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UA95/3 Glasgow Normal School Commencement

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Western Kentucky University

UA95 Glasgow Normal School

Series

Subseries

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Administrative History: The Glasgow Normal School opened February 9, 1875 as the "Glasgow Normal Institute" under the ownership of Professor A. W. Mell (1855-1931). When first established it was chiefly a common school, but was chartered under a board of trustees on March 9, 1876 as the "Glasgow Normal School."

Mell operated the school out of the former Urania College building in Glasgow, Kentucky. In 1882, J. Tom Williams became his partner and head of the business department. When over three hundred students enrolled in the fall of 1883, Mell and Williams sought community financial support to expand their facilities. Support was not forthcoming, however, and they decided to relocate to Bowling Green when citizens there subscribed \$3,000 for the move.

Controversy raged through the summer of 1884 over Mell and Williams' right to move the school. Ultimately, they took most of the faculty, students and equipment with them, leaving behind only the Glasgow school building and charter. They called their new school the "Southern Normal School and Business College."

The Glasgow Normal School reopened in the fall of 1884 under its new head, J. M. Stallworth. Ruric N. Roark succeeded him in 1885, and was in turn succeeded in 1889 by F. M. Malone. J. R. Alexander and H. McD. Fletcher took over in the summer of 1890, but left after one term to join Mell and Williams in Bowling Green, effectively signalling the end of the Glasgow Normal School.

Additional information regarding the Glasgow Normal School is available online at: [Glasgow Normal School Bibliography](#)

Description: Commencement programs for various years 1876, 1880 and 1884. These do not give a complete list of students. This series also contains a list of alumni and diplomas.

Dates: 1876-1884

Extent: 4 folders, oversize

Subject Analytics:

Class of 1876 (GNS)

Class of 1880 (GNS)

Class of 1884 (GNS)
Commencement
Diplomas

Glasgow Normal School
Graduation ceremonies
Programs

Digital Commons:

Higher Education Administration
Social and Behavioral Sciences

Access Restrictions: none

Preferred Citation: UA95/3 Glasgow Normal School Commencement, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

Processing Information: Records processed and collection inventory created 2010, revised 2019.

Finding Aid Report

12/02/2019

UA95.3	Records	Date
Level	Series	Linked toUA95
Title	UA95 Glasgow Normal School	
Collection	Series 3 Commencement	
Scope & Content	WKU Archives	
	Commencement programs for various years 1876, 1880 and 1884. These do not give a complete list of students. This series also contains a list of alumni and diplomas.	

Container List

Container	Folder	Creator	Date	Title	
Box 1	5-7	Glasgow Normal School	1876-1884	Commencement Programs	
Description	1876, D978, D3862 – https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/1187 1880, D979 – https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/1186 1884, D980 – https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/1188 Class of 1876 (GNS) Class of 1880 (GNS) Class of 1884 (GNS)			Subjects	Graduation ceremonies Programs
Box 1	8	Glasgow Normal School	1876-1907	Alumni List	
Description	List of alumni of unidentified origins, probably includes alumni of the Southern Normal School after 1890.			Subjects	Alumni & alumnae
OS Box		Glasgow Normal School	1884-1866	Diplomas	
Description	Coakley, L.W. DeVasher, George			Subjects	Diplomas