Mary Pat Haley, BVM

Creator: Mary Pat Haley, BVM (1933-2015)
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See Also: The Mundelein College Faculty Records at the Women and Leadership Archives (F 4.1 b), Mundelein College Oral Histories at the Women and Leadership Archives, and the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Archives, Dubuque, Iowa.

Biographical History
Mary Patricia Haley was born on December 10, 1933 in Des Moines, Iowa, the first of six children to Edward Haley and Lucille Muelhaupt. After graduating from high school, she attended St. Mary of the Woods College in Indiana for two years. Mary Pat entered the congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVMs) on September 8, 1952 and received the name St. Thomas upon her reception in 1953. She lived as a BVM for 62 years.

Sr. Mary Pat earned her B.A. at Clarke College in 1959 in English and her M.A. in English at the University of Iowa in 1967. She also earned a Ph.D. in Radio-TV-Film at Northwestern University in 1973. After teaching elementary and high school English for several years, in 1964 she accepted an Instructor of English position at Guadalupe College in California. Two years later, she joined the faculty of Mundelein College, where she spent 25 years.

As an English instructor, Sr. Mary Pat introduced mass media and film into the Mundelein curriculum, resulting in a transformation of the English Department into the English and Communications Department, and later the creation of a separate Department of Communications. Sr. Mary Pat went on to become the Academic Dean (1975-1978), the Vice President for Academic Affairs (1978-1981), and the Chairperson of both the English Department and the Communications Department several times. After the affiliation of Mundelein and Loyola in 1991, she continued as a professor of Communications at Loyola University. At Loyola, Sr. Mary Pat worked to ensure the continuation of Mundelein’s Weekend College. A colleague noted that she was instrumental in the development of the Communications department into a professional school in 2007.
Throughout her tenure at Mundelein and then at Loyola University, Sr. Mary Pat participated in numerous university committees, taught at the Weekend College, received a number of awards and grants, and served on several boards of trustees. While teaching at Mundelein, she received the 1990 Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award from the Sears-Roebuck Foundation. In 2005, she also received the Dux Mirabilis Award for, “her years of dedication, commitment, and leadership,” at Loyola University. Sr. Mary Pat was also active in serving her religious community through participation on committees and writing for Salt, the order’s quarterly journal.

Sr. Mary Pat was a talented writer, a good seamstress, and a die-hard fan of the Chicago Cubs. She moved to Mount Carmel, the BVM Motherhouse in Dubuque, Iowa in 2010. She lived there until her death on May 30, 2015.

Scope and Content
This collection spans the years 1973 to 1994 in two series: Professional and Dissertation. The bulk of the papers relate to Sr. Mary Pat Haley’s teaching and administrative career at Mundelein College. The collection is organized chronologically within each series.

Series 1: Professional, 1975-1994, n.d., Box 1
This series contains materials relating to Sister Mary Pat Haley’s presentations to faculty and staff (which she called “Short Speeches”) and her participation on the Vision Committee of Mundelein College that prefaced its affiliation with Loyola University in 1991.

Series 2: Dissertation, 1973, Box 1
This series contains Sr. Mary Pat Haley’s dissertation for her doctoral degree entitled SIX30 – Some of the News Some of the Time: A Case Study in Minority Access to Television.

Series 3: Personal, 2015, Box 1
This series contains writings about Haley from after her death on May 30, 2015, including obituaries and stories told at her wake.

Subjects:
Mundelein College
Mary Pat Haley, BVM
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**Series 2: Dissertation, 1973**

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