

Extent: 6 2/3 cubic feet

Inclusive Dates: 1962-1996

Bulk Dates: 1980-1991

Provenance: Student Government office through the Records Center.

Restrictions: 3 folders of financial material are restricted.

Processing: Stephanie Adams, processing archivist, and Kelley Jancaitis, student assistant, 2001.

History:

The present system of student government was a relatively late addition to Clemson University life. Prior to 1950 limited student authority resided with the Senior Council, made up of 9 seniors, and largely related to matters of conduct. The Y.M.C.A. came closest to being an independent student organization, administering the religious activities on campus and publishing the student handbook. Although a constitution was drawn up in 1950 that established a form of government similar to the one today, it was not until 1955, when Clemson ceased to be a military school, that student self-government was able to flourish.

Clemson Agricultural College, as it was called at the time, suffered from a series of student walkouts in its early years. These protests, which occurred in 1902, 1908, 1920, and 1924, were triggered by conflicts with the administration, particularly about matters of cadet discipline. In July of 1924 President Earle presented to the board of trustees a petition by the student body to establish a student government to represent their interests. The trustees did not act on it, and the proposal foundered. Shortly after, in the fall of 1924, 500 students walked out in protest over the dismissal of a fellow cadet for alleged drinking. The action resulted in the dismissal of nearly 200 students, and an aftermath of considerable negative publicity for the college. Alumni writing to President Earle repeatedly cited the lack of student government as one of the key issues behind the walkouts.

On June 1, 1926, *The Tiger* published a "Constitution of Student Government," drawn up by all of the class councils and approved by the entire student body. The students were designated the Brotherhood of Tigers and would be represented by members of their class councils. The plan included the creation of a judicial arm, the Investigating Board and Courts, which would gather evidence and act as a trial court in matters of student discipline. In 1941 the Senior Council wrote a draft "Constitution for the Student Body of Clemson College." It detailed policies and rules, and provided that student representatives would work with the trustees and other school officials. However, there is little or no evidence that any of these early incarnations went beyond the drawing up of a constitution.

Spring of 1950 saw the creation of still another constitution. This finally established a fully representative form of student government, with executive, legislative and judiciary branches. By 1952 it looked much like the student government of today. There were three branches: Executive Committee, Student Assembly and a judicial arm that continued to be administered by the Senior Council. In the mid-1960's the attorney general and court seats became elected positions.

In addition to the high court two special courts were created during this time to deal specifically with housing rules and freshman. Men and women were subject to

different dormitory regulations regarding curfews, going off campus, and having visitors. A separate women's residence court was established to deal with problems that arose. The freshman, or "Rat" Court, was also created at this time to preside over violations of "Rat" regulations and traditions. The "Rat" system derived from customs handed down from Clemson's military school heritage, and was intended to instill school spirit through various activities devised and supervised by upperclassmen. The need for these special courts declined as specific restrictions concerning women were lifted and the "Rat" traditions discontinued towards the end of the 1960's. By 1969 only two courts remained, the High Court and the Court of Lesser Appeals.

Along with changing status from a military school to a civil institution in 1955, two other events had a significant impact on the student body. The first was the decision to admit women, which also occurred in 1955. The second was the desegregation of Clemson College in 1963 with the admission of Harvey Gantt into the architecture program. This latter event was particularly notable for the lack of violence or disruption that attended it, unlike many schools in the south. In 1974, just over 10 years after Clemson was desegregated, Reginald Brantly became the first African-American president of the student government. Much later, Tracy Malcolm became the first woman president in 1990.

Over time the student government has been responsible for a variety of services to the campus community. For a number of years it was responsible for the library copiers, rental of dorm refrigerators, and campus shuttles. It also created a legal aid program in the mid-1970's that gave students vouchers for short, reduced rate meetings with local attorneys. Committees provide student oversight of homecoming, parking, and Greek affairs, among many other areas. In addition, student government is responsible for allocating funding to recognized campus organizations.

Scope and Content:

These records are arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within subjects. Not all of the topics are ongoing, and of the ongoing projects or offices not all are complete. Record keeping appears to have varied widely depending on the individual officers, hence the unevenness in the amount of material available. The records in this collection date from 1962 through 1996; however, the majority of the information contained here is from the 1980's.

The three major groups of materials that relate to the day-to-day working of student government are found in Judicial Branch, President of the Student Body, and Student Senate. The records of the student government are a rich source of information about the changing interests and concerns of the Clemson student body. These are particularly visible in the bills, resolutions, and minutes of the student senate. Some topics are perennial – parking, the autonomy of student government, dorm rules. Others demonstrate a more specific context of time and place. Issues like race and student protests appear in the 1960's and 70's. During the 1980's alcohol and drug policies and AIDS are topics discussed by the student government. Committee and topic files are also a good source for information about specific activities and concerns.

Subject Headings:

Clemson University-Student Government
 Clemson University-Student Life
 Clemson University-History

Folder Inventory

Box No.	Folder No.	Folder Title
1	1	Administrative and Support Organizational Structure Task Force, December 1992-July 1994
	2	Administrative and Support Organizational Structure Task Force, July 1994
	3	Administrative and Support Organizational Structure Task Force, August-September 1994
	4	Outside Advertisers on Campus, 1982-83
	5	AED Gaps Service, 1981
	6	Agendas-Student Government Meetings, 1981
	7	AIDS Policy 1986-88
	8	Alcohol Awareness, 1984, 1986-87, 1990
	9	Alcohol Policy, 1987-90
	10	Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 1983
	11	Alumni Advisory Service
	12	Alumni National Council, 1980, 1982, 1987-89
	13	Alumni-Student Body Presidents, 1989-91
	14	Amphitheater Renovation, 1977-78
	15	Athletic Council, 1980-81, 1990
	16	Bar-b-que Grills, 1981
	17	Basic Living Seminars
2	1	Board of Visitors, 1981,1986-87
	2	Bowl Ticket Distribution, 1978, 1980-81
	3	Brackett Hall Budget and Finances
	4	Budget Reports, 1984-90, 1994
	5	Budget Requisition, 1981
	6	Budget Status Reports, 30 April 1980, August 1982-October 1983
	7	Budget Status Reports, 10 April 1983
	8	Budget Status Reports, November 1983-June 1984
	9	Deposits, 1983-84
	10	Deposits, 1985
	11	Deposits, 1986
	12	Emergency Funding, 1979-87
3	1	General, 1975, 1977, 1980-89

2	General, 1990, 1993
3	Honoraria, 1989-90, 1994
4	Transfers of Funds, 1977, 1984, 1987-88, 1994
5	Trip Requests, 1983-85
6	Cheerleaders, 1989
7	Collegiate Brotherhood for Youth, 1984
	Committees
8	Academic Affairs Committee, 1968, 1983
3	Committees
9	Academic Calendar Committee, 1981-82, 1991
10	Academic Scheduling Committee, 1981
11	Activities Committee, 1983-84, 1987
12	Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Regulations, 1979-81
13	Ad Hoc Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 1979
14	Ad Hoc Committee on the Handicapped, 1984, 1990
15	Ad Hoc Committee on Student Evaluations of Teachers, 1981
16	Ad Hoc Committee on Student Government Self- Study, 1983
17	Advising, Committee on, 1979-80
18	Alcohol and Drug Abuse Committee, 1990
19	Committee Appointments, 1965-90
20	Centennial Committee, 1984-85
21	Centennial Committee, 1986-87, 1989
4	
1	Construction and Infrastructure Committee, 1993
2	Downtown Committee, 1990-91
3	Environmental Committee, 1992-94
4	Facilities Planning Committee, May-November 1986
5	Facilities Planning Committee, December 1986
6	Facilities Planning Committee, January-May 1987
7	Facilities Planning Committee, June-December 1987
8	Facilities Planning Committee, January-August 1988
9	Facilities Planning Committee, September-October 1988
10	Facilities Planning Committee, November- December 1988

	11	Facilities Planning Committee, January-February 1989
	12	Finance Committee, 1974-86
	13	Finance Committee, 1987-89
5		
	1	General Affairs Committee, 1965-66, 1968
	2	Graduation Ceremony Committee, 1987, 1990
	3	Greek Liaison Committee, 1983, 1986-87, 1990
	4	Inauguration Committee-Max Lennon, 1986
	5	Intramural Transfer Committee, 1982
5		Committees
	6	Johnstone Hall Renovation Committee, 1988
	7	Joint City/University Advisory Committee, 1985-89
	8	Joint City/University Advisory Committee, 1990-91
	9	Judiciary Committee, 1966
	10	Organizations Committee, 1968, 1976-78, 1980-88, 1990-91, 1994
	11	Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Search Committee, 1979-80
	12	PR and Communications Committee, 1982-84
	13	Research and Development Committee, 1976-78, 1981, 1983
	14	Research and Development Committee, 1984, 1987-91, 1993
	15	Safety and Fire Prevention Committee, 1980
	16	Self-Study Committee, 1990
	17	Social Awareness Committee, 1990-91
	18	Steering Committee, 1977-78, 1983-88, 1990
6		
	1	Student Activities Centennial Committee, 1984
	2	Student Housing Planning Committee, 1978
	3	Student Performance Center Ground-Breaking Committee, 1990-91
	4	Traffic and Parking Committee, 1966, 1974-78
	5	Traffic and Parking Committee, 1979-80
	6	Traffic and Parking Committee, 1981-82
	7	Traffic and Parking Committee, 1984-88
	8	Traffic and Parking Committee, 1989-90
	9	University Bookstore Committee, 1988
	10	University Housing Committee, 1978, 1981, 1983-84
	11	Vending Machine Committee, 1980-82, 1984
	12	Vending Machine Committee, 1986
	13	Vending Machine Committee, January-April 1987
	14	Vending Machine Committee, May-December 1987

7	1	Vending Machine Committee, 1988
	2	Vending Machine Committee, 1989, 1991
	3	Who's Who Selection Committee, 1982, 1988
	4	Conferences, 1977, 1990-91
	5	Constitution and Bylaws, 1956-71
	6	Constitutional Amendments, 1962-90
	7	Correspondence-General, 1965-71, 1975-76, 1978, 1983, 1987-90, 1993, 1995
7		Councils
	8	Dorm Council, 1980
7		Councils
	9	Executive Council, 1980-84, 1990-91
	10	Minority Council, 1980-81, 1985-89
	11	Minority Council, 1990
	12	Minority Council-Scholarships, 1973-74, 1978
	13	President's Advisory Council, 1989-90
	14	Crosswalk-Highway 93, 1980, 1983
8	1	Deans and Department Heads
	2	Dining Services, 1977-81, 1989-90
	3	Diploma, Change of Style, 1977-78, 1980-81
	4	Earle Hall Phone, 1983-84
	5	Elections, 1975-91
	6	Emergency Funding, 1982, 1984, 1987
	7	Emergency Medical Service (EMS), 1981
	8	Excellence in Teaching, 1994
	9	Excellence in Teaching, 1994
	10	Excellence in Teaching, 1994
	11	Executive Cabinet, 1988-89
	12	Executive Cabinet Retreat, 1990
	13	Faculty Senate, 1980, 1988, 1990-91
	14	Fall Break, 1980-81
	15	First Friday Parade, 1981-1982
9	1	Foreign Student Visas, 1982
	2	Forms, 1982-94
	3	Fraternities, 1989
	4	Gamecock Article, 1981
	5	General Education, 1987
	6	Golf Course, 1979
	7	Graduate Students, 1976, 1981, 1983, 1990
	8	Homecoming, 1981, 1984, 1990
	9	Honors Program, 1990

	10	International Students, 1983, 1986-88
	11	IPTAY Student Advisory Board, 1984, 1986-88, 1990-91
		Judicial Branch
	12	Attorney General, 1985-88
	13	General, 1981-88
	14	Handbook
	15	Judicial Conference/Workshop, 30 August 1980
	16	Junior Staff, 1986-89
	17	Key Policy, 1979
	18	Library-Extension of Hours, 1975-79
	19	Media Heads, 1982
9	20	Media Training
	21	Miscellaneous, 1976-96
	22	Newspaper Clippings, , 1977, 1989, 1994
	23	Office Policies
	24	Organizational Chart, 1986
10	1	Orientation, 1978, 1980-83
	2	PAMOJA, 1974, 1980
	3	Parking Task Force, 1993
	4	Payroll Handbook, 1985
	5	Post Office, 1980-82
	6	Post Office, 1988
	7	President's Statewide Advisory Group, 1980-81
		President of the Student Body
	8	Correspondence, 1966, 1971-75
	9	Correspondence, 1976-78
	10	Correspondence, 1981-82
	11	Correspondence, 1983
11		
	1	Correspondence, 1984
	2	Correspondence, 1985-89
	3	Correspondence, 1990-91, 1993-95
	4	Executive Assistant, 1977, 1983-84, 1986-89
	5	Legislative Package, October 1977
	6	Miscellaneous, 1977, 1985-90
	7	President's Cabinet, 1962, 1968, 1971-75, 1978
	8	President's Cabinet, 1980-83
	9	President's Cabinet, 1984-85
12		
	1	President's Cabinet, 1987-90
	2	President's Cabinet, 1991-95
	3	President's Cabinet Workshop, 1980

		Publications
	4	Clemson Organizations, 1987-88
	5	CUSG Newsletter, 1976, 1981-83
	6	Ephemera, 1977-78, 1986, 1989, 1992, 1994
	7	Rat Pact, The, 1965-66, 1968-70
	8	Senate Minute, The, 1983
	9	Student Voice, The, 1990
	10	Teacher/Course Evaluations, 1975
	11	Redfern Health Center, 1977-81
	12	Registration, 1987-90
	13	Residence Halls, 1971, 1977-90
	14	Residence Halls-Lofts Task Force, 1984, 1989
	15	Rock Concerts on Campus, 1980
12	16	Secretary, 1977-88
	17	Secretary, 1990
	18	Security, 1978, 1980-81
13	1	Sororities, 1981, 1983
	2	South Carolina Association of Student Governments, 1973, 1975-76
	3	South Carolina Student Association, 1982-83
	4	South Carolina Student Body President Association, 1976
	5	South Carolina Student Government Association, Historical Sketch, 1977
	6	South Carolina Student Legislature, ca 1981
	7	Speakers Bureau, 1983-85 Special Projects and Events
	8	General, 1982-84
	9	Grass Roots Student Opinion Poll, 1981
	10	Kiosk Clean Up, 1986
	11	Organizations Day, 1986-88
	12	Shoe Sale, 1981
	13	Spirit Blitz, 1984
	14	Visitor's Center, 1979-82
	15	Voter Registration, 1984
	16	Stadium Bond, 1977-May 1980
	17	Stadium Bond, June-December 1980
	18	Stadium Expansion, 1981
	19	Strom Thurmond Institute, 1981, 1983-84, 1988-89
	20	Student Affairs, Commission on, 1978, 1981
14	1	Student Affairs, Commission on, 1982-84, 1986-87
	2	Student Buying Power Card, 1975, 1977, 1981
	3	Student Development, 1989-91
	4	Student Forum, 1982

		Student Government
	5	Correspondence, 1973-75, 1989-91
	6	Progress Report, 1975
	7	Referendum, 1980
	8	Retreats, 1978, 1980-84
	9	Student Insurance Policy, 1980-81
	10	Student Life, Executive Board on, 1982
		Student Senate
	11	Attendance, 1963-68
	12	Bills, 1962-65
	13	Bills, 1963-68
	14	Bills, 1969-70
15		Student Senate
	1	Bills, 1971-72
	2	Bills, 1973-75
	3	Bills, 1976-81
	4	Bills, 1982-83
	5	Bills, 1984-89
	6	Bills, 1990-95
	7	Handbook, 1981-82, 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89
	8	Legislative Summaries, 1971-82
	9	Legislative Package, 1978-79
	10	Minutes, 1962-64
	11	Minutes, 1965-66
16		
	1	Minutes, 1967
	2	Minutes, 1968-69
	3	Minutes, 1970-72
	4	Minutes, 1973-74
	5	Minutes, 1975-76
	6	Minutes, 1977-80
	7	Minutes, 1981
	8	Minutes, 1982-83
17		
	1	Minutes, 1984-86
	2	Minutes, 1987
	3	Minutes, 1988-91, 1996
	4	Miscellaneous, 1965-95
	5	Parliamentary Procedure, 1977-81
	6	President, 1974-76, 1979, 1982-86
	7	Pro Tempore, 1983-88
	8	Resolutions, 1962-68

Student Government**Records, 1962-1996****Series 69**

	9	Resolutions, 1969-72
	10	Resolutions, 1973-75
18		
	1	Resolutions, 1976-77
	2	Resolutions, 1978-79
	3	Resolutions, 1980
	4	Resolutions, 1981
	5	Resolutions, 1982-83
	6	Resolutions, 1984-87
	7	Resolutions, 1988-89
	8	Resolutions, 1990-91, 1993, 1995-96
19		
	1	Roster, 1962, 1966, 1975-88
	2	Rules and Amendments, 1966-67, 1976-91
19		Student Services, Department of
	3	Copiers, 1976-80
	4	Copiers, 1982-83
	5	Copiers, 1984
	6	Copiers, 1985, 1988
	7	General, 1976-83
	8	General, 1984-89
	9	Income and Expenses, 1981-84
20		
	1	Legal Aid, 1971-84
	2	Legal Aid, 1985-86
	3	Shuttle Bus Service, 1977, 1980-90, 1993-94
	4	Student Traffic Review Board
	5	Student Union, 1974-76, 1980, 1989
	6	Tillman Hall Renovation, 1978
	7	Tuition and Fees, 1977, 1980-82
	8	Treasurer, 1983-84, 1987-96
	9	Undergraduate Studies, Commission on, 1981, 1992-93
	10	University Recording Society, 1981, 1983
	11	Vice President of the Student Body, 1975-77, 1983-84, 1987-88, 1994-95
21 – Restricted		Budget and Finance
	1	Honoraria and Payroll, 1981-88
	2	Travel, 1985-94
	3	Trip Requests, 1982-84