



*Special Collections/Archives Department
John B. Coleman Library
Prairie View A&M University*

UA0032

The George C. Wright Collection

Compiled by Anny Gaffey, August 2013

Revised by Evelyn Davis, May 2023

The PVAMU Principals and Presidents Collection Finding aid

Collection Overview

Creator: Special Collections/Archives Department staff

Title: The PVAMU Principals and Presidents Collection: George C. Wright Collection

Dates: 1989-2003

Bulk Dates: N/A

Quantity: 3 folders (.25 linear feet)

Abstract: The Edward L. Blackshear Collection includes event programs and photocopies of publications relating to the tenure of Edward Lavoisier Blackshear, fourth principal of Prairie View A & M University (then Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College).

Identification: UA 0032

Use Restrictions: Written permission must be obtained from the Special Collections/Archives Department and all relevant rights holders before publishing quotations, excerpts, or images from any materials in this collection.

Language: The materials are in English.

Repository: Prairie View A&M University

Biographical Note: Dr. George C. Wright (born February 23, 1950) is a scholar, author, educator, administrator, and the seventh President of Prairie View A&M University.

Dr. Wright received his bachelor and Master of Arts degrees in History from the University of Kentucky and his Doctorate in History from Duke University, and in 2004 he was awarded an honorary doctorate of Letters from the University of Kentucky.

Before joining the Prairie View A&M University family, Dr. Wright was an assistant professor at the University of Kentucky in 1977. From 1980 to 1993, he served as an assistant professor, associate professor, professor, and was the holder of the Mastin Gentry White Professorship of Southern History, and vice provost for undergraduate education at the University of Texas at Austin. In 1993, he joined the faculty at Duke University as vice provost for university programs and director of the Afro-American studies program at Duke University. At Duke, he also held the William R. Kenan, Jr., Chair in American History. He also served as executive vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of

Texas at Arlington. Prior to assuming that post, he was provost and vice president for academic affairs from 1995 to 1998.

Dr. Wright is the author of many articles, essays, and books, including:

- *A History of Blacks in Kentucky: Volume II, In Pursuit of Equality, 1890-1980*
- *Racial Violence in Kentucky, 1865-1940: Lynchings, Mob Rule, and "Legal Lynchings"*
- *Life Behind a Veil: Blacks in Louisville, Kentucky, 1865-1930*

He was presented the Governor's Award by the Kentucky Historical Society for *Racial Violence in Kentucky* and *Life Behind a Veil*.

Active in his community, Dr. Wright has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the City of Arlington Chamber Foundations and the Medical Center of Arlington. He has also served as a member of the Editorial Board for the Southern Biography Series at Louisiana State University, the Board of Editors of the Journal of Southern History and the Southern Historical Association Program Committee. Dr. Wright became the seventh president of Prairie View A&M University in 2003, and during his tenure student numbers have increased from 6,500 to 9,000. He currently travels the country interacting with the alumni and fundraising for the capital campaign for scholarship for students, for endowment for professors, for a new student recreational center, and finally the building of a sports complex.

Sources: None.

Scope and Contents Note

The George C. Wright Papers consist of news clippings, printed materials, and subject files by and relating to Dr. Wright, his family, and his tenure as President of Prairie View A & M University. News Clippings are made up of printed news articles. Printed materials consist of programs, a flyer, and a mailing, all in reference to Dr. Wright's inauguration as president. Subject files currently consist of documents regarding funeral information for Dr. Wright's daughter Rebecca.

Arrangement

News clippings and printed materials are all arranged chronologically. The subject files are not yet arranged.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

The George C. Wright Collection, UA0032, Special Collections/Archives Department, John B. Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University

Related Material: Related material may be found in the Special Collections/Archives Department Vertical Files. Ask a member of the SCAD staff for assistance. A photograph of Professor Blackshear can also be found in the Mabel Kilpatrick Papers (R3).

Index Terms

Prairie View Normal and Industrial College (Prairie View, TX)
African American educators.
Educators – United States.
Prairie View (TX).
Wright, George C.

Inventory

Box #	Folder#	Title/Description	Date
		Series 1: News Clippings, 1989-2005	
2	1	Untitled	1989-2005
		Series Two: Photocopies, undated	
2	2	Inauguration flyer	undated
2	2	First Lady Luncheon invitation	undated
2	2	Ecumenical worship service program	undated
2	2	Presidential installation program	undated
		Series Three: Subject Files, undated	
2	3	Wright, Rebecca	undated