

William Oren Trogdon Office of the President Records, 1966-2011: A Guide

Descriptive Summary

Creator: William Oren Trogdon

Title: William Oren Trogdon Office of the President Records, 1966-2011

Inclusive Dates: 1966-2011

Abstract: The collection documents the activities of William Oren Trogdon, who was the president from 1966 to 1982 of Tarleton State College and Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. It also contains materials related to Trogdon's death in 2011.

Identification: UA37

Extent: 0.25 cubic feet

Shelf location: 9:I:3; 7:G:5

Language(s): Collection is predominantly in English.

Repository: Tarleton State University, Dick Smith Library, Archives and Special Collections, Stephenville, Texas

Biographical Note

William Oren Trogdon was born on November 1, 1920 in Caddo County, Oklahoma to Otis H. and Anna Mary (Jackson) Trogdon. He was an agronomist who earned a Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 1949. Before he was appointed as president to Tarleton State College in 1966, he was the director of agronomy at Occidental Agricultural Chemicals Corporation.

During his tenure at Tarleton, Trogdon was instrumental in adding new degree programs to the college schedule including, but not limited to, agricultural education, industrial arts, and medical technology. He administered the creation of the graduate program as well. Trogdon oversaw the renovation and expansion of the College Farm as well as the renovation of Memorial Stadium. Other buildings added to the campus during Trogdon's presidency include, but are not limited to, the Wisdom Gym, Hunewell Dorm, the Humanities and Business Building, and the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. It was also during Trogdon's tenure that the name of Tarleton State College was changed to Tarleton State University. Trogdon retired from Tarleton State University in 1982.

Trogdon married Altha Florene (Flo) Tucker in 1942. They had two children Stephen and Patricia. Trogdon was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the Rotary Club. He died in Stephenville, Texas on January 8, 2011 and was buried in the Gardens of Memory Cemetery.

Sources:

"Directors Meeting: College Heads Picked; Contracts Approved." *The Battalion*, June 30, 1966. Accessed 07/20/2020. <http://newspaper.library.tamu.edu/lccn/sn86088544/1966-06-30/ed-1/seq-1/>.

"Dr. Bill Trogdon." *Stephenville Empire-Tribune* (Stephenville, TX), January 9, 2011.

Tarleton State University. "Dr. William Oren Trogdon, 1966-1982." Office of the President: Past Presidents. Accessed 07/20/2020. <https://www.tarleton.edu/president/past/trogdon.html>

Scope and Contents

The collection documents the activities of William Oren Trogdon, who was the president from 1966 to 1982 of Tarleton State College and Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. It also contains materials related to Trogdon's death in 2011. Some significant topics represented in the files are housing requirements and rules for campus residential living, expansion of enrollment and number of faculty, academic program improvements and additions, cooperation with community entities, student problems and complaints, recruitment of prospective students, and construction of new buildings. An item of interest is a black-and-white photograph showing Texas Governor Dolph Briscoe signing the Texas State Legislature bill changing the name of Tarleton State College to Tarleton State University. Others shown in the photograph are, Ronnie Sulling, Student Body President; W.O. Trogdon, President of Tarleton State University; Joe Autry, Vice President of Tarleton State University; Charles C. Cooke III, Texas State Legislature Representative for Erath County; and Clyde H. Wells, Chairman of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents. The materials are largely textual, comprising correspondence, board meeting minutes and agendas, memorandums, reports, advertisements for contractor bids, campus maps, brochures and flyers, news articles, and ephemera.

Organization

The William Oren Trogdon Office of the President Records, 1966-2011 are organized in three series:

- Series I. Correspondence
- Series II. Campus Expansion
- Series III. Photograph

Rights and Access

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Physical Access Restrictions

None.

Technical Access Restrictions

None.

Publication Rights

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Reproduction Note

Reproductions must be made from surrogates (microfilm, digital scan, photocopy of the original held by Archives/Special Collections, Dick Smith Library, Tarleton State University), when available. Only archives staff may photocopy collection documents.

Index Terms

Persons

Briscoe, Dolph, Jr., 1923-2010
Trogdon, William Oren, 1920-2011

Organizations

Tarleton State College
Tarleton State University

Subjects

College buildings.
College life.
College students.
College students – Education.
Tarleton State University – Buildings.
Tarleton State University – Students.
Universities and colleges – Buildings.
Universities and colleges – Students.

Places

Stephenville, Texas

Administrative Information

Provenance

Transferred to the Dick Smith Library at Tarleton State University from the Office of the President.

Preferred Citation

[Title of file or item], William Oren Trogdon Office of the President Records, 1966-2011, UA37, Box [no.], Folder [no.], Tarleton State University, Dick Smith Library, Archives and Special Collections, Stephenville, Texas.

Processing Information

Finding aid prepared by Phyllis Kinnison, 2020.

Note to the Researcher

The collection is processed, but advance notice is required with time allowed to retrieve the records from an offsite location before conducting research. There may be occasions when staffing or weather conditions delay or prevent retrieval of the records. For more information, contact Librarian/Archivist Phyllis Kinnison at pkinnison@tarleton.edu.

Container List

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series Title and Folder Contents (with dates)</u>
9:I:3	1	1	Miscellaneous, 1966-1982, 2011
		2	Campus expansion, 1969
		3	Correspondence, 1966-1968
		4	Correspondence, 1970-1982
		5	Correspondence (foreign students), 1979-1981
		6	Correspondence (students general), 1971-1979
		7	Correspondence (regional medical office), 1975-1976
		8	Correspondence (students, prospective), 1971-1979
		9	Correspondence (system), 1976-1978
		10	Correspondence (system), 1981
		11	New buildings, 1967-1968
		12	Photograph – signing the bill changing the name of Tarleton State College to Tarleton State University, June 13, 1973
7:G:5	2	1	Campus map, 1968