



MG 22 - Rudolf Altschul fonds

Dates: 1939-1980 (inclusive); 1944-1963 (predominant)

Extent: 1.75 meters of textual material; slides, photographs

Biography: Rudolf Altschul was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, 24 February 1901. He graduated as a Doctor of Universal Medicine from the German University in Prague in 1925, and did postgraduate work in neurology and neuropathology in Paris and Rome. In 1939 he and his wife were forced to flee the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia, and were aboard the S.S. Athenia, the first ship torpedoed by the Germans in the Second World War. They eventually arrived in Canada, and Dr. Altschul accepted a position in the Department of Anatomy at the University of Saskatchewan.

Prior to coming to Canada he had to his credit 32 scientific papers, and in the following years he contributed another 71 papers dealing with various subjects, including pathology of the nervous system, skeletal muscle degeneration, cell division and in particular, arterial degeneration. His most notable contribution was in demonstrating the cholesterol-lowering effect of nicotinic acid. Dr. Altschul died on 4 November 1963.

Scope and content: This fonds contains Professor Altschul's personal papers, including the manuscripts of his two novels, "Trilemma" and "Vorgestern und Uebermorgern," various poems, stories, and articles, as well as personal correspondence, finances, and family memorabilia. It also contains his books "Arteriosclerosis" and "Endothelium," and three books by other authors. Many of the stories, articles, and correspondence refer to the sinking of the Athenia. This fonds also contains files relating to Professor Altschul's research activities, particularly in the fields of arteriosclerosis, endothelium, and niacin.

Arrangement: This fonds is arranged into 2 series. The first is arranged into the following sub-series:

- I. General Correspondence.
- II. Miscellaneous Correspondence
- III. Research Grants
- IV. Research Files
- V. Miscellaneous Files
- VI. Confidential Files

The second series is arranged by subject.

Restrictions: Files marked as **RESTRICTED** require vetting by the archivist prior to release.

Finding aid edited for formatting by Amy Putnam, 2018.

Series 1

Box 1

I. General Correspondence:

1. 1941-1955

Includes correspondence with: JW Macleod; Erwin Schwenk; George Lengyel; Walter Solomon; Hanna Moller; R.A. Cripe (The Burdick Corporation); Arthur Grollman; T.A. Rasmussen; A Vibert Douglas; Ludvig Hektoen; Wilder Penfield; Richard Kohn Richards; etc.

2. 1956

Includes correspondence with: JW Macleod; Erwin Schwenk; minutes of the Saskatchewan Committee on Schizophrenia Research; etc.

3. 1957

Includes correspondence with : JW Macleod; Erwin Schwenk; Allan Skinner; RM Taylor; AC Ivy; GC Darby; Hikoroku Hashimoto; memo of agreement re: patents, etc., with the University; minutes of "meeting of occupants," Saskatchewan Cancer and Medical Research Building; minutes of committee on scientific affairs, etc.

4. 1958

Includes "A Survey of Financial Problems of Students in Four Professional Colleges" by H. Cooperstock; minutes of the Saskatchewan Committee on Schizophrenia Research; etc.

5. 1959

Erwin Schwenk; Louis Levin; Fredrick Stare; 1952-1958 guide to research papers, Committee on Schizophrenia Research; etc.

6. 1960

A. Hoffer; AS Todd; R. Feissly; Erwin Schwenk; etc.

7. 1961

Includes several offprints from others; photographs; Z. Reinis; B. Prusik; minutes of the ad hoc building committee and other materials relating to Medicine; materials from the Faculty Association regarding pensions; etc.

8. 1962

Johann Wulfing; Calvin Tribiano; CF Asche & Co.; G. Schettler; etc.

Box 2

9. 1963

Material relating to a school of physical and occupational therapy / school of rehabilitation medicine; proposals regarding expansion to the medical building; etc.

10. 1964-1965

Correspondence from Sergey Fedoroff reporting back on outstanding grants, etc., unfinished at the time of Altschul's death.

II. Miscellaneous Correspondence

1. 1944-1963
2. A-J. – 1954-1956
3. L-Z. – 1954-1956.

III. Research Grants.

1. Accounts. – 1954-1955.
2. Accounts. – 1959-1960.
3. Public Health (Canadian). – 1950-1963.
4. Muscular Dystrophy Association. – 1957-1961.
5. N.R.C. – Accounts. – 1950-1954.
6. N.R.C. – Correspondence. – 1942-1948.
7. N.R.C. – Correspondence. – 1949-1959.

Box 3

8. N.R.C. – Western Regional Group. – 1948-1961.
Abstracts & Proceedings at meetings.

IV. Research Files.

1. Arteriosclerosis. – General. – n.d.
2. Arteriosclerosis. – Gallery of Selected Studies. – n.d.
3. Arteriosclerosis. – Page Proofs Selected Studies. – n.d.
4. Arteriosclerosis. – Unclassified. – n.d.
5. Endothelium. – Correspondence. – 1953-1961.
6. Endothelium. – C.C. Thomas Corr. – 1948-1961.
7. Endothelium. – Other Preparations. (Corr.) – 1950-1963.
8. Endothelium. – Manuscript. – 1954.

9. Endothelium. – Gallery. – c.1955.

Box 4

10. Endothelium. – Unclassified (file #1). – n.d.

11. Endothelium. – Unclassified (file #2). – n.d.

12. Angiopathy. – 1950-1951.

13. Cholesterol. – n.d.

14. Cholesterol. – Water Deprivation. – 1958-1959.

15. Cholesterol. – Literatures & References. – n.d.

16. Cytochrome. – n.d.

17. Ultraviolet Irradiation. – n.d.

18. Nicotinic Acid. – Correspondence. – 1962-1964.

Box 5

19. Nicotinic Acid. – C.C. Thomas Corr. – 1962-1964.

20. Nicotinic Acid. – Articles. – n.d.

21. Niacin. – Manuscript. – c.1964.

22. Niacin. – Galleys. – c.1965.

23. Niacin. – Illustrations/Tables. – n.d.

24. Niacin. – Page Proofs. – c.1965.

25. Niacin. – Miscellaneous. – n.d.

26. Niacin. – Unclassified Literature. – n.d.

27. Niacin. – Indexes. – n.d.

28. Phosphate. – Unclassified Literature. – n.d.

V. Miscellaneous Files.

1. Addresses & Articles. – n.d.
(by R.A. and others)

Box 6

2. Badgley Report. – 1961.
(on U of S Med. Students)
3. Medical Building Committee. – 1961.
4. Library (medical). – 1942-1961.
5. Los Angeles (arteriosclerosis conference). – 1963.
6. Mexico. – Cardiology Congress. – 1962-1963.
7. Royal Society. – 1961-1963.

VI. Confidential Files. – **RESTRICTED.**

Autopsy Reports. – 1941-1956.

Box 7

Series 2

1. "Trilemma." – Manuscript of novel. – n.d. – 6 folders.
2. "Vorgestern und Uebermorgen." – Manuscript. – 4 folders.

Box 8

3. House – Bills & Reciepts. – 1948-1951.
4. Correspondence. – 1939-1965. – 2 folders.
Re: losses on Athenia, internment, health, activities, etc.
5. Finances. – 1971-1980.
Tax returns, investments.
6. Personal. – n.d.
Passport, bank books, etc.
7. Poems, fairy tale. – n.d.
8. Misc. writings. – n.d.
9. Article re: "Lunacy". – n.d.
10. Story. – "Ophelia." – n.d.

11. Story. – “Cousin in Ireland.” – n.d.
12. Story. – “Seven Pills.” – n.d.
13. Scrapbook – 1939
re: R. Altschul etc.
14. Can. Home Journal. – Dec. 1939.
Re: Athenia
15. Photographs. – n.d.
 - a) R. Altschul
 - b) Altschul family, etc.
16. Books. – R. Altschul – Arteriosclerosis. – 1950.
17. Books. – R. Altschul – Enothelium. – 1954.
18. Books. – F. Wedekind. - Mine-haha. - 1955.
19. Books. – G. Wedekind. – Stublings Erwachen. – n.d.
20. M. Caulfield. – Tomorrow Never Come. – 1959.
(Athenia)
21. “Paris” – n.d.

Box 9

22. Slides. – 4 trays (mainly travel)

Box 10

23. Brief case.