



# Western Kentucky University

UA2 Board of Regents

Series 3 Appointments

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**Administrative History:** Western Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky State Normal Schools were created by legislation signed March 21, 1906. In May the Locating Commission selected Bowling Green and Richmond as sites for the schools. On May 9 Governor J.C.W. Beckham appointed the four regents for each school.

These boards were overseen by the State Superintendent of Education acting as ex officio chair. They elected vice presidents and secretaries from the membership. Treasurers were added to the board bringing the total to six. Early meetings were held jointly in Frankfort.

The first act of the regents was the creation of the office of president for the respective schools. Faculty members were to be hired by the President. Western's Regents formed an Insurance Committee and a Building Committee and set to work preparing for the opening of the normal school in 1907.

Regents are sworn in by the following oath:

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth and be faithful and true to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, so long as I continue a citizen thereof, and that I will faithfully execute, to the best of my ability, the office of Regent of [Western Kentucky University], according to the law; and I do furthermore swear that since the adoption of the present Constitution, I, being a citizen of this state, have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this state, nor out of it, nor have I sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, nor aided or assisted any person thus offending, so help me God. [Board of Regents Meeting Minutes, April 14, 1932]

Chairs of the Board of Regents have been:

James Fuqua 1906-08

John Crabbe 1908-10

Ellsworth Regenstein 1910-12

Barksdale Hamlett 1912-16

V.O. Gilbert 1916-20

George Colvin 1920-24

McHenry Rhoads 1924-28

W.C. Bell 1928-32

James Richmond 1932-36

Harry Peters 1936-40  
John Brooker 1940-44  
John Williams 1944-48  
Boswell Hodgkin 1948-52  
Wendell Butler 1952-56  
Robert Martin 1956-60  
Wendell Butler 1960-64  
Harry Sparks 1964-72  
W.R. McCormack 1972-74  
Albert Ross 1974-75  
Gerald Edds 1975-76  
David Cole 1976-81  
Joe Campbell 1982-84  
Joseph Iracane 1984-92  
Burns Mercer 1992-94  
Robert Fischer 1994-96  
Peggy Loafman 1996-98  
Cornelius Martin 1998-2000  
Kristen Bale 2000-02  
Lois Gray 2002-04  
Cornelius Martin 2004-06  
Earl Fischer 2006-08  
Lois Gray 2008-09  
Jim Meyer 2009-11  
Frederick Higdon 2011-13  
David Porter 2013-15  
Frederick Higdon 2016-17  
Phillip Bale 2018-

Through 1972 these individuals were Chairmen ex officio by virtue of their four-year office as State Superintendents of Public Instruction. The Superintendent took office on the first Monday in January following the November election. The Regents' minutes do not make special note of a change in Chairmen, and often he was not present. In most cases, therefore, the official January date of taking office has been used to indicate his term as Chairman.

**Description:** Appointments to the Board of Regents by the Governor.

**Dates:** 1906-present

**Extent:** oversize, audiotape

**Subject Analytics:**

Certificates  
Regents (WKU)  
Western Kentucky University

**Digital Commons:**

Higher Education Administration

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

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Allied Materials:** none

**Preferred Citation:** UA2/3 Board of Regents Appointments, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

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

# Finding Aid Report

04/08/2019

<b>UA2.3</b>	<b>Records</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Level</b>	<b>Series</b>	<b>Linked toUA2</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>UA2 WKU Board of Regents</b>	
<b>Collection</b>	<b>Series 3 Appointments</b>	
<b>Scope &amp; Content</b>	<b>WKU Archives</b>	
	<b>Appointments to the Board of Regents by the Governor.</b>	

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Creator</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>
OS Box 6	17	Kentucky Governor's Office		Regent Appointments
Description	Borrone, B.J. Chandler, A.B. Chandler, Albert Chandler, Happy Drake, Louise Pentecost, Fielding Quinn, Huston			
Tape Box 4	Drawer 20	Regents (WKU)	1994	Staff Regent Elections - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audiotape - 1  Joy Gramling & Richard Kirby candidate speeches, ca. 1994			Subjects Campaign speeches Audio recording