



## Western Kentucky University

UA3 President's Office

Series 3 Kelly Thompson

Subseries 3 Awards

### Contact information:

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**Administrative History:** The president's office was created in 1906. Assistant to the President Edwin Kelly Thompson became acting president during Paul Garrett's last illness. Upon Garrett's death February 28, 1955 the Board of Regents approved Thompson to continue as acting president until a replacement could be found. He was elected president on October 17, 1955 a position he held until his retirement in 1969.

Kelly Thompson was born in Lebanon, Kentucky on January 28, 1909. He came to Western in the fall of 1928 on a football scholarship and earned bachelor's and master's degrees. Thompson spent his early career at WKU as college representative and publicity director. During World War II he served in the Navy, after which he returned to campus to work as an assistant to E.A. Diddle and President Paul Garrett. [Harrison, pp. 139-143]

During his tenure as president, Thompson oversaw a steady increase in student population which resulted in the construction of new buildings and WKU gained university status in 1966. He stepped down in 1969 and later went on to serve as president of the College Heights Foundation. Thompson died August 14, 1993.

**Description:** Awards given to Kelly Thompson during the course of his career.

**Dates:** 1955-1969

**Extent:** 1 cu. ft.

### Subject Analytics:

Awards

Kiwanis Club

Plaques

Thompson, Kelly, 1909-1993

Western Kentucky University

### Digital Commons:

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Social and Cultural Anthropology

**Accession Information:** These records transferred to WKU Archives upon its creation.

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Allied Materials:**

[UA1C11/95 Kelly Thompson Photo Collection](#)

[UA1F WKU Archives Multimedia Resources / Vertical File](#)

**Preferred Citation:** UA3/3/3 President's Office-Thompson Awards, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

**Processing Information:** Records processed and collection inventory created 2010, revised 2019 & 2021.

# Finding Aid Report

11/11/2021

<b>UA3.3.3</b>	<b>Records</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Level</b>	<b>Subseries</b>	<b>Linked toUA3.3</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>UA3 President's Office</b>	
<b>Collection</b>	<b>Series 3 Kelly Thompson</b>	
<b>Scope &amp; Content</b>	<b>Subseries 3 Awards</b>	
	<b>WKU Archives</b>	
	<b>Awards given to Kelly Thompson during the course of his career.</b>	

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Creator</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>
Box 1	2	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1944-1945	Awards
Description	Citation for Outstanding Service, U.S. Navy, 9/27/1945 Lieutenant Junior Grade, U.S. Navy, 3/22/1944			Subjects Awards Military decorations World War II, 1939-1945 Veterans United States. Navy.
Box 1	1	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1955-1969	Awards
Description	Girls Clubs of America, Inc. Kelly Thompson Portrait Presented by WKU Regents, 1969 Thompson, Sarah WKU Alumni in appreciation for 10 years of dedicated service as president, 10/17/1965			Subjects Awards Plaques, plaquettes
Box 1	3	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1952-1959	Certificates
Description	American Legion, Citation for Meritorious Service, Warren Post No. 23, 2/3/1959 Chandler, Albert. Delegate, Governor's Annual Conference on Education, 9/20/1956 Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels Membership Card, 1952-53 Kentucky Junior Chamber of Commerce, Certificate of Merit, 2/25/1956			Subjects Awards Certificates Veterans Membership cards
Box 1	4	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1960-1964	Certificates
Description	American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, State Liaison Representative 1960-1962 Bowling Green Optimist Club, Service Award, 10/31/1961 Bowling Green-Warren County Chamber of Commerce Certificate of Appreciation, 1/15/1962 Breathitt, Edward, Commission on Higher Education Appointment, 3/9/1964 Breathitt, Edward, Governor's Commission on the Status of Women Appointment, 9/28/1964 Breathitt, Edward, Kentucky Colonel, 4/21/1964 Circle K Club, Certificate of Appreciation, 3/3/1964 Class of 1965 Honorary Membership of Freshman Class, 2/28/1962 Jefferson County Steamboat Inspectors, Honorary Master, 4/10/1964 Kentucky Department of Conservation Award of Merit, 3/27/1962 Kentucky Development Council Membership, 6/29/1961 Kiwanis International, Legion of Honor, 25 Years Service, 1/22/1964 National Geographic Society Membership, 1/1/1960			Subjects Awards Certificates Veterans Membership certificates

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Lifetime Alumni Membership of Iota Mu, 5/20/1960  
 Tau Kappa Alpha, Honorary Member, 1960  
 Third District Education Association, Distinguished Service Award, 10/16/1964  
 U.S. Strategic Air Command, Certificate of Degree Bachelor of SACology, 4/9/1963

Box 1	5	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1960-1969	Certificates	
Description	Alpha Phi Omega, Certificate of Appreciation, 12/16/1967 Bowling Green Board of Commissioners Certificate of Award 6/3/1969 Bowling Green Board of Commissioners Proclamation Kelly Thompson Day, 8/1/1969 Boys' Clubs of America, Certificate of Appreciation, 4/2/1966 Breathitt, Edward Commission on Higher Education Appointment, 6/22/1966 Breathitt, Edward, First Distinguished Citizen of Kentucky, 10/1965 Breathitt, Edward, Kentucky Science & Technology Advisory Council Appointment, 10/6/1966 College Heights Herald, Herald Award, 5/20/1965 Hazard, Kentucky, Honorary Citizen, 5/5/1967 Honorary Society of Kentucky Mountain Men, Membership, 2/8/1965 Kentucky Congress of Parents & Teachers Life Membership, 10/14/1960 Kentucky Department of Public Information Deputy Marshal Kentucky Homecoming Appointment, 3/30/1965 Kiwanis International, Legion of Honor 30 Years Service, 1969 Nunn, Louie Commission on Higher Education Appointment, 3/18/1969 Student National Education Association, Honorary Membership, 6/16/1966 WKU Alumni Association Proclamation of Appreciation, 5/21/1969 WKU Board of Regents, Resolution of Congratulations, 10/14/1967			Subjects	Awards Certificates Membership certificates
Box 1	6	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1965-1969	Certificates	
Description	Bowling Green Kiwanis Club, Man of the Century Award, 4/27/1973 National Register of Prominent Americans & International Notables, Membership 1978 Warren County Soil Conservation District, Honor Award, 11/4/1972			Subjects	Awards Certificates Membership certificates
Box 1	7	WKU President's Office - Thompson	nd	Certificates	
Description	Louisville, Kentucky, Ambassador of Good Will, 4/19 Pegasus Queen, Knight of the Derby Court, nd			Subjects	Awards Certificates Membership certificates
Box 2		WKU President's Office - Thompson	1963-1967	Awards	
Description	WKSC from Bowling Green & Warren County for services rendered 7/29/1963 J.P. Hines & R.D. Graham  WKSU from Dept. of State. Agency for International Development. Certificate of Cooperation for outstanding contribution to the training and development of a.i.d. international participants under the program to assist in the economic and social development of other countries. 2/17/1967 William Gand.			Subjects	Awards
OS Box 1	17	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1969	Awards	
Description	Appreciation Day for Dr. & Mrs. Kelly Thompson, August 5, 1969			Subjects	Posters
OS Box 140	14	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1953-1969	Awards	
Description	Jefferson County Judge, Service 1954-1961 Kentucky Press Association, Outstanding Kentuckian 1960, 1/21/1961 Kentucky State Police Division of Public Safety, Colonel, Aide De Camp, Commissioner's Staff Appointment, 11/25/1964 Kiwanis International, Kentucky-Tennessee District Officials 1953 National Good Egg Club, Membership, nd			Subjects	Certificates Awards Membership certificates

Bassett, Dave  
 Carr, Ralph  
 Clark, John  
 Cline, George  
 Finley, States  
 Gerson, Seymour  
 Groves, Clay  
 Hairrell, William  
 Hammond, Robert  
 Knight, L.L.  
 Meinken, John  
 Noel, William  
 Nunn, M.Y.  
 Quigley, Pat  
 Shandrick, Joe  
 Smith, Harold  
 Thompson, Kelly  
 Wilson, Jess

OS Box 141	17	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1951-1969	Awards	
Description	Kentucky Historical Society, 175th Anniversary Commission Appointment, 2/4/1967 Kiwanis Club of Bowling Green, Distinguished Service Award, 7/18/1968 Kiwanis International, Golden Service Award, 2/18/1965 Kiwanis International Officers & District Governors 1951-1952 Lambda Chi Alpha, Congratulations on 10th Anniversary as President, 1965 Louisville, Kentucky, Ambassador of Good Will, 3/30/1967 National Education Association, Active Member for Life, 8/1956 Shively, Kentucky, Certificate of Service, 5/13/1969 Stephen Foster Drama Association, Honorary Trustee, 6/30/1962 Wetherby, Lawrence, Kentucky Colonel Commission, 6/6/1952, 7/26/1952			Subjects	Certificates Awards Membership certificates
	Anderson, M.J. Auchenbach, Daniel Bradley, Harry Buescher, Howard Carpenter, Don Charboneau, Donald Collins, Earl Cox, Henry Crow, Orin Culp, Reed Danner, Harold Dillon, Richard Doane, Harvey Doolen, Harold Dubail, Donald Engdahl, Don Forsythe, Donald Fouts, Lewis Fuller, Nelson Gange, Stary Graffam, Warren Hapgood, Lawrence Hellman, Claude Huggins, Ira Keeney, Albert Kimball, William Lake, Elmer Moyer, C.J.				

Murdoch, Don  
Peterson, O.E.  
Putnam, James  
Raney, J.A.  
Ratz, Arthur  
Ray, Walter  
Robbins, Raymond  
Robinson, Harold  
Rodenhorst, Armand  
Selden, Sinclair  
Smith, Earl  
Smith, Larue  
Sutlive, Kirk  
Tally, Joseph  
Thomas, Kelly  
Thornton, Al  
Wist, Martin  
Witmer, Pierce  
Witthuhn, Irwin  
Zimmerman, A.V.