Purpose and Mission
The purpose of the Lake Forest College Archives and Special Collections is threefold: to support and strengthen the pursuit of academic excellence by the students at the College, to collect, preserve, and provide access to College permanent records for use in College business and by researchers, and to promote a sense of community.

Teaching and Learning
As stated in the College’s five-year plan, the College seeks to strengthen the quality of academic programs and prepare students effectively for careers. The College Archives and Special Collections assists in these endeavors by providing research opportunities, instruction sessions, and exposure to a broad array of historical primary source material.

To integrate the Archives and Special Collections into the curriculum, manuscript and rare book collection development will be in part faculty-driven. Faculty are encouraged to inform the archivist of subjects of long term interest, and identify manuscript collections and rare books related to the curriculum through connections with individuals and organizations.

College Records
The Archives will collect College records of all formats and media, from the founding of the College to the present. These collections will be made available to College employees and other researchers depending on necessary restrictions. A records management policy and concomitant records schedules will guide offices in transferring files to the Archives and Special Collections.

Papers of faculty and alumni will be considered for the College Archives, with collections related to the College and curricular needs being of special interest.

Subject Areas

Chicago
Chicago will remain a special area of collecting to support first year seminars on Chicago and the overall emphasis of Chicago in the curriculum. The archives will seek to complement the collections of other archives in the area, not compete. One of our most significant collections related to Chicago is the Edward Bennett Papers, which includes copies of the Plan of Chicago.

Publishing
The Joseph Medill Patterson Papers remains one of our most used and valuable collections. The papers document Patterson’s career as co-publisher and publisher of the Chicago Tribune, the New York Daily News, and Liberty magazine. The papers include Patterson’s directives to managerial staff, and Patterson’s correspondence
with leading American journalists and cartoonists. The College will continue collecting in the area of Chicago publishing and is eager to solicit material on local independent presses.

**Education Policy**

The Effective Schools Process documents a prescription for the reform and renewal of public schools, originated by Ronald Edmonds and developed and carried forth since 1986 by the National Center for Effective Schools Research and Development (NCESRD). Materials that complement this collection will be welcomed.

**Art and Architecture**

In the past, the College has collected a great deal of material on City of Lake Forest architecture as well as acquiring the research papers of art history professor Franz Schulze that include all his research on Philip Johnson and other areas. The College also has many architectural plans for the City of Lake Forest, including Market Square. While we will continue to collect selectively in the area of art and architecture, City of Lake Forest estates will not be a primary area of collecting moving forward, unless there is a connection to the College.

**City of Lake Forest**

The College and the City’s early history are closely tied, and thus the College will collect materials related to the history of the City of Lake Forest, particularly the Presbyterian and Scottish roots. Special Collections holds the papers of the Lake Forest Association, the founding organization of the city. The College will work closely with the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society to avoid duplication and find the best homes for materials.

**Railroads**

We will collect selectively in the area of railroad history for the North Shore and Chicago. Potential donations must be substantially related to the metropolitan Chicago area, or have a significant component that supports the College’s curriculum. Special Collections is no longer maintaining or collecting rail magazines nor do we accept material objects. Types of acceptable materials include photographs and manuscript collections.

Major collections owned by the College include the photograph collections of the Center for Railroad Photography and Art, Arthur Dubin, Munson Paddock, James Sloss, Gil Reid, and John Reid. A major source of railroad books and ephemera is the Elliott Donnelley Railroad Library, donated in 1976 by Donnelley’s family.

**North Shore community service organizations**

The Lake Effect collection contains resources relevant to the environmental, historic, political, public health, and scientific issues surrounding Waukegan Harbor.
Social service, community, and other local organizations are an area we want to expand upon.