OSU Centennial Coin

November 8, 2005 - Dr. Andrew Purdy donated an OSU Centennial Coin to the Archives in 2003. It is brass/copper and 1 ½ inches in circumference. It has “Ohio State University 1870-1970 Centennial” with the University emblem with the inscription, “Disciplina Civitatem.” The other side is an image of University Hall with the inscription “University Hall”.

Dr. Purdy said he had bought a box of these coins at a flea market years ago. He said he had heard that the coins were given as a token of appreciation for alumni dues, or possibly for monetary donations to the University. He said there were three levels of coins: a brass or copper coin, a silver coin and a gold coin.

He also mentioned that six or seven years ago, he visited a coin dealer at the Ohio State Fair, who valued the coin at $5 or $6 apiece. He had also visited an antique dealer several years ago, who valued them at $18 to $20 a piece.

Dr. Purdy said that he would be happy to talk to patrons about the coins, (he also still has quite a few coins from his flea-market purchase). His phone number is 937-446-3529.
-MD