

Inventory of the

Board of Trustees

Records

in the

Northern Illinois University Archives

UA 3

INTRODUCTION

The University Archives acquired the Board of Regents/Trustees records in several installments beginning in the mid-1960's, and continues to add minutes and reports generated by each Board meeting. There are no restrictions on access to the records.

43 boxes
23 linear feet
1895+

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Governor John Altgeld appointed a Board of Trustees for the proposed Northern Illinois State Normal School in 1895. The board's responsibilities included appointing instructors, fixing their salaries, and defining their duties as well as removing any faculty after giving ten days notice of the charge against them and an opportunity for defense. In addition, the Board decided on the text books, apparatus, and furniture to be used in the school and made regulations necessary for managing the institution. In July, 1917, the Illinois Senate reorganized Northern's Board of Trustees and the boards of the other four State Normal Schools in the state into a single Normal School Board.

The Normal School presidents disliked the new Normal School Board because it increased bureaucratic "red tape." The presidents' grievances included the lengthy preparation of financial forms, difficulties in the civil service regulations, and delays in the construction of buildings. Under the old boards, the presidents had more administrative control; they could use various fees to pay bills, meet emergencies, and raise salaries without listing it in the budget or securing board approval. Unfortunately, the presidents' complaints came to naught; the board's powers increased over the years.

In 1941, the Normal School Board became the Teachers College Board in an effort to reflect the new teachers college status of the Normal Schools. The name changed again in 1965 to the Board of Governors of State Colleges and Universities. On July 1, 1967 Northern Illinois University, Illinois State University, and Sangamon State University came under the jurisdiction of a newly created Board of Regents. This board, as with previous governing agencies, was empowered to approve or disapprove any actions taken by the Universities to alter faculty, curricula, facilities, or budget. This Board for the three Universities was dissolved at the end of 1995. Starting on January 1, 1996 Northern Illinois University established its own Board of Trustees to govern its activities.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

These records are divided into five record series, but two deserve special mention. Series I contains the by-laws, policies and regulations which govern the board's activities. Also included are biennial reports and proceedings of meetings detailing actions taken by the board. Series II comprises the Executive Officers Reports. These reports include an update on the Board of Regents office personnel and record information on union negotiations, enrollment, class size, internal budgets, faculty teaching loads, payroll procedures, and institutional development. The next two series comprise reports, budgets, committee records, and publications. Series V contains material on the Board of Trustees established in 1995. The Board of Regents "Commemorative Report 1967 -1995" is located in Box 1. Researchers using this collection should also look at the "President's Report to the Board" (1932-) found in UA 4, President's Office Records (boxes 347-352).

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
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Series I: By-Laws, Governing Policies, Regulations, and Proceedings

1	1	Senate Bill No.2 Establishing Northern, 1895
	2	Annual Report, 1895-1896; Boehm Litigation, 1897
	3	Minutes, Trustees, June 1902
	4	Legislation Regarding Governing Boards, 1917-1967
	5	Legislation Re: Name Changes, 1955-1957
	6	Legislation, 1967
	7	Governing Policies & Regulations, 1950-1960
	8	By-Laws, Governing Policies, & Practices, 1961-1970
	9	Governing Policies, 1971-1984
	10	Regulations, 1943-1977
	11	Annual Reports, 1991-1995
1A	12	Regulations, Obsolete, 1943-1977
	13	Governance Documents, 1994
2	2 vols.	Biennial Reports, 1900-1916
	3 vols.	Proceedings, 1917-1925
3-7A	50 vols.	Proceedings, 1925-1977
7B-D	1-19	Board of Regents Minutes, 1977-1995
8	1-3	Summaries of Actions Taken at the Meetings, 1962-1969

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<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
8	4-18	BOR Meetings - Supplementary Material, 1967-1978, 1980, 1993-1995
	19	BOR Events of 1994-1995: BOR vs JEL; Groves Firing; BOR Demise
	20	Board of Regents, Separate Board for NIU, 1989

Series II: Executive Officers Records

Executive Officers'/Chancellor's Reports:		
9-12F	25 vols.,	1951-1978
	37 folders	1978-1995

Series III: Reports, Budgets, and Committee and Council Records

13	1	Board Reports, 1956-1970
	2-3	N.I.S.N.S. Account Books, 1895-1917
14	1	Appropriations Requests, 1972-1973
	2	Council of Presidents, Minutes, (1958-1968)
	3	Reports of the Legal Counsel, 1966-1968
		Ad Hoc Committees:
	4	Governance, Hearing Statements, 1968
15	1	Governance, Hearing Statements, ISU, 1968
	2	Salary Justice, 1980
	3	Illinois Supreme Court Case, 1942
		Joint Faculty Policy Committee:
	4	Minutes, (1960-1969)
	5	Reports and Policies, 1965-1968
16	1	Various Committee Reports, (1950-1970)
	2	Affirmative Action Committee, 1974

Series IV: Publications:

3	News Releases, 1964-1971
4	Report of the Chancellor's Task Force on Minority Concerns, 1986
5-6	<u>Illinois Board of Regents Newsletter/Regency Report, (1981-1995)</u>
7	<u>Meet the Board,/Directory, 1992-1994</u>

BOX FOLDER DESCRIPTION

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Series V: Board of Trustees, 1995 -

17	1	Candidate Screening - Alumni Association, 1995
	2-5	BOT Candidates, 1995
	6	Board of Trustees, Proceedings, Jan 1. 1996 - June 30, 1997
18A-O	1-	Board of Trustees Minutes, 1996- <i>[most recent Minutes kept behind reference desk]</i>