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School of Journalism Founding Documents 9463856

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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>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Columbia University. Archives
Title:	School of Journalism Founding Documents
ID:	9463856
ID:	UA#0183
Date [inclusive]:	1892-1912
Date [bulk]:	1903-1904
Physical Description:	0.42 linear feet 1 document box
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Correspondence, printed materials, drafts and copies of agreements relating to the establishment and initial organization of Columbia University's School of Journalism.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); School of Journalism Founding Documents; Box and Folder; University Archives, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

The School of Journalism was established through monies left to Columbia University in the will of Joseph Pulitzer who passed away in 1911. As he wrote in his will "There are now special schools for instruction for lawyers, physicians, clergymen, military and naval officers, engineers, architects and artists, but none for the instruction of journalists. That all other professions and not journalism should have the advantage of special training seems to me contrary to reason." [pp. 3-4"Extracts from the Will of Joseph Pulitzer, died, October 29, 1911"]. The original agreements regarding the establishment and organization of the school were made in 1903 and 1904, but the school did not actually open until 1912 -- a year after Pulitzer died. The School of Journalism began as an undergraduate school offering a B.Litt.

Degree to its graduates, but in 1935 the School became the first in the nation to adopt a program exclusively at the graduate level.

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Summary

Correspondence, printed materials, draft agreements and copies of final agreements. The bulk of the correspondence relates to various aspects of how to establish this new School of Journalism. Some correspondence makes suggestions regarding curriculum, others are applications or recommendations for teaching positions, some are invitations and acceptances of Advisory Board positions and others are about the negotiations with Joseph Pulitzer. Among the notable names that can be found in these files of correspondence are Franz Boas, John William Burgess, Nicholas Murray Butler, James M. Cattell, Charles Eliot (President of Harvard University), George Homer (Mr. Pulitzer's lawyer who wrote up the agreements), Frederick Keppel, Seth Low, Joseph Pulitzer, John Pine, George D. Rives. In the alphabetical correspondence files, there is a typescript copy of a letter written from Nicholas Murray Butler to President Theodore Roosevelt (28 July 1903) asking Roosevelt to join the Advisory Board.

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Arrangement

The files are arranged in one series. The bulk of the correspondence dates from 1903-1904 and is arranged alphabetically, as it was originally found. Other correspondence was already separated by who wrote to whom, so that arrangement has also been maintained. This means one will find correspondence for certain individuals in the general alphabetical file as well as in a name specific file.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

xml document instance created by Jocelyn Wilk. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2012-06-09 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Accrual

No additional are expected.

Ownership and Custodial History

Materials were originally found within Historical Subject Files Collection.

Processing Information

Papers processed Jocelyn Wilk 8/--/2006.

Processing Information

Finding Aid written Jocelyn Wilk 8/--/2006.

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Related Materials

Selected Related Material at Columbia University

[Central Files, 1890-1984 \[Bulk Dates: 1890-1983\]](#)

Selected Related Material at Columbia University

[Graduate School of Journalism Photographs, 1918-2002](#)

Selected Related Material at Columbia University

[Graduate School of Journalism Records, 1912-1999](#)

Selected Related Material at Columbia University

[Historical Subject Files, 1870s-2012. \[Bulk Dates: 1968-1972\]](#)

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Controlled Access Headings

- Agreements
- Correspondence
- Memorandums
- Press releases
- Butler, Nicholas Murray, 1862-1947
- Eliot, Charles William, 1834-1926
- Pulitzer, Joseph, 1847-1911
- Columbia University
- Columbia University. Graduate School of Journalism

Collection Inventory

Series I: Founding Documents	
Title/Description	Instances
Advisory Board Memos, 1903	box 1

Agreements, 1903-1904	box 1
Committee on the Organization of the School of Journalism, ca. 1904	box 1
Correspondence (A-K), 1903-1912	box 1
Correspondence (L-Z), 1903-1912	box 1
Correspondence -- N.M. Butler and Dr. George Homer, 1903	box 1
Correspondence -- N.M. Butler and Bradford Merrill, 1903	box 1
Correspondence -- N.M. Butler and Joseph Pulitzer, 1903	box 1
Correspondence -- John B. Pine, 1903	box 1
Correspondence -- George L. Rives, 1903-1904	box 1
Information from Other Journalism Programs, 1903-1904	box 1
Points Submitted to Mr. Pulitzer at Baden-Baden, 1892-1893	box 1
Press Release, 1903	box 1

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