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## Brother Paul Novosal Papers

Paul Novosal SM

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# Brother Paul Novosal Papers

Collection Number SC 33  
Blume Library Special Collections

## StMU

Saint Mary's University of San Antonio  
One Camino Santa Maria  
San Antonio TX 78228-8530 USA  
Phone: 210-436-3011  
[www.stmarytx.edu](http://www.stmarytx.edu)

## Descriptive Summary

Repository Saint Mary's University of San Antonio, Texas  
Creator Brother Paul Novosal, SM (Marianists)  
Title Brother Paul Novosal Papers  
Inclusive Dates 1949-1980  
Reference Code SC 33  
Languages English  
Extent 3 cubic feet

### Abstract

Brother Paul Novosal, SM (born October 5, 1918 and died May 24, 2009) was the director of the libraries at Saint Mary's University from 1952 to the early 1972. Brother Novosal assembled the materials in this collection to document the historical development of the libraries during those years. Included are records, photographs, and printed matter about policy history of the libraries at St. Mary's University, 1952-1972; the planning, design and construction of the Blume Library 1960-1971; and photograph albums recording the building of the Centennial Library (1949-1950) and of Blume Library (1966).

## Administrative Information

**Restrictions to Access** none

**Usage Restrictions** none

**Alternative Forms** none

**Custodial History** The materials in this collection were among Bro. Novosal's personal effects at the time of his death in 2009 and were transferred to the Marianist Provincial Archives. In 2016 the local Marianist archivist, Brother Earl Leistikow, transferred them to Blume Library because of their relevance to the University.

**Processing Information** Brother Paul Novosal acquired these materials over a span of twenty years and appears to have left them in the order by which they were acquired. To provide a rational arrangement, materials were grouped according to similar administrative process and then chronologically within each process. Among materials concerning the libraries at St. Mary's University were records from the Faculty Tenure Committee on which Brother Novosal served. Materials relating to faculty or personnel evaluations have been separated and destroyed.

**Materials Separated** Brother Novosal served on the Tenure Committee (1969-1971) and the Faculty Promotion Committee (1971-1973). Records related to these committees were separated to protect confidentiality.

**Preferred Citation** Saint Mary's University of San Antonio, Texas

**Copyright Notice**

**Catalog Headings**

Saint Mary's University (San Antonio, Tex.)

## Related Collections

## Biographical Note

Brother Paul Novosal, SM (born October 5, 1918 and died May 24, 2009) was the director of the libraries at Saint Mary's University from 1952 to the early 1972. These included the Academic Library (later Blume Library), the Law School library and the Science Reference Library (Garni Hall). Brother Novosal assembled the materials in this collection to document the historical development of the libraries during those years.

## Collection Overview

The formats included are records, photographs, and printed matter.

## Summary of Series

Series 1) History of Libraries at St. Mary's University, 1952-1972

Series 2) Planning, Design and Construction of the Blume Library 1960-1971;

Series 3) Scrapbooks of the Construction of Centennial Library and of Blume Library

Series 4) *San Jose de Palafox* Presentation Copies

## Detailed Description

### Series One

#### History of Libraries at Saint Mary's University, 1952-1972

**Scope Note:** Brother Novosal, during his long career at St. Mary's University intended to assemble the documents necessary for describing the operation and development of the Academic Library and his central role in it.

**Historical Note:** "The St. Mary's University Press has been inaugurated by the Academic Library with the publication of Miss Carmen Perry's translation of the Palafox Papers, original documents concerning the town of Palafox, once located midway between Eagle Pass and Laredo. The subject of the St. Mary's University Press with its own colophon, was discussed during the last two or three years...but no one acted. Therefore, the Academic Library decided to take that step now. St. Mary's does publish. Now we will have an imprint, an official colophon which can be utilized for these publications. The Faculty Library Committee agreed to act as a reviewing body for the new press to indicate which publications can use the imprint. Hopefully, the press of St. Mary's University will develop into a bona fide press which would actively seek authors and publications." (Bro. Paul Novosal, SM, "Saint Mary's University Press Is Launched," 8 December 1970)

### Historical Statistics

Box 1 Folder 01	Periodicals	1949-1958
Box 1 Folder 02	Library Budgets	1951-1960

Box 1 Folder 03	Library Budgets	1972-1974
Box 1 Folder 04	Grant Applications	1955-1968
Box 1 Folder 05	Library Use Statistics "Circulation"	1955-1970
Box 1 Folder 06	Inter Library Loan	1957-1965
Box 1 Folder 07	Insurance Appraisals of Library Holdings	1961-1967
Box 1 Folder 08	Semi-Annual Reports	1969, 1972

#### Correspondence

Box 1 Folder 09	Correspondence	1955-1963
Box 1 Folder 10	RE: Policy matters	1957-1959
Box 1 Folder 11	RE: Microforms	1962-1967
Box 1 Folder 12	RE: Texas Library Assn Constitutional Committee	1963-1965
Box 1 Folder 13	RE: Science Reference Library at Garni Hall	1968
Box 1 Folder 14	RE: Administrative matters	1968-1970
Box 1 Folder 15	Correspondence	1967-1968
Box 1 Folder 16	Correspondence	1968-1969
Box 1 Folder 17	Correspondence	1969-1970
Box 1 Folder 18	Correspondence	Jan-Jun 1971
Box 1 Folder 19	Correspondence	Jul-Dec 1971

#### Library Subjects

Box 1 Folder 20	Library Constitution	1957
Box 1 Folder 21	Assumption Seminary Branch Library	1961
Box 1 Folder 22	Designation as Government Documents Depository	1962-1967
Box 1 Folder 23	Library Program Proposal	1964
Box 1 Folder 24	Library Building Costs	1965-1971
Box 1 Folder 25	Student Attire Policy	1966-1968
Box 1 Folder 26	Gifts to Library	1967-1969
Box 1 Folder 27	Library Philosophy	1971
Box 1 Folder 28	Library Standards for SACS Accreditation	1971-1973
Box 1 Folder 29	Special Collections department	1969-1971
Box 1 Folder 30	Special Collections Brochure by Anita Saxine	1979
Box 1 Folder 31	Saint Mary's University Press	1970
Box 1 Folder 32	Carmen Perry and Palafox Book	1977-1980
Box 1 Folder 33	Life Sciences Library Room 203	[1968]?

#### Library Personnel

Box 1 Folder 34	Professional Status of University Librarians	1951-1965
Box 1 Folder 35	Library Staff Manual	1959
Box 1 Folder 36	Employee Manuals	1960s
Box 1 Folder 37	Student Assistant Instructions	1963, 1969
Box 1 Folder 38	Library Staff Meeting Minutes	1969-1970
Box 1 Folder 39	Library Job Descriptions	1960
Box 1 Folder 40	Library Job Descriptions	1972
Box 1 Folder 41	Library Staffing	1960-1972
Box 1 Folder 42	Terminations	1972-1974

### Rules for Users

Box 1 Folder 43	Library Instruction	1950
Box 1 Folder 44	Student Attire in Library	1958-1966
Box 1 Folder 45	Faculty Book Orders	1964, 1966
Box 1 Folder 46	Notices to Library Users	1964-1966
Box 1 Folder 47	Student Orientation: Using the Library	1968
Box 1 Folder 48	Library Handbook (for staff use)	1968-1972

### Library History

Box 1 Folder 49	History of Library	1852-1968
Box 1 Folder 50	Centennial Library Construction and Plans	1944-1955
Box 1 Folder 51	Centennial Library History	1948-1968
Box 1 Folder 52	Annals of the Library by Bro. Paul Novosal	1952-1957
Box 1 Folder 53	Annals of the Library by Bro. Paul Novosal	1958-1972
Box 1 Folder 54	Gift Forms	1960s
Box 1 Folder 55	Letter to Genevieve W. Wilcox re Laredo Archives	1960

### Council of Research & Academic Libraries (CORAL)

**Historical Note:** Bro. Paul Novosal had a great interest in making the Academic Library of St. Mary's University a participant in the wider environment of librarianship in Texas. He served as president of the local CORAL group and retained the records among his personal papers.

Box 2 Folder 56	CORAL Minutes	1966-1971
Box 2 Folder 57	St. Mary's University participation	1966-1970
Box 2 Folder 58	Organizational Docs: by-laws, schedules, members, etc.	1968-1971
Box 2 Folder 59	CORAL Activities	1968-1971
Box 2 Folder 60	CORAL Brochures	1968-1972

## Series Two

### Planning, Design and Construction of the Blume Library, 1960-1971

#### Planning the Proposed Library, 1957-1960

**Historical Note:** Bro. Paul Novosal served as chair of the Library Building Committee

Box 2 Folder 61	Library Building Committee Minutes	1957-1963
Box 2 Folder 62	Library Committee Meeting with Mr. Gonzer	1957
Box 2 Folder 63	Plan No. 1: Addition (West) to Existing Building	1957
Box 2 Folder 64	Plan No. 2: Proposal to Houston Endowment, Inc.	1959
Box 2 Folder 65	Plan No. 3: Report to Board of Governors	1960
Box 2 Folder 66	Plan No. 4: Development Office Proposal	1960
Box 2 Folder 67	Plan No. 5: Development Office	undated
Box 2 Folder 68	Plan No. 6: Classroom Addition	undated

#### Developing a Case Statement for New Library, 1960

Box 2 Folder 69	Drafts for Case Statement	1960
Box 2 Folder 70	Case Statement mock up	1960
Box 2 Folder 71	Case Statement formal layout	1960
Box 2 Folder 72	Artist's Rendering of Proposed Library	1960

Specifications for New Library, March 1967

Box 2 Folder 73	Set 1	1967
Box 2 Folder 74	Set 2	1967
Box 2 Folder 75	Set 3	1967
Box 2 Folder 76	Set 4	1967
Box 2 Folder 77	Set 10	1967
Box 2 Folder 78	Certificates for Payment	1967

Maintenance Instructions for New Library, 1968

Box 2 Folder 79	Operation and Maintenance Instructions for New Library	1968
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Furnishings for the New Library, 1968-1970

Box 2 Folder 80	Technical Processes	1966
Box 2 Folder 81	Circulation Desk Drawings	1966-1969
Box 2 Folder 82	Electrical / Telephone	1966
Box 2 Folder 83	Entrance / Exit Control	1968-1970
Box 2 Folder 84	Furnishing Specifications	1967-1968
Box 2 Folder 85	Correspondence re Library Furnishings	1967-1968
Box 2 Folder 86	Library Furnishings Philosophy	1968
Box 2 Folder 87	“Punch Lists” (Unfinished Tasks)	1968-1970
Box 2 Folder 88	Formal Dedication of Library	13 May 1968
Box 2 Folder 89	Praise	Nov. 1970

### Series Three

#### Scrapbook Albums

**Historical Note:** When the library moved to its current building on March 16, 1968, the Centennial Library building his building was remodeled as the University Center with lounges, offices and an extension for a snack bar and pub. Still later it was remodeled to serve as the Life Directions Center for Campus Ministry, Career Planning and Psychological Counselling

#### Construction of the “Centennial Library,” 1949

"When the library in the Administration Building became overcrowded in the 1940s, Fr. William Lamm convinced the administration that he could supervise the construction of a one-story library at a cost of \$25,000. Bro. Frank Becker drew the plans, and Bro. William Hamm obtained a building from Kelly Air Force Base which provided the beams and trusses for the superstructure. Volunteers were recruited and ground was broken during the first week of June 1948. Active in this project to dig foundations, cut steel, mix and pour concrete for cement blocks and assist in the construction were Bruce Aycock, Fr. Walter Buehler, Bros. Lawrence Duffy, Thomas C. Henderson and Paul Novosal, Leo Donohue, Leo Magers, and Joseph Uvietta, Jr.; fraternity members and summer school students at St. Mary's and students from Central Catholic.

"On November 11, 1948, a parade of faculty and students was organized to transfer books from the old library in the Administration Building to the new structure. On November 29 Bro. Paul Novosal, librarian, presided at the dedication of the Centennial Library, so named because it was completed during the Centenary Year of the Society of Mary in America. By the summer of 1949 the growing library needed expansion, and a mezzanine was built above the central stack to accommodate the enlarged periodical section. At that time the library contained

34,000 books and 4,700 bound periodicals, and the university had satisfied requirements for admission into the Southern Association in 1949. The library was formally blessed by Msgr. Patrick Geehan on December 12, 1951, with Frs. Louis Blume, Joseph C Ei and Ralph Dyer in attendance.

(Source: Gerald J. Schnepf; *Province of St. Louis 1908-1983*; St. Louis, MO: Marianist Press, 1985: 167-168)

#### Album One: Centennial Memorial Library, 1947-1958

**Descriptive Note:** All photos in this album are black and white

- Box 3 Album
- 1-01 Building library summer 1948, Lamm, Zirnheld, Blume, Buehler, Duffy
  - 1-02 [photo missing]
  - 1-03 Rainey's crew pouring slab for new library building summer 1948
  - 1-3.2 Library shell summer 1948
  - 1-3.3 [photo missing]
  - 1-04 Laying steel for slab, Archi, Henderson, Lamm, Jack Fort
  - 1-05 Laying steel for slab, Lamm, Jack Fort
  - 1-06 Library slab being poured, summer 1948
  - 1-07 Roof being put on the new library, summer 1948
  - 1-08 New library structure ready for occupancy, fall 1948
  - 1-09 Library building completed, fall 1948, Novosal
  - 1-10 Buehler, Pawelik, Novosal, filling dirt around library
  - 1-11 Reading room 1952, Palma, Novosal, Duffy, Rosa Uvietta
  - 1-12 Finished library viewed from northeast [1952]
  - 1-13 Bible Display 1952, Rosa Uvietta, Novosal
  - 1-14 Rosa Uvietta with Bibles displayed at Civic Auditorium [1952]
  - 1-15 Bibles displayed at Civic Auditorium [1952]
  - 1-16 More Bibles displayed, Novosal and Uvietta [1952]
  - 1-17 Same image as 1-15
  - 1-18 Novosal with Bible display [1952]
  - 1-19 Novosal and Uvietta in work room
  - 1-20 Catholic Book Week Display at library, 1953
  - 1-21 Christmas in the Library workroom, 1954
  - 1-22 Christmas Crib in workroom, photo by L. Gonner
  - 1-23 Marian Books Exhibit in Library 1954 [Marian Year]
  - 1-24 Marian Books Exhibit displayed at Incarnate Word College
  - 1-25 Marian Books Exhibit Layman's Forum at IWC, February 17, 1954
  - 1-26 Marian Books Exhibit, February 17, 1954
  - 1-27 New book stacks assembled in mezzanine, Jim Mueller, d. Grizell, J. Bommer, Novosal
  - 1-28 Scholastics (student Brothers) assemble new stacks
  - 1-29a Statue of Mary on mezzanine
  - 1-29b Library in the snow, January 22 or 23, 1949
  - 1-29c Library exterior in 1949
  - 1-30a Library 1949
  - 1-30b Library 1949
  - 1-30c Library 1949
  - 1-30d Library 1949

- 1-31 Entrance to "Centennial Memorial Library," Novosal
- 1-32a Library interior 1950
- 1-32b Library interior 1950
- 1-32c Library interior 1950
- 1-32d Library interior 1950
- 1-33 Library interior, Duffy, Novosal, Mischo-Wierzba, Gray
- 1-34 Belloc-Chesterton Book Collection
- 1-35 National Bible Week display in Library reading room, Sept. 17-26, 1952
- 1-36 [photo missing] Workroom with Uvietta and Novosal, 1952
- 1-37 Unfinished interior of library
- 1-38 Vordenbaum Firm applies faux brick facing to library
- 1-39a Novosal and Hess
- 1-39b Novosal in Library workroom
- 1-39c Novosal at his desk
- 1-40 Duffy and Novosal on mezzanine

Album Two: "Photographs Groundbreaking, Construction, 1966"

**Descriptive Note:** All photos in this album are black and white

- Box 3 Album
- 2-01 Invitation to the Ground-breaking, April 20, 1966
  - 2-02 Program for ground-breaking ceremony
  - 2-03 Program for ground-breaking ceremony
  - 2-04 Introduction of Dr. Lester E Harrell (text)
  - 2-05 Speech by Dr. Lester E Harrell (text)
  - 2-06 News clipping of Bro. Paul Novosal turning a spadeful of earth (text)
  - 2-07 Description of the events of the day (text)
  - 2-08 Description of the events of the day (text)
  - 2-09a Site of ground-breaking ceremony
  - 2-09b Speakers' stand
  - 2-09c Ladies of the clerical staff seated for ceremony
  - 2-10 Ceremony of April 20, 1968 (snapshots with captions)
  - 2-11 "
  - 2-12 "
  - 2-13 "
  - 2-14 "
  - 2-15 "
  - 2-16 "
  - 2-17 further notes regarding the photographs (text)
  - 2-18 photographs of the beginning of excavation, May 9, 1966
  - 2-19 "
  - 2-20 pouring the foundations
  - 2-21 "
  - 2-22 "
  - 2-23 "
  - 2-24 "
  - 2-25 "
  - 2-26 first story



2-27 “  
 2-28 “  
 2-29 “  
 2-30 upper stories  
 2-31 “  
 2-32 “  
 2-33 “  
 2-34 “  
 2-35 “  
 2-36 “  
 2-37 interior  
 2-38 “  
 2-39 “  
 2-40 exterior  
 2-41 “  
 2-42 interior  
 2-43 “  
 2-44 “  
 2-45 “  
 2-46 “  
 2-47 exterior  
 2-48 exterior  
 2-49 loading the shelves: Bro. Paul Novosal, Mr. X, Fr. Louis Blume

Album Three: Pictures of the Dedication, May 13, 1968

**Descriptive Note:** Photos in this album are predominately color (faded) with a few black and white. There are seventeen pages with four snapshots to a page.

Box 3 Album 3-01 to 3-17

Album Four: Dedication May 13, 1968

Invitation, Copies of Speeches, Letters, Newspaper Clippings

Box 3 Album 4-01 Printed invitation  
 4-02 Congratulations  
 4-03 “  
 4-04 News Release: Dr. Ignacio Bernal speaker at dedication  
 4-05 Special schedule for May 13, 1968  
 4-06 Invitation List  
 4-07 “  
 4-08 “  
 4-09 “  
 4-10 Congratulations  
 4-11 “  
 4-12 “  
 4-13 “  
 4-14 “  
 4-15 “

- 4-16 Program
- 4-17 “
- 4-18 New Clipping San Antonio Light
- 4-19 Text of Introduction of Dr. Bernal, main speaker
- 4-20 Congratulations
- 4-21 Plan for Walking Tour of New Facilities
- 4-22 News clippings
- 4-23 “
- 4-24 “
- 4-25 Thank-you letters from Brother Paul Novosal
- 4-26 Invitation to San Antonio News Media to a “Special Event”
- 4-27 “

Album Five: News Paper Clippings  
On All Subjects, 1948-1967

**Condition Note:** The pages of this album are brittle from acidification

- Box 4 Album 5-02 News clipping about Bro. Lawrence Duffy, May 6, 1959
- Box 4 Album 5-07 Laredo Archives, December 16, 1960
- Box 4 Album 5-08 Old Bible display at Municipal Auditorium, Sept. 1952
- Box 4 Album 5-09 “
- Box 4 Album 5-10 “
- Box 4 Album 5-11 “
- Box 4 Album 5-12 “
- Box 4 Album 5-20 Laredo Archives, David Donoghue Historical Collection, 1961
- Box 4 Album 5-22 Sebron “Seb” Wilcox Collection (Laredo Archives), Dec 8, 1960
- Box 4 Album 5-60 Missing Rare Books Returned to St. Mary’s Library, 1966
- Box 4 Album 5-61 “
- Box 4 Album 5-80 Jim Charbonnet retirement, 1962

Album Six: News Paper Clippings  
On All Subjects, 1967-1969

**Condition Note:** The pages of this album are brittle from acidification

- Box 4 Album 6-01 New construction at St Mary’s University
- Box 4 Album 6-06 “
- Box 4 Album 6-09 San Antonio Unit of the Catholic Library Association, 1967
- Box 4 Album 6-13 Laredo Archives at St Mary’s, July 19, 1968
- Box 4 Album 6-15 Laredo Archives Restoration, Carmen Perry
- Box 4 Album 6-16 Laredo Archives Analysis, July 28, 1968
- Box 4 Album 6-38 San Antonio Unit of the Catholic Library Association, 1969
- Box 4 Album 6-40 Laredo Archives reproductions
- Box 4 Album 6-41 Laredo Archives reproductions
- Box 4 Album 6-42 “
- Box 4 Album 6-50 Anita Saxine “The Timeless Pages of History”
- Box 4 Album 6-51 “

Loose Photographs

Arrangement Note: A series of unmounted photos in various formats are contained in folders

Box 4 Folder 1	Centennial Memorial Library construction (8 x 10 inches)	1948-1952
Box 4 Folder 2	Centennial Memorial Library interiors (8 x 10 inches)	1950s
Box 4 Folder 3	Centennial Memorial Library exhibits (8 x 10 inches)	1950s
Box 4 Folder 4	Laredo Archives	1959
Box 4 Folder 5	Construction of Centennial Library Annex	1962
Box 4 Folder 6	Centennial Memorial Library snapshots from, Annual photos of Centennial Library, Centennial Library various views, Centennial Library Annex, pouring foundation Old Library and New, Library Staff (black and white), Library Staff (color),	1949-1950 1948-1957 1949-1950s March 1962 1968 May 1957 1955
Box 4 Folder 7	Centennial Library Polaroids and resin coated prints	
Box 4 Folder 8	Blume Library resin coated and color prints	
Box 4 Folder 9	Excellent Service Award to Jim Charbonnet	March 1962

#### Series Four:

#### *San Jose de Palafox* Presentation Copies

There are two presentation copies of *San Jose de Palafox* (St. Mary's Press, 1971) having special dedications in the author's hand writing. The first is to Fr. Louis Blume (1/200) the University president at the time and the second is to Bro. Paul Novosal (2/200) "Without his encouragement and daring, this 'Impossible Dream' would not have been Possible."