

Reference Number: **2014.0142**

Collection/Series Title: **STUDENT TESTIMONIALS,
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**

Creator	University Of Melbourne. Department Of Mathematics
Creator's Activity/Occupation	
Creator's Historical Note Previous Control Number: UA28 In 1855, Professor William Parkinson Wilson, inaugural Professor of Mathematics, was one of the four foundation professors at the University of Melbourne and had been the best mathematician of his year at Cambridge. Wilson arrived in Melbourne on 31 January 1855 and gave the university's first lecture on 13 April. Courses covered Euclid, trigonometry, algebra, analytical geometry and calculus, and Wilson also taught natural philosophy. In 1858 he devised the first engineering course at an Australian university and the three-year course leading to a certificate of civil engineering was begun in 1861. Two of his students were William Kernot and Henry Andrew. The earliest Mathematics professors were all Cambridge University graduates and Mathematics was initially part of an Arts degree, with course specialisation only occurring later (further research required to find out when). Wilson died in December 1874 and was succeeded in June 1875 by 25 year old Edward John Nanson, another Cambridge graduate. Nanson retired in 1922 and was succeeded as Professor by John Henry Michell (1923-8) and then Thomas Cherry, another fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, who was Professor of Mathematics (pure, mixed and applied) from 1929 until his retirement in 1963. Eric Russell Love held several roles at the University of Melbourne including; Professor of Pure Mathematics (1952-1977); Dean of the Faculty of Arts (1960-1962); Head of the Department of Mathematics (1963-1977); Professor Emeritus (1977-1999); and Honorary Professorial Fellow, Department of Mathematics (1977-1999). Previous and Subsequent Entities: 1948 - 1995 Department of Statistics; 1966 - 1995 Department of Mathematics; 1996 - Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Previous Control Number: UA28	
Date Range of Collection/Series	1949-1963
Size/Extent	1 box (0.12 m)
Access Conditions	Access: Restricted
Scope and Content of Collection/Series Previous Control Number: UM1162. This series comprises 2 files containing mainly typed endorsement letters for various students. The files are organised alphabetically, file one covering students with surnames "A-L" and file two, student surnames in the range "M-Z". Most of the endorsement letters were written by Eric Russell Love, Professor of Pure Mathematics and Thomas Cherry, Head of the Department of Mathematics. The letters were in support of: students going on to study at other universities; students seeking employment; completed studies by students and students seeking scholarships. The testimonials covered aspects such as the student's academic merits, general attitude, research work, specialist areas, studies undertaken etc. In some cases several references have been written for the same student on different dates.	
Collection Category	University, official

This document dated

29/05/2015

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Reading Room, quote the Unit/Box reference in full.

Unit/Box	Item Number	Title	Date Range	Description
2014.0142 Unit 1	2014.0142.0001	Testimonials Surnames A - L	1949-1963	Endorsement of students: mainly by Eric Russell (E.R.) Love, Professor of Pure Mathematics and Thomas McFarland Cherry , Professor of Mathematics
2014.0142 Unit 1	2014.0142.0002	Testimonials Surnames M - Z	1949-1963	Endorsement of students: mainly by Eric Russell (E.R.) Love, Professor of Pure Mathematics and Thomas McFarland Cherry , Professor of Mathematics

End of List