



Western Kentucky University

UA3 President's Office

Series 3 Kelly Thompson

Subseries 6 Publications

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 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: Publications created by the President's Office during Kelly Thompson's administration.

Dates: 1955-1969

Extent: 2 folders

Subject Analytics:

Education

Thompson, Kelly, 1909-1993

Western Kentucky University

Digital Commons:

Higher Education Administration

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](#)

[UA2 Board of Regents](#)

Preferred Citation: UA3/3/6 President's Office-Thompson Publications, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

Processing Information: Records processed and collection inventory created 2012, revised 2019.

Finding Aid Report

04/12/2019

UA3.3.6	Records	Date
Level	Subseries	Linked toUA3.3
Title	UA3 President's Office	
Collection	Series 3 Kelly Thompson	
Scope & Content	Subseries 6 Publications	
	WKU Archives	
	Publications created by the President's Office during Kelly Thompson's administration.	

Container List

Container	Folder	Creator	Date	Title
Box 1	1	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1955-1969	Reports to Regents
Description	1955-1965 A Decade in Review, D1434 - https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/1732/			Subjects Construction Education
	Report to the Board of Regents by the President of WKU, 1955-1969 D1435 - https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/1733/			
	Reports to the Regents include enrollment statistics, faculty/staff statistics, curriculum development, physical plant, financial support, administrative staff development, reorganization and 10 year plan.			
Box 1	2	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1988	Construction
Description	Thompson, Kelly. Major Construction Projects, WKU 1955-1969, 1988, D1436 - https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/849/			Subjects Construction