



ArchivesSpace

a community served by †Lyrasis

Cox Commission records13599768

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 13, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Historical Note	3
Summary	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Controlled Access Headings	6
Collection Inventory	6
Series I: Exhibits	6
Series II: Printed Materials	11
Series III: Testimony before the Fact Finding Commission	13

Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Columbia University. Fact Finding Commission
Title:	Cox Commission records
ID:	13599768
ID:	UA#0151
Date [inclusive]:	1957-1971
Physical Description:	7 linear feet 7 record cartons
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Cox Commission records (Box and Folder numbers), University Archives, Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Columbia University Libraries.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Historical Note

Organized at the request of the Executive Committee of the Faculty, the Fact Finding Commission was composed of five members and chaired by Harvard law professor Archibald Cox. The Cox Commission, as it became known, was given the mandate to establish a chronology of events leading up to and including the Columbia crisis, and to inquire into the underlying causes of those events. The Commission held twenty-one days of hearings starting in May 1968, heard testimony from seventy-nine witnesses, and compiled 3,790 pages of transcript. The [report, published in a paperback edition on September 26, 1968](#), stressed the lack of effective channels of communication between administration, faculty, and students, and endorsed implicitly the Executive Committee's idea for a representative University Senate.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Summary

This collection consists of the work conducted by the Fact Finding Commission appointed to investigate the disturbances at Columbia in April and May 1968. The materials include the audio-tapes, unorganized and uncorrected transcripts, and the final transcripts of the testimony from the hearings held from May 7 to July 25, 1968. There are also the general exhibits used in the hearings and a collection of printed materials (newspapers and magazines) covering the events of 1968.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three series: Series I: Exhibits; Series II: Printed Materials; and Series III: Testimony before the Fact Finding Commission.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.

New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Revision Description

Full finding aid published (JR) 2022-06-03

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Conditions Governing Access

The RBML cannot provide access to original time-based media material which has not been first been reformatted for preservation. Researchers are welcome to examine archival time-based media items and decide whether they wish to place an order for Audio/Video reformatting. If copyright and/or condition restrictions apply, it may not be possible to digitize a requested item. Please note that A/V reformatting is handled by an outside vendor and typically takes 6-8 weeks.

Accruals

No additions are expected.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The records were transferred from the Cox Commission in October 1968 and from Office of the Secretary in 1987.

Processing Information

This collection was processed by Joanna Rios in June 2022.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Materials

You can find the Cox Commission final report, Crisis at Columbia report of the Fact-Finding Commission appointed to investigate the disturbances at Columbia University in April and

May, 1968, both in [paperback](#) and [online](#). For related materials, please consult the [1968 Crisis research guide](#).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Columbia University -- Student strike, 1968
- Columbia University -- Administration
- Columbia University -- History
- Cox, Archibald, 1912-2004

Collection Inventory

Series I: Exhibits

Scope and Contents

This series contains the general exhibits used in the hearings and/or the materials gathered by the Cox Commission as part of their research before the hearings. This series includes correspondence, handwritten notes, clippings, and publications.

Title/Description	Instances	
Administrative Announcements, 1968 April-June	box 1	folder 1
Alumni Federation, 1968 August	box 1	folder 3
Alumni for a New Columbia, 1968 May-July	box 1	folder 2
Amnesty, 1968	box 1	folder 4
Scope and Contents		
"The Question of Amnesty"		
Applied Social Research, Bureau of, 1968 June	box 1	folder 5
Scope and Contents		
Report on "Student and Faculty Response to the Columbia Crisis"		
Arrests, 1968 May-July	box 1	folder 7
Articles from magazines and newspapers, 1965-1968	box 1	folder 8
Betanzos, Amelia, 1968	box 2	folder 33

Black Students, 1968	box 1	folder 9
Scope and Contents		
"Position of Black Students in Nat Turner Hall"		
Bloustein, Edward, 1968 May	box 1	folder 6
Scope and Contents		
"The New Student and His Role in American Colleges," lecture by the Bennington College President		
Board of Estimate Resolution re: Columbia Expansion and Columbia's Response, 1965-1968	box 2	folder 34
California, University of, Los Angeles (UCLA), 1968 May	box 1	folder 10
Scope and Contents		
"At the Crossroads: The Government of the University of California"		
Chronology, 1968	box 1	folder 11
Clippings (magazines and newspapers), 1967-1968	box 1	folder 12
Columbia University - Charters and Statutes, 1968 March	box 1	folder 14
Columbia University - External Activity, Report on, 1968 April-May	box 1	folder 15
Columbia University Student Council, 1965-1968	box 1	folder 16
Communications with Community re: Gym, 1967-1968	box 2	folder 35
Concerned Parents, 1968 May-July	box 1	folder 17
Correspondence, 1968 May-June	box 1	folder 18
Cox Commission, 1968 August	box 1	folder 19
Curriculum, 1966-1968	box 1	folder 20
Scope and Contents		
Articles		
Disciplinary Affairs, Joint Committee on, 1968 May-August	box 1	folder 21
Discipline, 1968 May-July	box 1	folder 22
Engineering, School of, 1968 April-May	box 1	folder 23
Etzioni, Amitai, 1968	box 1	folder 24
Faculties' Meeting - Minutes, 1968 April 28	box 1	folder 32
Faculty - Ad Hoc Faculty Group, 1968 April-May	box 1	folder 25
Faculty - Independent Faculty Group, 1968 May-June	box 1	folder 29

Faculty - Joint Faculty Committee, 1968 April	box 1	folder 30
Faculty - Junior Faculty, 1968 May	box 1	folder 31
Faculty Civil Rights Group, 1967-1968	box 1	folder 27
Faculty, Advisory Committee of, 1968 June	box 1	folder 26
Faculty, Executive Committee of, 1968	box 1	folder 28
Farnsworth, Dana L., 1967	box 1	folder 33
Scope and Contents		
"Quality of Life Within the University"		
Fayerweather Hall, 1968	box 1	folder 34
Filter, 1967	box 1	folder 35
Scope and Contents		
Science Vol. 157, No. 3788, August 4, 1967. On page 520, "Columbia and Its New Filter: Smoke Over Morningside Heights."		
Ford Foundation, 1967	box 1	folder 36
Scope and Contents		
Columbia Spectator articles		
Frankel, Rita V., 1968 July	box 1	folder 37
Galanter, Eugene, 1968 June	box 1	folder 38
Goldman, Rabbi A. Bruce, 1967-1968	box 1	folder 39
Graduate Students' Union, 1968	box 1	folder 40
Greenman, Richard, 1968 July	box 1	folder 41
Gym - Appraisal, 1959-1968	box 2	folder 36
Gym - Pictures, 1968	box 2	folder 37
Scope and Contents		
Site and gymnasium model		
Gymnasium, 1959-1968	box 3	folder 2
Hamilton Hall, 1968 May-July	box 1	folder 42
Harris, Marvin, 1968 May-June	box 1	folder 43
Heller, Jacob E., 1968 May	box 1	folder 44
Henkin Report, 1968 May	box 1	folder 45

Scope and Contents

Henkin Committee Report

Hoving, Thomas, 1968	box 3	folder 7
Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) - Columbia, 1967-1968	box 3	folder 3
Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) - Protests, 1966-1968	box 3	folder 4
Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) - Reports, 1967-1968	box 3	folder 5
Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) including Princeton Report, 1968	box 3	folder 6

Scope and Contents

Lung Exhibits

Kahn, Proctor William E., 1967 February	box 1	folder 46
Kirk, Grayson L., 1966-1968	box 1	folder 47
Lang, Serge, 1968	box 2	folder 1
Langsam, David, 1966	box 2	folder 2
Law, School of, 1968 May	box 2	folder 3
Lawsuits, 1968	box 2	folder 4
Low Library, 1968	box 2	folder 5
Mathematics Building, 1968	box 2	folder 6
Matthews Report, 1966	box 2	folder 7
McGuire Exhibits 1-38, 1968 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 2	folder 41-42
McKay, Bob, West Harlem Community Organization, 1968	box 2	folder 32
Medical Reports, 1968	box 2	folder 8
Moore, Emily re: Student Petition on Gym, 1968 June 12	box 2	folder 38
Morningside Heights, 1965-1967	box 2	folder 9
Olinger, Chauncey, 1958-1968	box 3	folder 8
Packer, Herbert L., 1968	box 2	folder 10
Platt, Alexander, 1964-1968	box 2	folder 11
Raffel, Stanley, 1965	box 2	folder 12
Recruitment, 1967	box 2	folder 13
Reisner, Edward, 1965-1968	box 2	folder 14
Releases, Outline of April 23-30, 1968	box 2	folder 15

Restructure, Recommendations, 1968 June	box 2	folder 16
Rudd, Mark, 1968 May	box 2	folder 17
Schilling, Warner R., 1968	box 2	folder 18
Site Documentation, 1961-1967	box 2	folder 43
Scope and Contents		
Lease, preliminary architectural specifications, gymnasium agreement, permit, amendment of lease (including sublease.		
Smith, Dean Kenneth	box 2	folder 19
Scope and Contents		
Empty		
Smith, Dwight, Morningside Renewal Council, 1968	box 2	folder 39
Stephens, Roderick, President of the Columbia College Class of 1906, 1967-1968	box 2	folder 40
Strike Coordinating Committee, 1968	box 2	folder 20
Strike Demands, 1968	box 2	folder 21
Student Council Exhibits, 19698	box 3	folder 1
Student Life, Committee on, 1967-1968	box 2	folder 22
Student Releases, 1967-1968	box 3	folder 9
Student Survey, 1968 April	box 2	folder 23
Student Telegrams, 1968 May	box 2	folder 24
Students for a Restructured University, 1968	box 2	folder 25
Students for Columbia University, 1968	box 2	folder 26
Truman, David D., 1967-1968	box 2	folder 28
Trustees, 1968 May-September	box 2	folder 29
Tuition - Deferred Plan, 1966-1967	box 2	folder 27
Unidentified, 1968	box 2	folder 43
Scope and Contents		
Notes, clippings, newsletters, pamphlets, etc.		
University Reform - Bibliography, circa 1968	box 2	folder 30
Wallenstein, Immanuel, 1966-1968	box 2	folder 31
WNBT's "The Columbia Crisis" excerpts, 1968 May	box 1	folder 13
WNBT's "The Columbia Crisis" transcript, 1968 May	box 4	folder 11

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series II: Printed Materials

Scope and Contents

This series contains a collection of printed materials (newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, flyers, etc.) covering the events of 1968. The publications are both local and national.

Title/Description	Instances	
Pamphlets and Magazines		
1199 Drug and Hospital News, 1968 November	box 4	folder 10
American Mathematical Society Offprints, 1968	box 3	folder 10
Scope and Contents		
"The Confinement of a Russian Mathematician" and "Mathematical Life in North Vietnam"		
Berkeley: The New Student Revolt by Hal Draper, 1965	box 3	folder 11
Columbia College Report for the Years 1964-1966 by David Bicknell Truman, Dean, 1966	box 3	folder 12
The Community and the Expansion of Columbia University: A Report of The Faculty Civil Rights Group at Columbia University, 1967 December	box 3	folder 13
The Faculty Handbook, 1968	box 3	folder 14
The Graduate Faculties Bulletin, 1967-1968	box 3	folder 15
Harvard Alumni Bulletin, 1968 September	box 4	folder 1
King's Crown Essays, Volulme XV, No. 1, Spring, 1968	box 3	folder 16
Life Magazine, 1968 May	box 7	
The New Leader "Columbia in Turmoil", 1968 May 20	box 3	folder 17
The New Republic, 1968 June	box 4	folder 2
New York Magazine "The Diary of a Revolutionist", 1968 May 27	box 3	folder 18
New York Times Magazine, 1968 July 14	box 7	
Newsweek, 1968 May	box 4	folder 3
Oberlin College, 1967 December	box 4	folder 4
Pace, 1968 August	box 7	
The Plain Truth, 1968 June	box 4	folder 5
A Pocket Guide to Columbia University, circa 1965	box 3	folder 19

Psychiatry and Social Science Review, 1968 July	box 4	folder 6
Ramparts, 1968 June	box 4	folder 7
The Role of the Trustees of Columbia University, 1957	box 3	folder 20
Saturday Review, 1968 June-August	box 4	folder 8
Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) Flyers and Newspapers, 1967-1968 <u>Physical Description</u> : 3 folders	box 3	folder 21-23
Time, 1968 June and 1970 May	box 4	folder 9
The University Student Handbook, 1967-1968	box 3	folder 24
U.S. News and World Reports, 1968 December 30	box 3	folder 25
Why We Strike, Published by the Columbia Strike Committee, 1967-1968	box 3	folder 26
Win Magazine, 1969-1970	box 3	folder 27
Wooster Alumni Magazine, 1968 October	box 3	folder 25
Newsletters, pamphlets, etc., 1968-1970 Scope and Contents Includes Columbia and non-Columbia publications: School of Social Work's Peace Action Bulletin, May 2nd Movement, SLS, Yale, New York Regional Office of the Movement for a New Congress, Commonweal, The Militant, etc.	box 4	folder 12
Clippings from magazines and pamphlets, 1965-1968	box 4	folder 13
Newspapers		
Barnard Bulletin, 1968 May	box 4	folder 14
Columbia Law School News, 1968 May	box 4	folder 15
The Columbia Owl, 1968 May	box 4	folder 16
Columbia Spectator, 1967 June-September	box 4	folder 17
Columbia Spectator, 1967 October	box 4	folder 18
Columbia Spectator, 1967 November	box 4	folder 19
Columbia Spectator, 1967 December	box 4	folder 20
Columbia Spectator, 1968 January-February	box 4	folder 21
Columbia Spectator, 1968 March	box 4	folder 22
Columbia Spectator, 1968 April-October	box 4	folder 23
Local and National Newspapers, 1968-1971 <u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders	box 4	folder 24-25

Scope and Contents

Columbia Free Press, The Hard Core (SDS), New America, Student Mobilizer, Manhattan Park West, People's America Daily News, Revolutionary Student, Nightsounds, Guardian, Westside News, etc.

Student protest clippings, 1968

box 7

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series III: Testimony before the Fact Finding Commission**Scope and Contents**

This series contains the audio-tapes, unorganized and uncorrected transcripts, and the final, bound transcripts of the testimony from the hearings held from May 7 to July 25, 1968, including an [index to the testimony books](#). There is also a selection of bound reports and transcripts related to the events.

Title/Description**Instances**

Cox Commission Transcripts (bound copies)

Scope and Contents

Proceedings of the Fact Finding Commission before Professor Archibald Cox, Chairman; Professor Anthony Amsterdam, Hon. Simon H. Rifkind, Dr. Dana Farnsworth, and Professor Hyland Lewis. Prepared by Professional Reporting Services. Please note that there is no transcript of Book VII.

Books I-III, pages 1-208, 1968 May	box 4	folder 26
Books IV-V, pages 209-572, 1968 May	box 4	folder 27
Book VI, pages 573-797, 1968 May	box 5	folder 1
Books VIII-IX, pages 998-1431a, 1968 May	box 5	folder 2
Books X-XI, pages 1433-1861, 1968 May-June	box 5	folder 3
Book XII, pages 1862-2137, 1968 June	box 5	folder 4
Books XIII-XIV, pages 2138-2507, 1968 June	box 5	folder 5
Books XV-XVI, pages 2508-2985, 1968 June	box 5	folder 6
Books XVII-XIX, pages 2986-3418a, 1968 July	box 5	folder 7
Books XX-XXI, pages 3419-3789a, 1968 July	box 6	folder 1
Index to Testimony Before the Fact Finding Commission, 1968 August	box 6	folder 2
<u>Digital Object: Index to Testimony Before the Fact Finding Commission, 1968 August</u>		

Related Transcripts and Reports

Alumni Recommendations for the Future Government and Operation of Columbia University, 1968 August	box 6	folder 3
Charters and Statutes of the University, 1968 March	box 6	folder 4
Columbia University in the City of New York: An Old Partnership, 1968	box 6	folder 5
Committee on Student Life: Majority and Minority Reports, 1967 August	box 6	folder 6
A Draft Proposal on Changes in the Basic Structure of the University, 1968 December	box 6	folder 7
Scope and Contents		
Cresap, McCormick and Paget		
The Functions and Operation of the University Council, 1959	box 6	folder 8
Scope and Contents		
"Burns Report"		
Grossner Case (Morris Grossner v. Trustees of Columbia University), 1968	box 6	folder 9
Henkin Report on Outside Agencies, 1968 May	box 6	folder 10
Scope and Contents		
"the investigation, formulation and statement of principles for guidance in the University's relations with outside agencies."		
Systems Study by Price, Waterhouse, 1962-1966	box 6	folder 11
Scope and Contents		
Financial administration		
Unorganized and Uncorrected Testimony		
Scope and Contents		
This is an incomplete, duplicative set of transcripts with the label "Unorganized and uncorrected Testimony" on the front covers.		
Uncorrected Book I, 1968	box 6	folder 12
Uncorrected Book IV (Incomplete), 1968	box 6	folder 13
Uncorrected Book VIII, 1968	box 6	folder 14
Uncorrected Book XIV, 1968	box 6	folder 15
Uncorrected Book XV, 1968	box 6	folder 16

Uncorrected Book XVI, 1968	box 6	folder 17
Uncorrected Book XVII, 1968	box 6	folder 18
Uncorrected Book XVIII, 1968	box 6	folder 19
Uncorrected Book XIX, 1968	box 6	folder 20
Uncorrected Book XX, 1968	box 7	
Uncorrected Book XXI, 1968	box 7	
Fact Finding Commission Audio Tapes, 1968	box 7	

Physical Description: 29 open reel audiotapes

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

The RBML cannot provide access to original time-based media material which has not been first been reformatted for preservation. Researchers are welcome to examine archival time-based media items and decide whether they wish to place an order for Audio/Video reformatting. If copyright and/or condition restrictions apply, it may not be possible to digitize a requested item. Please note that A/V reformatting is handled by an outside vendor and typically takes 6-8 weeks.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)