



Guide to the John S. Wright Faculty Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Wright, John S., 1910-1989
Title:	John S. Wright Faculty Papers
ID:	UA-00103
Date [inclusive]:	1951 to 1975
Date [bulk]:	1955 to 1970
Physical Description:	0.83 Cubic Feet (2 boxes)
Physical Description:	0.84 Linear Feet
Physical Location:	Some materials are stored in the Lied Automated Storage and Retrieval Unit (LASR). Advanced notice may be required to access these materials.
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The John S. Wright Faculty Papers (1951-1975) are comprised of faculty papers from and about Dr. John S. Wright who was considered one of the founding faculty members at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). The collection documents Wright's involvement in establishing UNLV as a separate university from the University of Nevada, Reno. The collection includes memoranda, correspondence, meeting minutes, and reports from different committees Wright was a part of including Academic Council, Faculty Senate, and other ad hoc committees.

Preferred Citation

John S. Wright Faculty Papers, 1951-1975. UA-00103. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

John S. Wright was born in 1910 in Enid, Oklahoma and was raised in Newton, Illinois. In 1931, he earned his bachelor's degree in history and in 1938, his master's degree from the University of Illinois. In 1939, he married Lucille Wilson. Together they had three sons, Thomas, Roy, and John S. Jr. During World War II, Wright served as a United States Army Signal and Intelligence Officer in Europe. Subsequently, he earned his Ph.D. in American history from the University of Chicago. In 1956, he moved to Las Vegas, Nevada to begin his professional career at the Southern Regional Division of the University of Nevada, which eventually became the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). Wright was both a professor of history and the university's first chairman of social sciences from 1958 until 1966. He continued to work at UNLV for nearly 20 years, during which he worked alongside other faculty to help expand the campus. In 1970, he published his book *Lincoln and the Politics of Slavery*. In 1975, he received the UNLV Alumni Association's first Outstanding Faculty Award and retired the following year. In 1986, the Nevada Department of Museums and History named him "Man of the Year." Wright passed away on August 10, 1989 in Las Vegas, Nevada at the age of 79.

Sources:

"History Prof John Wright, UNLV pioneer, dies at 79," *Las Vegas Sun*, August 12, 1989.

"Pioneer UNLV Professor dies," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, August 12, 1989.

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Scope and Contents Note

The John S. Wright Faculty Papers (1951-1975) are comprised of faculty papers from and about Dr. John S. Wright who was considered one of the founding faculty members at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). The collection documents Wright's involvement in establishing UNLV as a separate university from the University of Nevada, Reno. The collection includes memoranda, correspondence, meeting minutes, and reports from different committees Wright was a part of including Academic Council, Faculty Senate, and other ad hoc committees.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged alphabetically.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research, with the exception of materials that are restricted to protect personally identifiable information. Restrictions are noted at the file level of this inventory and will be open for research use January 1, 2048.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were received periodically by UNLV Special Collections and Archives; accession number 2020-023.

Processing Note

In 2021, Tammi Kim accessioned the collection and created the finding aid in ArchivesSpace. In 2021, as part of HIST 752, Sana Azim processed the collection and updated the finding aid.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Dr. John S. Wright oral history interview, 1977 February 26. OH-02028. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Faculty
- Universities and colleges--Nevada
- Educators
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas -- History

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers	
Academic Council, 1965 to 1966	box 01	folder 01
Accreditation report, 1957	box 01	folder 02
Autonomy for Southern Regional Division, 1961	box 01	folder 03
Chancellor's Committee on the Study of ROTC, 1967 to 1968	box 01	folder 04
Correspondence, 1962 to 1970	box 01	folder 05
Electoral and Convention reform, 1968 to 1971	box 01	folder 06
Enrollment, 1951 to 1966	box 01	folder 07
Faculty colloquium, 1965	box 01	folder 08
Faculty Senate, 1968 to 1969	box 01	folder 09
Faculty Senate Ethics Committee, 1974 to 1975	box 01	folder 10
Grievance Committee: case and appeal, 1972 to 1973 Restricted: Materials are restricted to protect personally identifiable information and will be open for research use on January 1, 2048. Restricted materials are housed in Box SH-047.	box SH-047	
Legal position of the University of Nevada as an agency of the government of the State of Nevada, 1963	box 01	folder 12
Microfilm of Nevada newspapers project, 1963 to 1964		

box 01 folder
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Nevada Southern University: Committee on Faculty Reorganization, 1965 to 1966	box 02	folder 01
Pearsall tenure matter, 1970	box 02	folder 02
President's Ad-Hoc Committee on developing the university, 1971	box 02	folder 03
Social science research, 1966 to 1971	box 02	folder 04
University Ad-Hoc Committee on Faculty Reorganization, 1965 to 1966	box 02	folder 05
University Council Subcommittee on Codes, 1960 to 1961	box 02	folder 06
University Council Subcommittee on Faculty Code and 1925 Regulations, 1959 to 1960	box 02	folder 07
University of Nevada Committee to Study Faculty Organization, 1957 to 1959	box 02	folder 08