Collection Guide: László Moholy-Nagy, New Bauhaus/School of Design/Institute of Design

Overview

The Institute of Design was established in 1939 by Laszlo Moholy-Nagy as The School of Design in Chicago. Moholy-Nagy had come to Chicago in 1937 at the request of the Association of Arts and Industries to head their new design school, The New Bauhaus: American School of Design. The New Bauhaus took much of its teaching method and ideology from Moholy-Nagy’s training in the German Bauhaus in Weimar, founded by Walter Gropius in 1919. After financial troubles forced a 1938 closure of the New Bauhaus, many of its students and faculty joined Moholy-Nagy’s School of Design. In 1944 the School of Design was renamed the Institute of Design in Chicago, and in 1949 jointed with IIT. As of 2015 the Institute of Design offers graduate and post graduate training in design, design planning, photography, and design research.

The ID Collections at IIT University Archives & Special Collections consist of three large collections: 1998.031, 2005.017 and RG 008.01.02.

Materials in UASC

Processed Collections

This is one of three primary Institute of Design collections in the IIT Archives. Contains materials by and about László Moholy-Nagy, the founding of the school, and its early faculty, staff, students, and programs.

This is one of three primary Institute of Design collections in the IIT Archives. Bulks with files created by the school’s administrative offices containing students’ official records. This part of the collection is restricted and unavailable to researchers. Additional materials in this collection include various other administrative, project, and faculty materials which may be available for research.

008.01.02 Institute of Design Records, 1948-2001
This is one of three primary Institute of Design collections in the IIT Archives. Collection includes student materials (bulks with photography program theses), faculty materials, materials concerning the history and programs of the school, and materials related to Jay Doblin. (443 boxes)

1998.044  Mary Jane King Papers, 1944
Three paragraph letter dated Dec. 15, 1944 from László Moholy-Nagy to Frederick J. Kiesler.
1998.050  László Moholy-Nagy Collection, 1944

1998.074  Institute of Design Collection, 1952 & 1972
Film Chicago Morning by ID students. See also Acc. No. 2002.51

1998.091  Unprocessed films
Film Symbolic Control made by/for (?) IITRI or ID

1998.163  Chicago Bauhaus Seminar Records, 1974
Materials related to a one-day seminar concerning the Institute of Design, titled Chicago Bauhaus: Past, Present and Future held at Illinois Institute of Technology on May 11, 1974.

Two posters: 50 Years Bauhaus; ID 50th Anniversary

Six posters detailing the House of the Future design submitted by Institute of Design students to the Japan Design Foundation’s First International Design Competition in 1983. The ID team design won the Grand Prize.

1999.037  Allen Porter Papers, 1947
Audio cassette of dramatic poetry readings of two original poems written and performed by Institute of Design students in Sibyl Moholy-Nagy’s course Intellectual Integration during the 1947-48 school year.

1999.039  Allen Porter Papers, 1987
Essay by Allen Porter titled Meeting the New Bauhaus: First Impressions of a New Vision concerning his impressions of László Moholy-Nagy and activities of the School of Design.

2000.001  Charles Owen Papers, 1999
Comprehensive curriculum vitae of Charles Owen’s academic and professional activities ca. 1965 – 1999. Includes listing of students’ undergraduate and graduate theses which he advised.

2000.019  Peter Weil Papers, ca. 1952 – 1964
Photographs by F. Peter Weil during (and after?) his time as a student at ID, ca. 1952 – 1964. At least one class was taken with Aaron Siskind.

2000.036  *Institute of Design Collection, 1955-open*
Miscellaneous publications mostly dating after 1955.

2000.046  *Hattula Moholy-Nagy Papers, 2000*

2000.057  *John Grimes Papers, 1999*
Color photograph by John Grimes of ID building located at LaSalle and Kinzie Streets.

2000.058  *Films Collection, ca. 1971*
Film of Illinois Institute of Technology campus scenes ca. 1972, probably produced as an Institute of Design film class assignment. Credits read: A Film by Charles Dee Sharp; Produced at ID.

Materials apparently created by the Illinois Institute of Technology Registrar’s Office to help track and convert course credits taken by Institute of Design students prior to the school’s 1949 merger.

2002.012  *IIT Curriculum Committee; Architecture, Planning & design Common Core Program*

2002.013  *Institute of Design Collection, 1961*
Book *The Multiple Image: Photographs by Harry Callahan*

2002.051  *Institute of Design Collection, 1952*
Video *Chicago Morning* (a film produced by ID students)

2003.006  *Marvin Newman Papers, 2002*
Exhibit catalogue *The Face of Sport* which accompanied the showing of Marvin Newman photographs at The Steven Daiter Gallery (Chicago), May 31 – August 3, 1902.

2003.012  *Marvin Newman Collection, 1962 & 1956*
Publications with photos by Marvin Newman.

2003.016  *Beatrice Takeuchi Papers, 1942 – 2000*
Materials created by or collected by Beatrice Takeuchi related to her academic program at ID and her subsequent professional activities as a design educator and creating architectural renderings.

8 project reports
12 original hand-made books by ID students, ca. 1950s – 1960s

Institute of Design Portfolio: Student Independent 2

Institute of Design Materials: Portfolio 6. Also photographs by Fuller (?), perhaps as assignments for classes taught by Aaron Siskind and/or Arthur Siegel.

2 volumes: Student Independent (Nos. 8 & 9)

2005.42  Janet Nickle Papers, 1944 – 2002
Alumni reunion materials

2006.05  H. Lennart “Len” Pearson, 1957
ID Student Independent 2. Also, photographs by Len Pearson.

Development activities materials

2006.11  Institute of Design Collection, ca. 2004
T-shirt

2006.14  Institute of Design Collection, 1937
Two serial publications

2007.15  Alain Findeli Papers, ca. 1937 – 1992
Alain Findeli’s dissertation research materials on Laszlo Moholy-Nagy

Six films by Len Gittleman (on DVD)

Processed Collections, ID

1993.025  50 Years Bauhaus Collection
Essay: The Institute of Design by Jay Doblin

1998.004  Joseph Finnegan Papers
Box 4/Folder 5 contains a 9/12/1938 letter on The New Bauhaus letterhead.

1998.033  Faculty Files Collection
The text of comments made April 17, 1950 by Walter Gropius, Mies van der Rohe, and Serge Chermayeff on the merger if the Institute of Design with IIT. [Same as 1998.51 below.]

1998.033 Faculty Files Collection
The text of comments made April 17, 1950 by Walter Gropius, Mies van der Rohe, and Serge Chermayeff on the merger if the Institute of Design with IIT. [Same as 1998.51 below.]

1998.034 Benjamin de Brie Taylor Papers

1998.046 Ralph Owens Papers
Box 51/Folder: Institute of Design – Faculty; Box 52/Folder: Institute of Design – General (1949 – 1970)

1998.049 Henry T. Heald Papers
Box 47/Folder: Institute of Design 1949-1950

1998.051 Max A. Zink Materials
The text of comments made April 17, 1950 by Walter Gropius, Mies van der Rohe, and Serge Chermayeff on the merger if the Institute of Design with IIT. [Same as 1998.33 above.]

1998.098 Films Collection
Film IIT 1958 – 1959 with image of Jay Doblin with ID rescue boat design

1998.099 Films Collection
Film IIT 1 min. TV Spot – Altschul apparently made (produced? filmed?) by “Altschul” who may have been an Institute of Design student.

1998.130 Non-Serial Publications
Various publications related to ID

1998.148 Serial Publications
Campus literary magazine, Listenings, with art work by ID students.

1998.149 IIT Press Releases Collection
Various news releases related to ID

1998.151 Institute of Design Collection
Momentum nineteen-fifty, a portfolio designed by Robert Nickle.
1998.152  
**Accreditation Records**  
Box 3/ Minutes of Major Institutional Committees/ Institute of Design Board of Overseers; Box 6/ Institute of Design

1998.153  
**Institute of Design Collection**  
Munsell Value Scales color chart

1998.184  
**John T. Rettaliata Papers**  
Box 9/Folder: Institute Of Design Transfer – November 30, 1949; Box 12/Folder: Architecture, Planning, & Design [i.e. Crown Hall] Building Campaign; building fund presentation

1999.022  
**Office of Public Relations Records**  
Box 1/Folder: Institute of Design, 1994;  

1999.036  
**Henry Knepler Papers**  
Monograph **LLP: A Personal and Idiosyncratic History of the Humanities at IIT** by Henry Knepler; privately printed; Chicago, 1988; with mentions of ID.

2001.014  
**Films Collection**  
Promotional videotape entitled **Illinois Institute of Technology: Progress in Mind**; ID program is included.

2001.032  
**Institutional Chronologies**  
References to administrative changes to ID program.

2001.044  
**IIT Alumni Directory**  
Illinois Institute of Technology 2001 Alumni Directory with listing of ID alumni.

2002.005  
**Institute of Design Collection**  
Oral History of Serge Chermayeff, F.A.I.A.; transcript of oral interview conducted with Serge Chermayeff by Betty J. Blum as part of the Chicago Architects Oral History Project conducted by the Department of Architecture at the Art Institute of Chicago.

2002.038  
**Academic Reports**  
Materials appear to be the Registrar’s (or Provost’s) copies of reports distributed to IIT administrators covering academic and strategic planning activities of the university, ca. 1976 – 1982; includes ID program.
2003.001  
*John Heskett Papers*

2003.036  
*William Kessler Papers*
Photographs by William Kessler of the School of Design summer session in Somonauk, Ill. in 1942.

2003.040  
*Wayne Kosterman Papers*
Two brochures designed by Wayne Kosterman for the buildings designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe at 900 – 910 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago.

2004.020  
*Alice Chan Papers*
Copy of a thesis on public restrooms by Alice Chan, ca. 2004.

2004.029  
*Chicago Bauhaus and Beyond Records*
Records of the Chicago-based group, Chicago Bauhaus and Beyond. Organization’s logo was created by Allen Porter.

2004.032  
*Wayne Kosterman Collection*
Commercially produced audio tape *Visual Branding Solutions To Differentiate Your Company* being an interview with Wayne Kosterman, president of Identity Center.

2004.037  
*Oscar A. Turner Papers*

2007.033  
*Anonymous donation collection*
Transcript of a November 22, 2005 Institute of Design panel discussion with Franz Altschuler, Martin Hurtig, and Allen Porter; Paul Young, moderator. The program was sponsored by Chicago Bauhaus & Beyond and held at Art Institute of Chicago

2002.032  
*Ron Gordon Papers*
Book

**Drop Files**
Moholy-Nagy, László
Moholy-Nagy, Hattula
Siskind, Aaron
Siegel, Arthur
Doblin, Jay
Moholy-Nagy, Sibyl
Takeuchi, Beatrice
Institute of Design

Theses
Louise Agnew, 1956
Bennett T. (Harry) Andrews, 1951
Robert A. Ben-As, 1951
Jordan Joel Bernstein, 1952
Norman Earl Borchew, 1955
Rosa Dooley, 1955
Floyd Dunphey, 1952
Robert Donald Erickson, 1945
Robert Harold Fine, 1954
Florence H. Forst, 1946
Marylou M. Fritzman, 1956
Henry Gardiner, 1949
Jean Kendall Glazer, 1948
James A. Hall, 1954
Ann F. Hanley, 1955
Norman C. Harris, 1951
Hal L. Hester, 1955
Frances E. (Stewart) Higgins, 1948
Edward A. Johnson, 1953
Leo J Kelly, 1956
James T. Lepore, 1954
Bernard Meltzer, 1956
Marvin Elliott Newman, 1952
Richard S. Nickel, 1957
Martin Rosenzweig, 1953
Harry B. Smith, 1950
Frances Sutkowski, 1955
Charles D. Warstler, 1954

Books
Moholy-Nagy, L. *Malerei Fotografie Film*, 1927.

**Exhibit Catalogs**


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1 pseudonym for Sibyl Moholy-Nagy; alternate spellings include Peach; Pietsch.


“Moholy-Nagy.” Exhibit catalogue from 1966 exhibit at Galerie Klihm in Munich. In German with 42 black & white reproductions. 1966

“Light and Vision,” exhibit catalog by Stephen Daiter, 1994

“In Memoriam Laszlo Moholy-Nagy; The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation Presents a Survey of the Artist's Paintings” (alternate title: Laszlo Moholy-Nagy Memorial); catalogue of the posthumous exhibit at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, NYC, 1947).


Unprocessed Collections

IIT academic catalogs (Bulletins) contain faculty rosters and classes scheduled to be taught each term.
IIT yearbooks (Integral) sometimes contain names and images of students, identified by academic program.
Design Processes Newsletter; “Published three times yearly” by the Institute of Design. ISSN: 1046-980x; various issues.

Inaugural speech by Meyer Feldberg as 5th President of IIT, Sept. 29, 1987; includes remarks about the international design competition in Osaka, Japan won by Institute of Design students. Aquatecture

Photographs identified as, or appearing to be, related to ID will be found throughout the Unprocessed Photos Collection, 1998.199.
Additional External Materials

Other Area Repositories

Chicago Historical Society
Three-dimensional items related to Institute of Design in its Decorative and Industrial Arts Collection. Also, an extensive collection of ID-related papers, 2-dimensional student work, slides, and films by Moholy and ID students most of which are in the Ray Pearson Papers. Additional collections by former students and faculty may also have been donated to the Society.

The Art Institute of Chicago
Related collections (primarily photography), and papers related to Arthur Siegel.

University of Illinois at Chicago
Institute of Design collection in the University Library’s Department of Special Collections.

Library of the University of Indiana, Bloomington
Papers of Henry Holmes Smith and Arthur Sinsabaugh.

As of June 2005
Updates August 2008
Updates July 2009
Updates October 2015