

2015

UA3/4/7 President's Office-Downing Personal Papers

WKU Archives

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Western Kentucky University
Record Group 3 President's Office
Series 4 Dero Downing
Subseries 7 Personal Papers

Contact information:

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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: Personal papers of Dero Downing.

Dates: 1943-2011

Extent: 3 folders

Subject Analytics:

Correspondence

Downing family

Downing, Dero Goodman, 1921-2011

Western Kentucky University

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History

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Accession Information: These records transferred to the WKU Archives from the President's Office in accordance with the records retention schedule. Unprocessed records donated by the Downing Family.

Access Restrictions: This record group is unprocessed and must be reviewed for potential restricted materials before access is granted. Please contact the WKU Archivist prior to your visit.

Allied Materials:

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

Preferred Citation: UA3/4/7 President's Office-Downing Personal Papers, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

Processing Information: Records processed and collection inventory created 2015, revised 2019.

Finding Aid Report

04/15/2019

UA3.4.7	Records	Date
Level	Subseries	Linked toUA3.4
Title	UA3 President's Office	
Collection	Series 4 Dero Downing	
Scope & Content	Subseries 7 Personal Papers	
	WKU Archives	
	Personal papers of Dero Downing.	

Container List

Container	Folder	Creator	Date	Title
Box 1	1	Downing, Dero Goodman, 1921-2011	1943	Correspondence
Description	Downing, Dero Downing, George Downing, Sarah Downing, Harriett Anne Patterson, Raymond Leon			Subjects Basketball Invitations
Box 1	2	Downing, Dero Goodman, 1921-2011	1979	Resignation
Description	Statement to the Board of Regents			Subjects Resignations
Box 1	3	Downing, Dero Goodman, 1921-2011	1979	Banquet
Description	Dero Downing Appreciation Banquet			Subjects Programs