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2008

## UA96/5 Southern Normal School Student Organizations

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**Western Kentucky University**  
**UA96 Southern Normal School**  
**Series 5 Student Organizations**

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**Administrative History:** The Southern Normal School began when A. W. Mell and J. Tom Williams moved the Glasgow Normal School to Bowling Green and established the Southern Normal School and Business College in 1884. Chartered in 1886, the name was shortened to Southern Normal School.

In the summer of 1890, Mell and Williams turned control of the school over to alum H. A. Evans and W. J. Davis. At the end of the fall term, J. R. Alexander and H. McD. Fletcher took over the school. Fletcher left in 1891 and Alexander in 1892.

In the fall of 1892, Henry Hardin Cherry and Thomas Crittenden Cherry opened the Bowling Green Business College and Literary Institute. Although the school was newly incorporated May 31, 1893, the Cherry brothers regarded it as the direct successor to the Mell and Williams school. With the addition of a teacher training department in 1894, the school became known as the Southern Normal School and Bowling Green Business College.

Thomas Cherry sold his interest to Henry Hardin Cherry in 1899, although he returned as a teacher from 1902 to 1905. On July 21, 1899, the Southern Educational Building Company was incorporated to expand and modernize the school's facilities. Shortly after, on November 16, 1899, a fire destroyed the Southern Normal School building. The new building was completed in 1901 and was home to the Southern Normal School until 1911, when the school moved to "the Hill."

After a campaign to obtain state support for teacher training institutions, Western Kentucky State Normal School was established by legislation signed on March 21, 1906. On May 7, 1906, a commission appointed by Governor Beckham voted to locate the school in Bowling Green, and it became successor to the student body of the Southern Normal School, with H. H. Cherry as president. The business school portion renamed Bowling Green Business University in 1904 was sold off July 1, 1907 to Joseph S. Dickey, W. S. Ashby and J. Lewie Harman.

**Description:** Records created by and about student organizations of the Southern Normal School. The majority of the records are mailing lists that are arranged alphabetically by state which are in turn subdivided by county and town. Included are lists for Indian Territory and New Brunswick, Canada. Also of interest are the Classic Class newsletters for the period 1905-1914.

**Dates:** 1898-1938

**Extent:** .5 cu. ft.

**Subject Analytics:**

Class of 1885 (SNS)  
Programs

Southern Normal School (Bowling Green, KY)  
Student organizations

**Digital Commons:**

Music  
Social and Behavioral Sciences

Sociology

**Accession Information:** A.L. Crabb

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Allied Materials:** [UA94/4 Student/Alumni Personal Papers Southern Normal School](#)

**Preferred Citation:** UA96/5 Southern Normal School Student Organizations, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

**Processing Information:** Records processed and collection inventory created 2008, revised 2019.

# Finding Aid Report

12/02/2019

<b>UA96.5</b>	<b>Records</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Level</b>	<b>Series</b>	<b>Linked toUA96</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>UA96 Southern Normal School</b>	
<b>Collection</b>	<b>Series 5 Student Organizations</b>	
<b>Scope &amp; Content</b>	<b>WKU Archives</b>	
	<b>Records created by and about student organizations of the Southern Normal School. The majority of the records are mailing lists that are arranged alphabetically by state which are in turn subdivided by county and town. Included are lists for Indian Territory and New Brunswick, Canada. Also of interest are the Classic Class newsletters for the period 1905-1914.</b>	

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Creator</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	
Box 1	36-38	Alumni Association (SNS)	1905-1914	Alumni - Classic Class	
Description	Annual newsletters				
Box 1	40	Glee Club (SNS)	1903	Glee Club	
Description	Recital program				
Box 1	39	Alumni Association (SNS)	1938	Alumni - Correspondence	
Description	Foust, John				
Box 1	1	Alumni Association (SNS)	1905-1906	Alumni Association - Meeting Minutes	
Box 1	2	Alumni Association (SNS)	1898	Alumni List	
Description	Typed list from "Ledger 2" listing students in 1898. This list does not match the accounting ledgers. The original ledger is not in WKU Archives.				
Box 1	3-35	Alumni Association (SNS)	1900	Alumni Association - Mailing Lists	
Description	Arranged alphabetically by state and includes Indian Territory and New Brunswick Canada. The individual state lists are arranged alphabetically by county, town and then surname.				
Box 1	41	Class of 1885 (SNS)	1885	Programs	
Description	Junior Exercises, 1885				
				Subjects	Speeches, address, etc. Programs
	Boyd, Robert Class of 1886 (SNS) King, Philip Leigh, Walter Miller, Perry Morris, Herman				

