

# Millikin University Archives: Staley Library

## Student Army Training Corp (SATC) Collection

**Collection Number:** 5.10.1.100

**Inclusive Dates:** 1918 – 1921

**Bulk Dates:** 1918

**Quantity:** 1 scrapbook.

**Acquisition Information:** Unknown.

**Access Restrictions:** This collection is open for research.

**Copyright:** Millikin University

**Photographs:** Yes, in scrapbook.

**Condition Notes:** Covers have become detached from the scrapbook and many of the pages are loose. Poster is folded to fit size of scrapbook and is becoming fragile along the folds. Items are glued to scrapbook pages and are still well attached.

**Processed by:** Catie Zimmerman, March 2004.

### Biographical Note

As World War I became a reality, Millikin responded by becoming an institution that trained soldiers for the battlefield in 1918. Publicity for the program began in the summer, and was disbanded by the end of the same year. The Student Army Training Corps (S.A.T.C.) became a major presence on campus, with almost 500 young men enlisting in the program that paid for their tuition and board, as well as a \$30 monthly stipend for expenses. The United States War Department instituted the program as an effort to promote voluntary service. The young men were required to do six hours of military work (drill and rifle practice) along with four hours of academic courses in line with military training. The men were housed in barracks that were located on the “back campus” or north of the campus buildings that were present at the time, the area currently occupied by Kirkland Fine Arts Center. One newspaper caption states that the picture was taken from the “northwest corner of the gymnasium,” what is now known as the Old Gym.

Many members of S.A.T.C. were called up for active duty and eventually went overseas. A number of them died in battle, from wounds associated with battle, or pneumonia before being shipped overseas.

### Scope and Content Note

The scrapbook includes newspaper clippings and photographs relating to the creation, existence, and demobilization of the Student Army Training Corps (S.A.T.C) at Millikin

University. The majority of this collection is comprised of newspaper clippings about S.A.T.C. students from Millikin who were stationed overseas. Many of the articles cite letters that the soldiers wrote home, describing their adventures and brushes with danger. There are a few clippings that include pictures of the barracks as they were positioned on Millikin's campus. There are separate snapshots of the mess hall, a few soldiers, and the barracks on another page. A full-sized poster used as publicity for the program is included in the front of the scrapbook. Other advertisements for S.A.T.C. that appeared in newspapers are present as well. There is also a commendation certificate written by the War Department dated 1921 for Millikin's service to its country. A list affixed to the back of the scrapbook titled "List of S.A.T.C. Inducted Students in the James Millikin University Unit, Decatur, Illinois, 1918" provides an alphabetical list of names, serial numbers, and induction dates for those that participated in the program. This scrapbook gives one of the most comprehensive accounts of what the environment was like on Millikin's campus during World War I.

It is not known who assembled the scrapbook.

**Series Notes**

*Series 1: Scrapbook*

1 items

Millikin University Student Army Training Corps scrapbook.

**Collection Inventory**

<b>Folder/Item Title</b>	<b>Container #</b>	<b>Folder/Item #</b>	<b>Description</b>
Scrapbook	F-0014	1	Large black scrapbook with Millikin University seal in gold on the front cover.