Self-study, 1981
4.31 St. Amant, Penrose – Rüschlikon and the Future, 1972
4.32 Student List, 1981 – 1984
4.33 Summer Institute of Theological Education, 1985
4.34 Task force and priorities for the future
4.35 Theological Seminary in Hamburg, 1980
4.36 Verdery, E. Augustus – Scholarship fund
4.38 Wagner, Gunter – Chapel address, Oct., 1973
4.39 Woodfin, Carol
4.40 Woodfin, Yardall, “The faces of individuality,” 1971

Box 5

5.1 Recording – Liedtke, Jean, by Carol Woodfin – Liedtke was a student at BITS at Rüschlikon, 1949 – 1953
5.2 Recording – Soundtracks of films about Rüschlikon – including “An experiment in international cooperation” – and interview with John Watts, by Paul Stevens (3 tapes)