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Guide to the San José State University Office of the President, John T. Wahlquist Records

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Processed by:

Thomas Stamps

Date Completed:

2009

Encoded by:

Mary Ellen Petrich

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Descriptive Summary

Title: San José State University Office of the President, John T. Wahlquist Records

Dates: 1937-1976 Bulk Dates: 1952-1964

Collection number: MSS-2009-04-04

Creator: San José State University. Office of the President

Collection Size: 43 boxes(45.34 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 interaction with other CSU campuses and with CSU administration. The San José State University Office of the President, John T. Wahlquist Records, 1937-1976 (bulk 1952-1964), document Wahlquist's tenure as university president (1952-1964). Wahlquist was Dean of the School of Education at the University of Utah before becoming president of SJSU in 1952, succeeding President Thomas MacQuarrie (1927-1952). The records consist of correspondence, awards, personal diaries and scrapbooks. The records also contain historically significant documents such as master building indexes, the Stanton-Hutchinson court case files, and photographs of Richard Nixon at SJSU. This collection is arranged into seven series: Series I. Administrative Files, 1937-1976 (bulk 1952-1964); Series II. Awards, Certificates, and Photograph Albums, 1953-1969 (bulk 1953-1964); Series III. Correspondence, 1952-1964; Series IV. CSC Trustees Correspondence, 1961-1964; Series V. Diaries, 1952-1967; Series VI. Publicity, 1952-1964; and Series VII. Stanton-Hutchinson Controversy, 1959-1966 (bulk 1960-1962).

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

The collection is open for research, with the exception of reel-to-reel tapes in Series VII, which are restricted.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

San José State University Office of the President, John T. Wahlquist Records, MSS-2009-04-04, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Thomas Stamps. 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

Dr. John T. Wahlquist was Dean of the School of Education at the University of Utah before becoming president of SJSU in 1952, succeeding President Thomas MacQuarrie (1927-1952). During Wahlquist's twelve-year term, he took annual tours across America to recruit experienced teachers from prestigious colleges to keep pace with San José State's growing student enrollment. Over time, Wahlquist increased the faculty from 300 to 1,000 members. Wahlquist also organized the largest construction development in San José State's history, adding many buildings to the campus including Hugh Gillis Hall, Dudley Moorehead Hall, and Sweeney Hall.

Bibliography

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

San José State University. About SJSU. http://www.sjsu.edu/about_sjsu/

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

Related Material

CSU Board of Trustees Records. SJSU University Archives Collection. http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt2199r4s5 SJSU Office of the President, Robert D. Clark Records. SJSU University Archives Collection.

http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt638nf351

Scope and Content

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 interaction with other CSU campuses and with CSU administration.

The SJSU Office of the President, John T. Wahlquist Records, 1937-1976 (bulk 1952-1964), document Wahlquist's tenure as university president (1952-1964). Wahlquist was Dean of the School of Education at the University of Utah before becoming president of SJSU in 1952, succeeding President Thomas MacQuarrie (1927-1952). The records consist of correspondence, awards, personal diaries and scrapbooks, as well as President's Council meeting minutes and agendas, budget reports, speeches, travel records, newspaper clippings, and photographs. Chronicling the many changes implemented on campus during President Wahlquist's twelve-year term, the records also contain historically significant documents such as master building indexes, the Stanton-Hutchinson court case files, and photographs of Richard Nixon at SJSU. In addition, the records include President Wahlquist's mementos and his autobiography.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into seven series: Series I. Administrative Files, 1937-1976 (bulk 1952-1964); Series II. Awards, Certificates, and Photograph Albums, 1953-1969 (bulk 1953-1964); Series III. Correspondence, 1952-1964; Series IV. CSC Trustees Correspondence, 1961-1964; Series V. Diaries, 1952-1967; Series VI. Publicity, 1952-1964; and Series VII. Stanton-Hutchinson Controversy, 1959-1966 (bulk 1960-1962).

Indexing Terms

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

Wahlquist, John Thomas, b. 1899

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

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

California State University. Office of the Chancellor -- Trials, litigation, etc.

San José State College -- History

California State University, San José -- History

San José State University -- History

Education, Higher -- California -- San José

Series I: Administrative Files 1937-1976

Physical Description: 16 boxes Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains the agendas and meeting minutes of the President's Council and the Chancellor's Council of State College Presidents. The series also includes master indexes for campus buildings and facilities, as well as annual financial and enrollment reports, including reports from the State Department of Education. It also contains a State College Administrative Manual documenting college organization and administration, student affairs and services, and facilities standards.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by subject.

Boxes 1-16

Administrative Files 1937-1976

Series II: Awards, Certificates, and Photograph Albums 1957-1965

Physical Description: 2 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains awards and certificates achieved by President Wahlquist (1952-1964), mementos he collected, and photograph albums. Photographs of note include one of Richard Nixon giving a speech on campus.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by subject.

Boxes 17-18

Awards, Certificates, and Photograph Albums 1957-1965

Series III: Correspondence 1937-1968

Physical Description: 8 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series consists of correspondence to and from President Wahlquist (1952-1964) and SJSU administrators during his tenure, including correspondence sent by members of the State College Advisory Board and the Western College Association. This series also contains President Wahlquist's travel records.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by subject and chronologically by date.

Boxes 19-26 Correspondence 1937-1968

Series IV: CSC Trustees Correspondence 1961-1964

Physical Description: 2 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains letters and directives from the Trustees of the California State Colleges (CSC), including requests for funds, budget reports and meeting minutes.

Arrangement

This series is arranged chronologically by date.

Boxes 27-28 CSC Trustees Correspondence 1961-1964

Series V: Personal Diaries and Scrapbooks 1953-1969

Physical Description: 4 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains diaries and newspaper clippings collected and created by President Wahlquist (1952-1964) during his tenure at San José State University. It also includes Wahlquist's personal datebooks and appointment calendars.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by subject.

Boxes 29-32 Personal Diaries and Scrapbooks 1953-1969

Series VI: Publicity and Speeches 1949-1964

Physical Description: 7 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains materials relating to President Wahlquist's (1952-1964) inauguration in 1952, including newspaper clippings. The series also includes copies of Wahlquist's speeches delivered at events and organizations such as the Industrial Relations Institute and the California Teachers Association.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by subject.

Boxes 33-39 Publicity and Speeches 1949-1964

Series VII: Stanton-Hutchinson Controversy 1959-1966

Physical Description: 4 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series documents the judicial hearings and campus unrest resulting from the wrongful termination suit brought by two SJSU professors, Dr. William F. Stanton and Dr. Bud R. Hutchinson, against the Chancellor of the State Colleges of California, Dr. Glenn Dumke. Stanton and Hutchinson believed the reason they were not re-hired for the fourth and tenure-granting year was non-academic. The professors claimed that the real reason was that they had discovered certain California State College presidents agreeing to exclude Southern students who participated in sit-ins, and also that Stanton and Hutchinson had attempted, as members of the Teachers Union, to obtain more democracy among college departments. Materials in this series document the Stanton-Hutchinson court case with newspaper clippings, legal reports, and petitions. This series also contains reel-to-reel audio tapes of former A.C.L.U. attorney Albert Bendich discussing the case. The tapes are restricted.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by subject and date.

Access Restrictions

Reel-to-reel tapes are restricted.

Boxes 40-42 Newspaper Clippings, Reports and Petitions 1959-1966

Box 43 (V2) Reel-to-Reel Audio Tapes 1961-1964