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4-11-2024

### 75th Anniversary Steering Committee records

Arkansas State University - Jonesboro

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Finding Aid of

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# 75TH ANNIVERSARY STEERING COMMITTEE RECORDS

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1911-1987

UR 006

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Archives & Special Collections  
Arkansas State University  
Dean B. Ellis Library  
P.O. Box 2040  
State University, AR 72467  
Phone Number: 870-972-2960  
[archives@astate.edu](mailto:archives@astate.edu)  
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## Summary Information

<b>Compiled By:</b>	Matthew Mayton, April 11, 2024
<b>Creator:</b>	75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Steering Committee; Ruth Hawkins; Mildred Vance; Larry Ball; William Clements
<b>Date:</b>	1911-1987; Bulk, 1982-1985
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2.5 linear feet. The collection consists of 50 folders in 3 document boxes and 1 scrapbook in 1 oversize box.
<b>Language:</b>	English

## Abstract

Arkansas State University designated April 1, 1984 through April 1, 1985 as the period where the majority of events were to occur for the university's 75th anniversary. In 1983, university president Ray Thornton established the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Steering Committee to help coordinate and implement the various celebratory activities. This collection consists of material pertaining to the planning of Arkansas State University's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and publication of *Voices from State* by the steering committee.

## Acquisition

This collection was transferred to Archives & Special Collections on May 16, 2013 from Arkansas State University Centennial Office. Further additions are not expected.

## Processing Information

This collection was processed by Matthew Mayton and completed in March 2024.

## Conditions Governing Access

This manuscript collection consists of physical materials. This collection has not been digitized. This collection is open for research use only in the Reading Room. It is not available for request through Interlibrary Loan. Please contact the archive via email ([archives@astate.edu](mailto:archives@astate.edu)) at least a week in advance of your arrival to ensure the availability of the material.

## Rights Statement

Standard copyright laws (U.S Title 17) apply.

## Preferred Citation

75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Steering Committee Records, Item Name and Date, Box and Folder Numbers, Archives and Special Collections, Dean B. Ellis Library, Arkansas State University.
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## Historical Note

Arkansas State University established April 1, 1984 through April 1, 1985 as the time frame for the vast majority of official activities to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of Act 100 of 1909, which established Arkansas State University. To help coordinate and implement the various events with the Office of Development and Public Relations, university president Ray Thornton established the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Steering Committee in 1983. Several university personnel were appointed to the committee including Dr. Ruth Hawkins, who chaired the committee, and Dr. Mildred Vance, who was the co-chair. The committee also worked on designing and publishing *Voices from State: An Oral History of Arkansas State University* to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## Scope and Content Note

The Arkansas State University 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Steering Committee Records consists of materials pertaining to the committee's planning of the university's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary events from April 1984 to April 1985. This collection also consists of materials related to the publication of *Voices from State: An Oral History from Arkansas State University*.

## Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three series.

Series 1: Celebration. The "Celebration" series contains materials related to the steering committee's planning the various 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary events from April 1984 to April 1985. Materials include the preliminary inquiry for an anniversary event, correspondence, contracts, newspaper articles, and event material. This collection is arranged chronologically.

Series 2: *Voices from State*. The "*Voices from State*" series pertains to materials related to the publication of *Voices from State: An Oral History from Arkansas State University*. Folders are arranged chronologically.

Series 3: Scrapbook. The "Scrapbook" series contains a single scrapbook containing programs, articles, and other materials pertaining to the university's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. All material is left in its original order.

## Related Materials

Researchers interested in this collection may also be interested in the following collections held by Archives & Special Collections:

- Mid-South Center for Oral History: This is a collection of interviews primarily conducted by Dr. Larry Ball, Dr. William Clements, and Dr. Michael Dougan to preserve the memory of Northeast Arkansas. Numerous individuals related to the history and development of Arkansas State University were used in *Voices from State*.
- Arkansas State University Board of Trustees Records: This collection primarily consists of minutes and supporting documents from the Board of Trustees meetings from 1901 to 2020.
- Arkansas State University Faculty Senate Records: This collection primarily consists of minutes and supporting documents from the Faculty Council/Faculty Senate meetings from 1954 to 2012.

- Eugene W. Smith Collection: Eugene Smith was the eighth president of Arkansas State University. This collection contains highlights of his career and his contributions to Arkansas State University.
- Carl R. Reng Collection: Carl R. Reng was the fourth president of Arkansas State University. This collection contains highlights of his career and his contributions to Arkansas State University.

Other materials in Archives & Special Collections holdings may relate to this topic. Please contact Archives & Special Collections at [archives@astate.edu](mailto:archives@astate.edu) for further research assistance.

## Separated Materials

The following items were removed from this collection:

- Original release agreements for the oral history interviews were removed and placed in the interviewees' Mid-South Center for Oral History files. Photocopies were made and placed in this collection.
- A copy of *Voices from State: An Oral History of Arkansas State University* was removed. Copies of this book are available in the Dean B. Ellis Library's General Collection and in Archives & Special Collection's Arkansas Collection.
- A Fall 1980 issue of *Insights* was removed and placed in Arkansas State University Vertical File Collection in Archives & Special Collections.
- Material in an envelope marked "1953 Building Survey" was removed and placed in Arkansas State University Vertical File Collection in Archives & Special Collections under the title "ASU-Buildings-Engineering Report, 1953".

## Subjects

- Anniversaries, etc.
- Celebration
- Committees
- Correspondence
- Diamond anniversary
- Interview transcripts
- Oral history
- Planning
- Publication--book
- Special events
- Special events--Planning

## Names

- Arkansas State University
- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Steering Committee
- Hawkins, Ruth, Dr.
- Ball, Larry, Dr.
- Clements, William, Dr.

- Smith, Eugene W., Dr.
- Thornton, Ray
- Vance, Mildred, Dr.
- Jonesboro (Ark.)
- Little Rock (Ark.)

## Collection Inventory

### Series 1: Celebration

#### Box 1:

Folder Number	Folder Name	Dates
1	History	undated
2	Awards Program Proposal	1979
3	Image Crafting Drafts	Circa 1981
4	Ben Combs Correspondence	1982 December – 1984 June
5	AY 1983-1984 Event Calendar	1983 January
6	Preliminary Inquiry	1983 March – 1983 August
7	Suggestions for 75th Anniversary	Circa 1983
8	Committee Appointments	1983 August
9	Committee Correspondence, Notes, and Lists	1983-1985
10	Zambelli International Fireworks Manufacturing Company Promotional Material	Circa 1983
11	Zambelli International Fireworks Manufacturing Company Program	1984
12	Anniversary Statement	Circa 1984
13	1984 Special Events Schedule for Board of Trustees	1984 February 24
14	Greater Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce Newsletter	1984 April
15	Special Issue of the <i>Jonesboro Sun</i>	1984 April 1
16	Opening Ceremony	1984 April 1
	Conditions Governing Access: Photographs are present in this folder and are housed in envelopes. Gloves must be worn to access photographs.	
17	Little Rock Reception	1984 April 2
	Conditions Governing Access: Photographs are present in this folder and are housed in envelopes. Gloves must be worn to access photographs.	
18	Faculty Follies Committee	1984
19	Reception	1985 January 25
20	Student Organization Processing Convocation of Scholars	1985
21	Festival of Lights	1985 April 19
22	Additional Events Programs	1984-1985
23	Newspaper Articles	Circa 1984-1985

24	Laser Systems Development Corp. Agreement and Bill	1985
25	Thank You Correspondence	1985 April

### Series 2: *Voices from State*

#### Box 2:

Folder Number	Folder Name	Dates
26	Oral History Background	1979
27	75th Anniversary Book Proposal	1980 August 28 – 1984 January 1
28	Correspondence	1980 July 8 – 1987 October 27
29	Advisory Committee	1983 March – 1983 September
30	To Do List	1984 January 1
31	Release Agreements for Interviews	1979 May 22 – 1984 June 2
	Note: The original release agreements were removed and placed in the interviewees' Mid-South Center for Oral History files. Photocopies were made and placed in this folder.	
32	Interview Excerpts: Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Nedrow	1983 June 28
33	Interview Transcript: Ray Thornton	1984 January 27
34	Interview Transcript: Mark Lewis	1984 June 2
35	Release Agreements for Photos	1983 July 31 – 1985 January 23, undated
36	Contacts and Materials for Photos	undated
37	Photocopies of Unused Photos	undated

#### Box 3:

Folder Number	Folder Name	Dates
38	Photographs	
	Conditions Governing Access: Photographs are present in this folder and are housed in envelopes. Gloves must be worn to access photographs.	
39	Photocopies of Kays Material	1911 August – 1949 September
40	Original Draft	Circa 1983
41	Cutline Revisions	Circa 1983
42	Design Contract: Ed Conner	1984 May 24 – 1984 June 8
43	Cover Concept Sketch	Circa 1984
44	Bid Specification	1984 December 18, undated
45	Copy of <i>Voices from State</i> with Notes	1984



<b>46</b>	Pamphlets	Circa 1984
<b>47</b>	Complimentary Copy Distribution List	1985 April 3 – 1986 September 25
<b>48</b>	Eugene Smith Remarks	1985 April 19
<b>49</b>	Complimentary Copy Thank You Correspondence	1985 April 22 – 1985 September 25
<b>50</b>	Expenditures	1985

### Series 3: Scrapbook

#### *Box 4:*

##### **Dates**

Circa 1984-1985