



Western Kentucky University

UA3 President's Office

Series 4 Dero Downing

Subseries 5 Speech File

Contact information:

WKU Archives

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Administrative History: The president's office was created in 1906. The search for the fourth president of WKU began with Kelly Thompson's resignation announcement May 21, 1969. Vice President for Administrative Affairs Dero Downing indicated that he would serve if asked. The Board of Regents elected him president on August 22, 1969. He served until his retirement in 1979.

Dero Downing was born September 10, 1921 at Fountain Run in Monroe County, Kentucky, and grew up at Horse Cave in Hart County. He enrolled at WKU in 1939 where he played basketball and earned both a bachelor's and master's degree. After serving in the Navy in World War II, he returned to Western as a mathematics teacher and coach at the College's Training School. He later became director of the Training School, college registrar, dean of admissions, dean of business affairs, and vice-president for administrative and business affairs. Upon his resignation as president in 1979 Downing became president of the College Heights Foundation, a position he held until his death on April 4, 2011.

Description: Speeches delivered by Dero Downing at various functions.

Dates: 1969-1977

Extent: 11 audioreels, 2 folders, 1 audiotape, 1 mp3 file

Subject Analytics:

Audio recording

Downing, Dero Goodman, 1921-2011

Speeches, addresses, etc.

Western Kentucky University

Digital Commons:

Higher Education Administration

Speech and Rhetorical Studies

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

Access Restrictions: Audioreels have to be converted to a digital medium before they can be accessed by the public.

Allied Materials: none

Preferred Citation: UA3/4/5 President's Office-Downing Speech File, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

Processing Information: Records processed and collection inventory created 2010, revised 2019, 2022.

Finding Aid Report

06/27/2022

UA3.4.5		Records	Date	
Level		Series	Linked toUA3.4	
Title		UA3 President's Office		
Collection		Series 4 Dero Downing		
Scope & Content		Subseries 5 Speech File		
		WKU Archives		
		Speeches delivered by Dero Downing at various functions.		
Container List				
Container	Folder	Creator	Date	Title
18	42	WKU President's Office - Downing	1972-1977	Greenvview Hospital
Description	Draper, William Frist, Thomas Hancock, Robert			Subjects Dedications
2		WKU President's Office - Downing	1973-1977	Speeches
Description	Allen County Graduation, 5/31/1977 Beechwood High School Commencement, 5/30/1973 WKU Commencement 5/12/1979 D7456 - https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/8755			Subjects Dedications
Box 28		WKU President's Office - Downing	1969	Speeches - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audioreels - 3 Acceptance speech, 1969 Freshman Orientation, nd Third District Education Association, 1969			Subjects Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording Meetings
Box 30		WKU President's Office - Downing	1969	Speeches - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audioreel - 1 Freshman Orientation, 1969 Cravens, Raymond Downing, Dero Mounce, Robert			Subjects Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording
Box 33		WKU President's Office - Downing	1969-1977	Speeches - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audioreels - 5 Freshman Assembly 1969, 1970, 1973, 1974, 1977			Subjects Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording

Box 5		WKU President's Office - Downing	1975	Speeches - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audioreel - 1 Convocation, 1975			Subjects Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording
Box 6		WKU President's Office - Downing	1969	Speeches - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audioreel - 1 Freshman Orientation, 1969 Cravens, Raymond Downing, Dero Mounce, Robert			Subjects Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording
Tape Box 4	Drawer 13	WKU President's Office - Downing	1970	Speeches - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audiotape - 1 digitized Dero Downing speech to New York alumni, 6/1970			Subjects Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording