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UA96/4 Southern Normal School Departmental Records

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Western Kentucky University
UA96 Southern Normal School
Series 4 Departmental Records

Contact information:

WKU Archives

1906 College Heights Blvd.#11092

Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

Phone: 270-745-4793

Email: archives@wku.edu

Home page: - <https://wku.edu/library/archive>

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Administrative History: The Southern Normal School began when A. W. Mell and J. Tom Williams moved the Glasgow Normal School to Bowling Green and established the Southern Normal School and Business College in 1884. Chartered in 1886, the name was shortened to Southern Normal School.

In the summer of 1890, Mell and Williams turned control of the school over to alum H. A. Evans and W. J. Davis. At the end of the fall term, J. R. Alexander and H. McD. Fletcher took over the school. Fletcher left in 1891 and Alexander in 1892.

In the fall of 1892, Henry Hardin Cherry and Thomas Crittenden Cherry opened the Bowling Green Business College and Literary Institute. Although the school was newly incorporated May 31, 1893, the Cherry brothers regarded it as the direct successor to the Mell and Williams school. With the addition of a teacher training department in 1894, the school became known as the Southern Normal School and Bowling Green Business College.

Thomas Cherry sold his interest to Henry Hardin Cherry in 1899, although he returned as a teacher from 1902 to 1905. On July 21, 1899, the Southern Educational Building Company was incorporated to expand and modernize the school's facilities. Shortly after, on November 16, 1899, a fire destroyed the Southern Normal School building. The new building was completed in 1901 and was home to the Southern Normal School until 1911, when the school moved to "the Hill."

After a campaign to obtain state support for teacher training institutions, Western Kentucky State Normal School was established by legislation signed on March 21, 1906. On May 7, 1906, a commission appointed by Governor Beckham voted to locate the school in Bowling Green, and it became successor to the student body of the Southern Normal School, with H. H. Cherry as president. The business school portion renamed Bowling Green Business University in 1904 was sold off July 1, 1907 to Joseph S. Dickey, W. S. Ashby and J. Lewie Harman.

Description: Records created by and about individual departments of the Southern Normal School. The series contains brief information regarding athletics, business courses and music.

Dates: 1884-1904, nd

Extent: .2 cu. ft.

Subject Analytics:

Athletics
Business & finance
Curriculum
Law & legal affairs

Music
Penmanship
Science
Southern Normal School (Bowling Green, KY)

Digital Commons:

Business
Curriculum and Instruction
Higher Education Administration
Law
Music

Music Education
Science and Mathematics Education
Sports Management
Sports Studies

Accession Information:

Blanch Redwine Butler
Ila Naron

Access Restrictions: none

Allied Materials: [UA94/4 Student/Alumni Personal Papers Southern Normal School](#)

Preferred Citation: UA96/4 Southern Normal School Departmental Records, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

Processing Information: Records processed and collection inventory created 2008, revised 2019.

Finding Aid Report

12/02/2019

UA96.4	Records	Date
Level	Series	Linked toUA96
Title	UA96 Southern Normal School	
Collection	Series 4 Departmental Records	
Scope & Content	WKU Archives	
	Records created by and about individual departments of the Southern Normal School. The series contains brief information regarding athletics, business courses and music.	

Container List

Container	Folder	Creator	Date	Title
Box 1	4	Southern Normal School	1889	Penmanship
Description	Cherry, Henry Redwine, ?			
Box 1	7	Southern Normal School	1903-04	Lecture Tickets
Box 1	3	Southern Normal School	1886	Music
				Subjects Concerts
Box 1	6	Southern Normal School	1894	Shorthand
Description	Photocopy - where is original? Kiper, Mary Kiper, Sadie			
Box 1	1	Southern Normal School	1894	Athletics
Description	Hays, Tom Laffoon, William McGuggin Moore, Frank Smith, Cooper Smith, Vick Sweatt, Clarence			Subjects Football
Box 1	2	Southern Normal School	1902-1903	Law
Description	Catalog of courses			
Box 1	5	Southern Normal School	nd	Scientific Course