

**University of Toronto Archives  
and Records Management Services**



**James Estes fonds**

B2025-0006

Daniela Ansovini, 2026

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## Biographical note

Dr. James M. Estes (1934 -) is a historian of the German Reformation and a Professor Emeritus of History at Victoria College in the University of Toronto. Prof. Estes received his doctorate from Ohio State University in 1964, two years after his appointment at the U of T in 1962. Prof. Estes was long affiliated with the Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies at Victoria College, serving as its Director from 1979 to 1985. Prof. Estes' scholarly work focused primarily on the relationship between church and state in the German Reformation, with particular focus on the reformers Johannes Brenz, Erasmus of Rotterdam, Martin Luther, and Philip Melancthon. Estes retired from the University in 1997.

In addition to his academic career, Estes was actively engaged in the University of Toronto Faculty Association (UTFA), serving from 1982 to 1997 as a member of the Council of the Association representing Victoria and Emmanuel College. Following his retirement, he served on UTFA Council from December 2000 to June 30, 2002 as a representative of the retirees' constituency.

The way archival record creators identify themselves and are identified by others is key to understanding the perspectives and content of their records. James Estes uses he/him pronouns. Additional information from the creator about identity was not provided.

## Fonds description

1964 - 2023

0.4m of textual records (1 box)

10 PDFs (1.5 MB)

The fonds includes aspects of Prof. James Estes' professional and academic career. Material includes the unpublished text of *The Next Twenty Years*, a supplement to Prof. Estes' published book, *The First Forty Years: A Brief History of the Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, 1964-2004*. His teaching career is represented by the lecture notes for three courses: Early Modern Europe to 1648; the German Reformation; and the Thirty Years War. Three files focus Estes' service on UTFA Council in 2000-2002, covering controversies over the disposition of surplus funds in the University Pension Plan, revisions to the UTFA constitution and the status of retirees in the Association, the defence of medical researcher Nancy Olivieri, and the contested presidential election between Rhonda Love and George Luste. Estes' scholarly career is represented by a copy of his curriculum vitae, which includes a complete list of his major publications. Finally, PDFs of several letters to the editor capture Prof. Estes' commentary on issues including the

relationship between research and teaching, academic tenure, and gendered language.

**Arrangement:** The archivist imposed a loose order based on distinct areas of Prof. Estes' activities: administrative activities, academic work, and letters to the editor.

**Access:** All files are open, with the exception of B2025-0006/001(06), which will remain restricted until the donor's death.

**Boxes:** B2025-0006/001; B2025-0006\_df001-002

File number	File title	Date range
B2025-0006/001(01)-(02)	UTFA files 1 [2 files]	2000-2001
B2025-0006/001(03)-(04)	UTFA files 2 [2 files]	2002
B2025-0006/001(05)	UTFA special folder	27 Dec. 2000 - 5 Dec. 2001
B2025-0006/001(06)	Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies [unpublished history, "The Next Twenty Years"] <b>RESTRICTED</b>	1989 - 2015
B2025-0006/001(07)	HIS331: The Thirty Years War [syllabus and lecture notes]	1997
B2025-0006/001(08)	HIS331S reading notes	1997
B2025-0006/001(09)	HIS243F Early Modern Europe. 1450 - 1648 [syllabus and lecture notes]	1996
B2025-0006/001(10)	HIS340Y: The German Reformation	1996-1997
B2025-0006/001(11)	HIS 340Y/2 : [Zwingli and the Swiss Reformation]	1996-1997
B2025-0006_df001	Letters to the editor	1989 - 1998
B2025-0006_df002	CV	2023