

2009

# San José State University Office of the President, John Bunzel Records

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## **Guide to the San José State University Office of the President, John Bunzel Records**

Processed by Robert Donahue.

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## Guide to the San José State University Office of the President, John Bunzel Records

Collection number: MSS-2009-06-01



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UNIVERSITY

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Processed by:  
Robert Donahue  
Date Completed:  
2009  
Encoded by:  
Mary Ellen Petrich

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** San José State University Office of the President, John Bunzel Records

**Dates:** 1963-1984

**Bulk Dates:** 1970-1978

**Collection number:** MSS-2009-06-01

**Creator:** San José State University. Office of the President

**Collection Size:** 71 boxes(86.25 linear feet)

**Repository:** San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

**Abstract:** The Office of the President is the highest administrative office for the campus, reporting to the California State University (CSU) Chancellor and Board of Trustees, respectively. As such, the Office of the President records document the overall policies, practices and procedures of the daily operation of the campus, as well as the interaction with other CSU campuses and with the CSU administration. The Office of the President, John Bunzel Records, 1963-1984 (bulk 1970-1978), document Bunzel's tenure as university president. The records consist of administrative files, correspondence, news releases, newspaper clippings, and reports. This collection is arranged into five series: Series I: Administrative Records, 1963-1984 (bulk 1970-1978); Series II: Speeches, 1971-1978; Series III: Correspondence, 1970-1977; Series IV: Meeting Minutes, 1966-1979; and Series V: Restricted Materials, 1969-1984.

**Physical location:** For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

**Languages:** Languages represented in the collection: English

**Access**

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The collection is open for research, however, Box 71 is restricted.

#### **Publication Rights**

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#### **Preferred Citation**

San José State University Office of the President, John Bunzel Records, MSS-2009-06-01, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

#### **Processing Information**

Collection processed by Robert Donahue. Finding aid EAD encoded by Mary Ellen Petrich. Reviewed by Danelle Moon and Erin Louthen.

#### **Project Information**

This finding aid was created as part of the Survey and Cataloging Project, a two-year San José State University Library grant project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project began in 2008. The Project Director is Danelle Moon. The Project Archivist is Erin Louthen.

#### **Organizational History**

In 1857 the San Francisco Board of Education established Minns' Evening Normal School for current and prospective teachers in the city. Named after its principal, George W. Minns, the institution was formally established as the first California State Normal School by the State Legislature in 1862. A decade later, the Legislature voted to move the Normal School to San José, and the school relocated to its new home on Washington Square prior to the fall term of 1872. After a fire destroyed the Normal School building in 1880, the Legislature authorized \$200,000 to construct a new building on the same site. Completed in 1881, the building was commonly referred to as the Second State Normal School. After several names and curriculum changes, Minns' Normal School is now San José State University, offering more than 134 bachelor's and master's degrees with 110 concentrations, and is recognized as one of the top public universities granting such degrees in the West.

The Office of the President is the highest administrative office for the campus, reporting to the California State University (CSU) Chancellor and Board of Trustees, respectively. As such, the Office of the President records document the overall policies, practices, and procedures of the daily operation of the campus, as well as the interaction with other CSU campuses and with the CSU administration.

John H. Bunzel (1970-1978) graduated from Princeton University magna cum laude in 1948 with a bachelor's degree in political science, and he received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Berkeley in 1954. Bunzel was appointed president of San José State University in 1970, succeeding the popular President Robert D. Clark (1964-1969), and Acting President Hobert W. Burns (1969-1970). During his tenure, Bunzel gained national attention for his reasoned resistance to intimidation, and his defense of academic freedom during a time of campus unrest.

President Bunzel (1970-1978) had a tumultuous relationship with the faculty at San José State University. Bunzel's administration was also burdened by Governor Ronald Reagan's cuts to the education budget beginning in the early 1970s, which further exacerbated the tense atmosphere at the university. Bunzel exalted academic excellence, and emphasized research and publishing requirements on par with the University of California system. Many faculty members resisted this educational philosophy, arguing that according to the 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education, the California State University system had traditionally concentrated more on teaching than research or publication. President Bunzel clashed with the faculty again over the issue of shared governance during the Economics Department controversy during the 1970s. Due to political and ethical issues between two factions of the department, the Economics Department had difficulties performing even basic personnel functions such as recruiting. President Bunzel subsequently appointed a special receivership committee to handle administrative functions of the Economics Department without the authorization of the Academic Senate. The Academic Senate opposed this action and censured Bunzel in 1975, partially because he failed to consult the Senate on such an unprecedented move. After eight challenging years as SJSU president, Bunzel left the university, accepting the position of Senior Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University in 1978.

#### **Bibliography**

Gilbert, Benjamin F., and Charles Burdick. *Washington Square, 1857-1979: The History of San José State University*. San José: San José State University, 1980.

Norton, T.M. "Notes on the History of the Academic Senate." 1999. <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/Notes.htm> (accessed 03/19/2009).

San José State University. *About SJSU*. [http://www.sjsu.edu/about\\_sjsu/](http://www.sjsu.edu/about_sjsu/) (accessed 03/19/2009).

Walsh, James P. *San José State University: An Interpretive History, 1950-2000*. San José: San José State University, 2003.

#### **Related Material**

*Academic Senate Records*. SJSU University Archives Collection. <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt5k4034vh/>

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*The California and San José State University Master Plan for Higher Education Records.* SJSU University Archives Collection.  
<http://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt2r29r6d1/>

*Academic Council Records.* SJSU University Archives Collection. <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt5r29r8r3/>

### **Scope and Content of Collection**

The Office of the President is the highest administrative office for the campus, reporting to the California State University (CSU) Chancellor and Board of Trustees, respectively. As such, the Office of the President records document the overall policies, practices and procedures of the daily operation of the campus, as well as the interaction with other CSU campuses and with the CSU administration. The Office of the President, John Bunzel Records, 1963-1984 (bulk 1970-1978), document Bunzel's tenure as university president. The records consist of administrative files, correspondence, news releases, newspaper clippings, and reports.

### **Arrangement**

This collection is arranged into five series: Series I: Administrative Records, 1963-1984 (bulk 1970-1978); Series II: Speeches, 1971-1978; Series III: Correspondence, 1970-1977; Series IV: Meeting Minutes, 1966-1979; and Series V: Restricted Materials, 1969-1984.

### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Bunzel, John H., 1924-

San José State University -- President's Office -- History

San José State University -- President's Office -- Records and correspondence

San José State College -- History

San José State University -- History

California State University, San José -- History

Education, Higher -- California -- San José

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### **Series I: Administrative Records 1963-1984 (bulk 1970-1978)**

**Physical Description:** 53 boxes

#### **Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series consists of the administrative records of President John H. Bunzel (1970-1978), and includes budget files, communications, legal opinions, meeting files, police incident reports, general reports, and student unrest files.

#### **Arrangement**

This series is arranged chronologically by date range.

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Boxes 1-24

#### **Administrative Files 1963-1981**

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Box 25

#### **Faculty and State Legislation 1964-1978**

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Box 26

#### **Commencement and Committee Files 1965-1974**

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Box 27

#### **Faculty and Committees 1965-1974**

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Box 28

#### **Disciplinary Procedures, Administration Files 1965-1977**

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Box 29

#### **Personnel Policies, Commencement, and Executive Orders 1965-1978**

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Box 30

**Alphabetical Files, A-C 1966-1979**

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Box 31

**Board of Directors 1968-1973**

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Box 32

**Bunzel: Memos, Press Releases, and Statements 1968-1978**

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Box 33

**Commencement and Committee Papers 1968-1979**

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Box 34

**SJSU Presidents 1969-1970**

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Box 35

**University Relations and Curriculum 1969-1970**

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Box 36

**Alphabetical Files, A-K 1969-1978**

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Box 37

**Academic Clubs and Councils 1970-1971**

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Box 38

**Alphabetical Files, L-Y 1970-1972**

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Box 39

**Special Cases 1970-1976**

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Box 40

**Special Cases and Salary Structure 1971-1973**

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Boxes 41-44

**Administrative Files, Alpha by Subject 1971-1974**

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Box 45

**Task Force Information, and Bunzel's Speeches 1971-1974**

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Box 46

**Chancellor's Office 1971-1974**

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Box 47

**Alphabetical Files, G-N; Master of Social Work Suit 1972-1974**

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Box 48

**AAAS, Positive Aspects of SJSU, and Pay Letters 1972-1974**

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Box 49

**President's Office Functions 1972-1984**

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Box 50 **Bunzel: Memos, Policies, and Reports 1973**

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Box 51 **Faculty and Administrative Appointments 1974-1975**

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Box 52 **Liaison Binders 1974-1975**

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Box 53 **"Pioneers for One Hundred Years": Computer Tapes and Transcripts of the Publication 1977**

**Series II: Articles, Lectures and Speeches 1971-1978**

**Physical Description:** 1 box

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series contains the speech files of President Bunzel (1970-1978), as well as copies of various articles and lectures he created during his tenure. Bunzel was active in the research and publication aspect of academia when he was a professor at San Francisco State University, Stanford University, and later at Stanford's Hoover Institution after leaving SJSU in 1978.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged chronologically by date range.

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Box 54 **Articles, Lectures and Speeches 1971-1978**

**Series III: Correspondence 1970-1977**

**Physical Description:** 7 boxes

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series consists of correspondence generated during President Bunzel's tenure (1970-1978). It includes correspondence and directives from the Board of Trustees, news releases, executive directives, and subjects concerning university administration. This series covers a wide range of subjects, including correspondence regarding international programs.

**Arrangement**

The series is arranged chronologically by date range.

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Box 55 **Letters and Directives from the Board of Trustees 1970**

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Box 56 **General Files and Correspondence 1972-1973**

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Box 57 **Bunzel: Correspondence 1972-1973**

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Box 58 **International Programs: Correspondence 1974-1975**

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Box 59 **Correspondence 1974-1975**

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Box 60 **Miscellaneous Files 1977**

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Box 61

**General Files 1976-1977**

Series IV: **Meeting Minutes 1966-1979**

**Physical Description:** 9 boxes

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series contains meeting minutes from the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor's Council of Presidents, and committees such as the Vice President Search Committee and the Campus Planning, Building, and Grounds Committee. Subject files in this series consist of budget, bicentennial proposals, and campus planning, as well as other topics.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged chronologically by date range.

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Box 62

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes and Vice President Search Committee 1966-1979**

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Box 63

**Board of Trustees Meetings and Agendas 1970-1971**

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Boxes 64-67

**Board of Trustees and Committee Meetings 1971-1974**

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Box 68

**Chancellor's Council of Presidents Meetings, and Campus Planning, Building, and Grounds Committee 1974-1976**

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Box 69-70

**General Meetings 1976-1977**

Series V: **Restricted Materials 1969-1984**

**Physical Description:** 1 box

**Access Restrictions**

Box 71 is restricted.

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Box 71

**Restricted Materials 1969-1984**

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