Lafayette Instrument Co. Announces the Completion of the Cleve Backster Special Collection

Cleve’s decades of research are now archived and accessible to the public.

Lafayette, IN, June 17, 2019 - Lafayette Instrument Company (LIC) today announced the completion of the Cleve Backster papers Special Collection at the University of West Georgia.

Cleve Backster was a renowned biocommunication researcher, polygraph examiner, and educator. After he passed away on June 24, 2013, Lafayette Instrument was honored to become the caretaker of his life’s work. However, Lafayette Instrument’s warehouse is not ideally suited for archiving or searching documents.

In 2018, Lafayette Instrument had the good fortune of being introduced to Blynne Olivieri, Head of Special Collections and Associate Professor at the University of West Georgia. Ms. Olivieri indicated the Backster papers would complement others at the University and she agreed to visit LIC to sort and pack the files so they could be well-preserved and eventually accessible to others.

Nearly 8 months after collecting the materials from Lafayette, Indiana, Ms. Olivieri contacted LIC because the indexing of the 46 boxes of files is complete and the Index can be found here: http://uwg.galileo.usg.edu/uwg/view?docId=ead/MS-0079-ead.xml.

"UWG’s Special Collections is open for use by anyone. We have scholars, faculty members, students, and members of the general public use our collections.

We have massive psychology collections, both archival collections and printed materials, particularly pertaining to humanistic & parapsychology. The great thing is the intersections - for example, we have Stanley Krippner’s papers who corresponded with Cleve Backster.

We have secure, temperature & humidity-controlled storage, and use acid-free containers to ensure the longtime preservation of the materials.” -Blynne Olivieri, University of West Georgia

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