

Guide to
MS 001
The University of Texas at El Paso Graduate Council
records

1977 – 2017 Span Dates,
1998 – 2012 Bulk Dates,

5 feet, 7 inches (linear)

Processed by Abbie Weiser
January 23, 2009; April 2014; October 7, 2014; December 12, 2014; July 14, 2015;
March 2017

Transferred by the University of Texas at El Paso.

Citation: The University of Texas at El Paso Collection, Graduate Council records, 1977 – 2017, MS 001, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso

Biography or Historical Sketch

Created by Senate Bill 183, the State School of Mines and Metallurgy was founded in 1913 due to El Pasoans' requests for a school to train mining engineers and metallurgists to help support the local mining and smelting industries. In 1914 the State School of Mines opened on land and buildings east of Ft. Bliss that were formerly occupied by the El Paso Military Institute. University of Texas Regents named Stephen Worrell as the first dean. On its official opening day, September 23, 1914, twenty-seven male students enrolled in the School. By 1916 two women, Ruth Brown and Grace Odell, also enrolled. Later that year a fire destroyed the School's main building and the campus relocated to land donated by El Pasoans in the Sunset Heights area. After viewing British explorer's Jean Claude White's photographs of the Kingdom of Bhutan in the April 1914 issue of *National Geographic*, Kathleen Worrell, wife of the dean, recommended that the new campus adopt Bhutanese-style architecture because of the similarities between Bhutan's and El Paso's landscapes. Construction on the new buildings began in 1917, and by the end of the 1910s, enrollment grew to over a hundred students.

During the 1920s the school's name was changed to the College of Mines and Metallurgy, El Paso and it merged with El Paso Junior College. This merger caused enrollment to increase to 400 students. The 1920s also saw the establishment of several student life traditions, including the creation of the *Flowsheet* yearbook and Homecoming. In 1931 John G. Barry became the College's first president, though financial troubles from the Great Depression put the College at risk for closure. Despite the difficult economic environment of the 1930s, the College continued to expand. An athletic field was constructed in 1933 (named after longtime dean and professor John W. "Cap" Kidd), and the Centennial Museum opened on campus in 1937. Three years later, the University of Texas Regents approved the creation of the College's first graduate degree (the Master of Arts).

World War II caused many changes at the College of Mines as enrollment declined significantly as young men and women served in the military and in wartime industries throughout the early 1940s. Young women were also encouraged for the first time to take classes in male-dominated fields, such as engineering, to help alleviate worker shortages. After the war ended in 1945 and the passage of the GI Bill of Rights, returning servicemen and women increasingly attended college, and the College of Mines' enrollment reached 2,000. Because of the large number of veterans attending the College of Mines, the school established housing for married veteran students and their families in an area called "Vet Village." In 1949 the College's name changed to Texas Western College of the University of Texas.

The 1950s – 1970s brought several important developments to the campus. As Texas Western College, the school added several buildings to the campus, including Magoffin Auditorium, the Science Building, the Women's Gym, and Miners Hall during

the early 1950s. In 1952 Texas Western Press was founded by printer Carl Hertzog, and in 1953 the Schellenger Research Laboratory was created. Moreover, in 1955 Texas Western College became the first white Texas public college to admit African American students after a lawsuit was filed by Douglass School student Thelma White who was denied admission because of her race. Highlights from the 1960s and 1970s include: the training of the nation's first Peace Corps class in 1961, the construction of Sun Bowl Stadium in 1963, winning the NCAA national championship under Coach Don Haskins in 1966, and protests by MECHA and La Mesa Directiva against school policies and practices in 1971. Texas Western College changed its name to the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in 1967, and during the late 1960s a Chicano Studies program was established. In 1974 UTEP started offering its first doctoral degree – in Geological Sciences.

Throughout the 1980s – 2000s UTEP continued to expand as both undergraduate and graduate enrollment dramatically increased. The new six-story library was completed in 1984, and in 1988 Dr. Diana Natalicio became UTEP's first woman president. In 2004 UTEP celebrated its 90th anniversary and will celebrate its centennial in 2014. As of 2010 UTEP has over 20,000 registered students and is divided into eight colleges: the College of Business, the College of Education, the College of Engineering, the College of Health Sciences, the College of Liberal Arts, the School of Nursing, the College of Science, and the University College.

[Sources: UTEP web site; UTEP Collection, MS 001]

Series Description or Arrangement

This series was left in the order found by the archivist [primarily chronological order]. Later accretions are in chronological order.

Scope and Content Notes

The University of Texas at El Paso Graduate Council records date 1977 – 2017, bulk 1998 – 2012. Types of records include minutes, memorandum, correspondence, and reports.

Provenance Statement

Transferred from the University of Texas at El Paso.

Restrictions

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the University of Texas at El Paso Graduate Council records, must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, The University of Texas at El Paso Graduate Council records, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

This series is part of the University of Texas at El Paso Collection, MS 001.

See also:

Staff Council records, MS 001.

Faculty Senate records, MS 001.

Container List

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6	3	Minutes, 3 of 3	1977 – 1979
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1	2	Memorandum with action reports, attachments	March 18, 1986 – June 23, 1987
1	3	Memorandum with action reports, attachments	July 18, 1988 – May 16, 1989
1	4	Memorandum with action reports, attachments	September 19, 1989 – April 9, 1990
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1	7	Memorandum with action reports, attachments	November 22, 1989 – February 15, 1993
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1	9	Memorandum with action reports, attachments	April 30, 1993 – May 12, 1993
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1	12	Research and Graduate Committee	1994
1	13	By-laws revision, election of May 10, 1994	June 8, 1994
1	14	Memorandum with action reports,	September 1994

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5	10	Memorandum and action reports	2009
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14	8	Memorandum, action report	November 13, 2013
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14	10	Memorandum, action report	September 4, 2014
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15	4	Proposal, courses approved forms	Marc, May 2012
15	5	Proposals, Intelligence and National Security and MAIS	March, April 2012
15	6	Memorandum and minutes	April, June 2012
15	7	Degree Proposal	April 4, 2012
15	8	Memorandum, changes to PhD chemistry plan	June 11, 2012
15	9	Memorandum	July 17, 2012
15	10	Memorandum and support materials	2012
12	1	Degree Proposal Approval Page	February 14 – June 18, 2014
12	2	Degree Proposal Approval Page	March 27 – June 18, 2014
12	3	Graduate Curriculum Change Memorandum	April 8, 2014
12	4	Memorandum, Master of Accountancy	February 13, 2014

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12	5	Memorandum on Certificate of Accountancy	February 13, 2014
12	6	Minutes	May 7, 2014
12	7	Memorandum with action report	June 16, 2014
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12	9	Degree Proposal Approval Page – Changes to PhD in Rhetoric and Composition	October 29, 2013 – June 9, 2014
12	10	Degree Proposal Approval Page	October 29, 2013 – June 9, 2014
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15	12	Memorandum with action report	January 20, 2016
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15	14	Action report, addendum	March 3, 2016
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