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Paul P. Biringer Fonds

B1994-0018

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Biographical note

Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Toronto and as a professional engineer.

Scope and content

1914-1992 [predominantly post 1942]

1.37 m of textual and graphic records (12 boxes)

Correspondence, course notes, lecture notes, reports, research notes, consultant's files, patents, publications, photographs and slides documenting Paul Biringer's career as a professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Toronto and as a professional engineer.

Access: Open

Series 1: Research notes

1962-1993

0.26 m of textual records

Over the course of forty years, Dr. Biringer established himself as leading researcher in electrical engineering, especially in the areas of non-linear circuits, electromet and electroheat processes. These notes appear to have been taken for his own research, for use in lectures and in relation to his numerous consulting activities. Additional notes, related directly to lectures being given or to consulting activities, appear in those series. His earliest research is not represented in this series which contains notes, experimental data, and a few articles relating to particular research topics. The principal areas covered are arc furnaces, channel induction furnaces, heating coils, electron beams, electro-magnetic stirring, and frequency changers.

Arrangement:

1962-1988: B1994-0018/001(01) - (11)

1964-1993: B1994-0018/002(01) - (14)

Access: Open

Boxes: B1994-0018/001-/002

Series 2: Course notes

1952-1953

0.02 m of textual records

After receiving his MA in Sweden, Paul Biringer came to the University of Toronto as a doctoral student in electrical engineering. He received his PhD in 1956.

The single file in this series consists of problem sets and an examination in the course "power system stability" for the 1952-1953 academic year.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1994-0018/003(01)

Series 3: Lecture notes

1952-1990

0.50 m of textual records

Dr. Biringer was appointed an assistant professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering in 1957 and a full professor in 1965. During his career, he supervised twenty doctoral students.

The lecture notes and problem sets in this series apply to courses given to undergraduate and graduate classes between 1965 and 1990. There is a single file for a lecture given at Memorial University in 1989. The lectures are not necessarily complete for any year and there are none for the academic years 1965-1967, 1968-1971, 1972-1974 and 1975-1976. The arrangement is chronological.

Arrangement:

1953-1972: B1994-0018/003(02) - (12)

1972-1983: B1994-0018/004(01) - (07)

1983-1985: B1994-0018/005(01) - (08)

1987-1989: B1994-0018/006(01) - (08)

Access: Open

Boxes: B1994-0018/003(02) - /006(08)

Series 4: Consultant's files

1956-1988
0.28 m of textual records

Professor Biringer's expertise was much sought after in industry and he had long term relationships with a number of companies in Canada, the United States, Germany, and Sweden, several of which are represented in this series. He was involved in the design of electrical systems for steel mills and smelters for Hatch Associates of Toronto. Ajax Magnethermic Corporation of Ajax, Ontario and elsewhere and General Engineering Company of Toronto sought his expertise in the development of induction heating equipment and supplies. Other areas in which he provided expertise included power supply design, the design of frequency changers, speed control systems, transformer design, and airport lighting systems.

This series consists of correspondence, research notes, experimental data, reports, and articles. The arrangement is by the name of the companies with which he had contracts.

Arrangement:

1956-1988: B1994-0018/008(01) - (16)
1958-1964: B1994-0018/007(01) - (11)
1959-1984: B1994-0018/009(01) - (03)

Access: Open

Boxes: B1994-0018/007 -/009(03)

Series 5: Patent files

1914-1973
0.11 m of textual records

Over the years, Dr. Biringer took out many patents on his inventions. Between 1954 and 1969, for example, he registered twenty-six in Canada, France, Mexico, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

This series contains copies of most of those he registered between 1954 and 1973. In addition there are several folders of patents in his areas of expertise that had been registered by other inventors between 1914 and 1965.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1994-0018/008(04) - (08)

Series 6: Professional organizations

1960-1980

0.02 m of textual records

Dr. Biringer belonged to many professional and scientific organizations, of which two are represented here. He reviewed conference and transactions papers for the American Institute of Electrical Engineers; the file contains lists and notes for the period 1960-1964. His research made him a natural supporter of the Canadian Iron and Steel Research Association, which was formed in 1978, from which he retained early documents on the Association's activities.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1994-0018/010(01) - (02)

Series 7: Manuscripts and publications

1941-1987

0.18 m of textual records

During the course of his academic and scientific career, Dr. Biringer published over 130 papers. The range of his interests is well represented in this series as it contains about 95 of them. The earliest is 1951, when he was still living in Sweden; the last on file is dated 1987. In addition there are two papers from the 1940s by Swedish academics, one of whom was later a co-author.

Most of the papers in the series are in the form of offprints or photocopies, but there are a number of manuscripts. More than one version of the same paper is also sometimes present.

Arrangement:

1941-1987: B1994-0018/011(01) - (11)

1951-1978: B1994-0018/010(03) - (21)

Access: Open

Boxes: B1994-0018/010(03) - /011(11)

Series 8: Graphic material

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ca.1955-1966

52 photographic prints
13 negatives
56 slides

Includes images documenting machinery for induction heating at the Ajax Magnethermic Corporation and views of other plants and machinery such as Davey United of Sheffield England and Washington Steel. A series of slides document research-taking place in the University of Toronto, Electronic Engineering Department in 1966. There are a few views of Biringer at work.

Access: Open

Boxes: B1994-0018/001P