

**Board of Regents Records
RG-001**

ABSTRACT

Northern Kentucky University Board of Regents is the governing body of the university. The Board of Regents Records document the long-term strategic, policy and decision-making processes of the board from the beginning of the university. The records consist of bylaws; meeting agendas, minutes and supporting materials; committee records; reports; administrative records; and memorabilia.

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Creators: Northern Kentucky University Board of Regents

Span Dates: 1967-2019

Extent: 23.5 cubic feet (40 boxes), 786 megabytes, 2 oversized folders

Languages: The materials are in English.

Repository Location: Eva G. Farris Special Collections and Schlachter University Archives, W. Frank Steely Library, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, Kentucky

ACCESS POINTS

Subjects:

Northern Kentucky University-Governance--Board of Regents
Northern Kentucky State College-Governance--Board of Regents
State universities and colleges

Names:

Northern Kentucky University
Northern Kentucky University. Board of Regents
Northern Kentucky State College
Northern Kentucky State College. Board of Regents

Places:

Highland Heights (Ky.)
Campbell County (Ky.)

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Kentucky, Northern
Covington (Ky.)

RELATED MATERIALS

Related Archival Materials: Northern Kentucky University RG-047 University Photographs

Existence and Location of Copies: Duplicate copies of meeting agendas, minutes and backup materials are located in the Office of the President.

Digital copies of **Series I, Governance Records, and Series II, Meeting Records**, agendas and minutes only, are located in the Northern Kentucky University Digital Repository at <https://dspace.nku.edu/handle/11216/2725>

RG-043 Marketing and Communications contains preservation photocopies of the news clippings in the Wiley scrapbook.

ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

The Board of Regents serves as the governing body for the university. The Board is responsible for ensuring adherence to and promotion of the university's missions and goals, determining the institution's long term strategic direction, defining major policies and providing general financial oversight of the institution.

Formation and members

On March 14, 1968, Governor Louis B. Nunn signed House Bill 255. This bill created Northern Kentucky State College (NKSC). The subsequent addition of Chase College of Law and a graduate program in education signaled a needed status change from an undergraduate college to a university. On February 25, 1976, Governor Julian Carroll signed House Bill 180, formally changing NKSC to Northern Kentucky University effective June 19, 1976.

Governor Nunn appointed six inaugural Board of Regents members on July 1, 1968: John R. S. Brooking, Elmer Haas, Jr., Joseph Kohler, Kenneth Lucas, Charles O. Landrum and Charles Wiley. These inaugural board members served staggered terms ranging from one to four years. Subsequent board members were appointed for four-year terms.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction, by virtue of his position, served as the ex-officio chair of all boards of regents of the state colleges, including NKSC. This was later changed to allow the Board to select its own chair. The six appointed board positions could contain no more than two individuals from each

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of the three northern Kentucky counties: Campbell, Kenton and Boone. In addition, board member political affiliation was to be equally split between the two main political parties. The Board would elect from their members a Vice Chair and a Secretary. A Treasurer would also be selected, but did not require board member status.

The board held its first meeting on September 26, 1968. The Board of Regents served a crucial role in the launching the new college. During the first year the board assisted with the new campus site selection, selected and hired the first president and administrators, coordinated efforts to merge and then take control of the University of Kentucky Northern Community College, and established budget and financial plans.¹

As Superintendent of Public Instruction, Wendell P. Butler, was the ex-officio Chairman of the Board. Charles Wiley was elected as the Board's first Vice-Chair, but despite Butler's ex-officio status, presided as chair for most of his four-year term. At the end of his term in 1972, Wiley was awarded Regents Emeritus status in recognition of his leadership. John DeMarcus, Governor Nunn's education assistant, represented Nunn to both the Board of Regents and the Site Selection Committee.

The Board added non-voting faculty and student advisory members in May 1969. The faculty elected their representative and the annually elected Student Government Association (SGA) President served as the student representative.

Their non-voting status changed on July 10, 1972, when the faculty and student representatives were sworn in and joined the board as the first Faculty and Student Regents. Faculty and student board members officially held equal voting status with the appointed board members.

In January 1992, a major change occurred in the composition of the state university boards when "the Kentucky legislature passed a reform bill mandating that the state's university boards be purged. The governor was required to reappoint half of the board members and fill the remaining seats from a list of prospective appointees submitted by the Higher Education Nominating Committee."²

In 1994, House Bill 154 passed requiring staff representation on the board and the first Staff Regent joined the Board of Regents with equal voting status on July 27, 1994.

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Currently, the Board of Regents consists of eleven members, eight appointed by the governor from nominees submitted by a nominating commission. These members can serve up to two six-year terms. Faculty and Staff Regents are each elected by their peers to serve three-year terms. The Student Regent is the annually elected SGA President and serves a one-year term. By law, all Regents must be Kentucky residents. In 1980-81, a special election was held to select the Student Regent when that year's SGA president was not a Kentucky resident.

Meetings

The Board of Regents are required to hold at least four quarterly meetings. Special meetings may be called by the chair upon written request of the President or by any two Regents.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Board of Regent records consist of materials accumulated from its beginning in 1968. The NKSC Site Committee records contains records that pre-date the official start dates of the committee and the board. This is an open record group meaning new additions of records are expected to occur. The records consist of bylaws; meeting agendas, minutes and supporting materials; committee records; reports; administrative records; and memorabilia. The meeting records comprise the bulk of the collection.

The collection has six series: **Governance Records, Meeting Records, Committee Records, Reports, Administrative Records and Memorabilia.**

Series I, Governance Records (1974-2019), contains records concerning the governance of the Board of Regents. These materials include members list, and original and revised versions of the Bylaws.

Series II, Meeting Records (1968-2019), contains agendas, minutes and supporting materials for the Board of Regents meetings. Some meetings are missing agendas.

Series III, Committee Records (1967-2012, undated), contains the records of the Northern Kentucky State College Site Selection Committee that was organized prior to the selection of the inaugural Board of Regents; and the public records of the Presidential Search Committees.

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Series IV, Reports (1976-2000, undated), contains various institutional reports, including accreditation, that are roughly arranged chronologically. These reports may have been supporting materials for Board of Regents meetings.

Series V, Administrative Records (1967-1982, undated), contains correspondence and financial/legal documents.

Series VI, Memorabilia (1968-2005, undated), contains various memorabilia items, including a scrapbook by Kathleen Wiley, wife of founding Regent and de facto Chair Charles Wiley. The scrapbook documents much of the early formative years of Northern Kentucky State College and includes an early student directory, class schedule, Christmas cards, basketball memorabilia, and the original handwritten music and lyrics for the Northern Kentucky University Alma Mater composed and written by Charles Wiley.

SYSTEM OF ARRANGEMENT

The Board of Regents Records are arranged in six series: **I. Governance Records, II. Meeting Records, III. Committee Records, IV. Reports, V. Administrative Records and VI. Memorabilia.** These series are chronologically arranged: Series I, II and IV (roughly). Series III is arranged by committee. Series V is arranged by function and Series VI by item type.

CONTAINER LISTING

Description	Date Span	Box
Series I: Governance Records		
Bylaws	1974-2019	200
Bylaws-duplicate digital copies	1974-2019	https://dspace.nku.edu/handle/11216/3558
Series II: Meeting Records		
Member Biographies	2003-2006, 2013	1061
Agendas, minutes, materials	1968-1976	1052
Agendas, minutes, materials	1977-1980	1185
Agendas, minutes, materials	1980-1984	1186
Agendas, minutes, materials	1984-1989	1187

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Agendas, minutes, materials	1990-1993	1188
Agendas, minutes, materials	1993-1996	1189
Agendas, minutes, materials	1996-2001	1062
Agendas, minutes, materials	2001-2003	1063
Agendas, minutes, materials	2003-2005	1064
Agendas, minutes, materials	2005-2006	1065
Agendas, minutes, materials	2006-2008	1066
Agendas, minutes, materials	2008-2009	1109
Agendas, minutes, materials	2009-2011	1110
Agendas, minutes, materials	2011-2013	1111
Agendas, minutes, materials	2013-2014	1112
Agendas, minutes, materials	2014-2015	1113
Agendas, minutes, materials	2015-2017	1114
Agendas, minutes, materials	2017-2018	1497
Agendas, minutes, materials	2018-2019	1565
Agendas, minutes, materials	2019	376
All Series II records except members – duplicate digital copies	1968-2019	https://dspace.nku.edu/handle/11216/3168
Series III: Committee Records		
<i>Subseries 1: Northern Kentucky State College Site Selection Committee</i>		
Correspondence	1968-1969	1128
Site evaluations	circa 1969	1058
Report	1969	O/S Box 204
News clippings	1969	1059
Regional maps	1967	Flat File 52
County maps	circa 1970	Flat File 63
Site maps	undated	Flat File 52
<i>Subseries 2: President Search Committee</i>		
Search, campus visits, selection public records	1982-1983, 1996-1997, 2011-2012	614
Series IV: Reports		

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Institutional strategic plans, 10 year plan, information resources plans	1976-1998	1127
Accreditation, Post-Secondary task force, young authors program	undated; 1978-2000	1129
New Science building, budget review, various	1980-1989	1123
External environmental	1987-1993	1124
Accreditation reports; nursing program review	1992-1994	1125
Engineering programs	1995	1126
Series V: Administrative Records		
Correspondence	1968-1980	1053
Financial/legal documents: research, deeds, insurance	1967-1982	1057
Stationary	undated, 2005	1115
Series VI: Memorabilia		
Signing pen	1968	1457
Scrapbook, Kathleen Wiley	1968-1972, 1978	O/S Box 577
Name plates, name tags	undated,	166
Regent commencement robe	before 2010	290

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Conditions Governing Access: This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use: The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, US Code) governs the reproduction of copyrighted material. The User assumes full responsibility and any attendant liability for the fair use of materials requested in total compliance with the copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) that may arise through the use of any requested materials.

Preferred Citation: Box #, RG-001 Board of Regents Records, Schlachter University Archives, W. Frank Steely Library, Northern Kentucky University

ACQUISITION AND APPRAISAL

Immediate Source of Acquisition: Transfers from Office of the President

NOTES

Processing Information: Processed by Vicki Cooper, 2020.

Endnotes

1. Frank L. Stallings, Jr., *Groundbreakings: Northern Kentucky University's first twenty-five years* (Highland Heights: Northern Kentucky University, 1992), 6.
2. "Restructured Board faces future with renewed purpose," *Campus Digest*, January 29, 1993, 1.