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## Dedication and Acknowledgements

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## **DEDICATION**

This book is dedicated to past, present, and future Rollins Alumni, whose multifarious lives embody the essence of what it means to earn a Rollins liberal education.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Although researching and writing history is a lonely endeavor, every historian understands the finished product is the result of a cooperative effort. Therefore, with deep appreciation, I acknowledge the many friends and colleagues who helped make this book possible. I want to express my appreciation to President Thaddeus Seymour for appointing me College Historian and thus trusting that I had the wherewithal to undertake the college's centennial history. I was greatly buoyed by his confidence in me.

I had never visited the Rollins Archives until I was asked to write the history. I expected to be digging around in unopened cardboard boxes searching for the documents I needed. To my surprise I found the Archives had been organized as well as any depository I had previously researched. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge my indebtedness to the those who, over the years, helped make this material readily available.

The first organized effort of collecting the institutional history took place in 1910 in connection with the observance of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the College. When Rollins celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1935, Watt Marchman '33, '37 was appointed the first Archivist. He worked closely with the ubiquitous Fred Hanna '17 '45H, to begin gathering

and organizing the historical documents relating to the college's past. The Archives was given official status by the Board of Trustees in 1954 and Frederick Lewton, an early Rollins graduate, was appointed second College Archivist. He served from 1954 to 1959. Dorothy Shepherd Smith '33, who, worked alongside Lewton, was responsible for the Winter Park Vertical Files, played a key role in preserving the early Rollins history and building special collections. Following Frederick Lewton the Archives was in the hands of three capable leaders, Evelyn Draper, Jane Fletcher, (who was Head when I began research) and Kathleen Reich. For years Trudy Laframboise was the keeper of even the most obscure facts about the college's past. In 1985, the College Archives was merged with Special Collections and renamed the Department of Archives and Special Collections. Upon completion of Olin Library, the Archives was moved to its present location on the first floor.

I want to express special appreciation to the present Head of Archives and Special Collections, Professor Wenxian Zhang and to Archival Specialist, Darla Moore. Together, they have taken the Archives to a new level. Along with Rachel Walton, Digital Archivist, they have been more than generous with their time and suggestions. Darla has created an Archives Blog where she reveals many fascinating treasures hidden deep with the Archives. Professor Zhang has created a digital collection of "Golden Personalities," some written by him and others by students. Both Darla's and Wenxian's creations are perfect companions to my history, and as such I have included several of their essays in the Appendix.

Thanks also to President Grant Cornwell who drew me back to the past by suggesting that I revive the dormant manuscript and get it ready for publication. The suggest

set me on the path of extensive revision and rewrite. The passage of time between first draft and revision gave me a much clearer perspective, and, I believe, allowed me to write a much-improved history.

Professor Maurice O'Sullivan, a "comrade-in-collaboration," graciously took time from his own writing schedule to read the manuscript and make valuable suggestions. Many thanks to him.

Finally, Jane, my wife, my soul mate, and an inveterate grammarian, laboriously read and edited every single page of the manuscript, preventing egregious grammatical errors from creeping into the final version. In this sense, she has been a true collaborator.