

**Gettysburg College
Musselman Library, Special Collections
Records Management Program**

Record Group: RG 2.0.6 Office of the President
Office: President William Anthony Granville (1910-1923)

Biography:

William Anthony Granville (1864-1943) was unanimously elected the sixth president of Gettysburg College by the Board of Trustees on June 14, 1910. An active Lutheran, he was the first layman to serve as president. After teaching mathematics at Bethany College in Kansas and serving as their treasurer, he attended Yale University where he earned a bachelor of philosophy in 1893 and a doctor of philosophy in 1897. While still a student there, he embarked on a 15 year teaching career serving on the university's mathematics faculty.

Granville is noted for many positive changes he effected while at Gettysburg College, one of only the more noteworthy ones being that the college was one of 22 Pennsylvania institutions to appear on the first list of accredited colleges and universities issued by the Middle States Association in 1921. It was during his presidency that the name of the institution was officially changed from Pennsylvania College of Gettysburg to Gettysburg College.

Although he was generally respected by students and faculty, especially for his skill as an instructor in the classroom, Granville experienced two waves of controversy during his tenure and resigned in 1923.

Scope and Content Notes

The bulk of the Granville papers consist mainly of correspondence from the later years of his presidency arranged chronologically and alphabetically. Much of this correspondence relates to the admissions process consisting of routine responses to requests for catalogues, admission and financial aid. Of some note is a series of letters between Granville and John F. Dapp, chair of the Board of Trustees, relating to the Board investigation of Granville's controversial decision in the spring of 1922 to dismiss two instructors, one being a department chair, and the subsequent hiring of replacements. Most of the other papers generated while he was in office were lost in the flood of 1996. The collection includes material from his inauguration in 1910, a promotional publication in 1916 to increase enrollment, a 1922 report to the Board of Trustees, a financial statement relating to the Million Dollar Fund Campaign, and his mathematics lecture notebook.

Box 1 of 3: Correspondence 1914-1921

- 1-1 Rhodes Scholarship Examination 1912
- 1-2 Correspondence 1914 C
- 1-3 Correspondence 1917-1918 A
- 1-4 Correspondence 1917-1918 B
- 1-5 Correspondence 1917-1918 D

1-6 Correspondence 1917-1918 E

The 'E' folder contains a photocopy of letters to and from D.D. Eisenhower. (Originals are in RG 2.4 Presidential Papers – Eisenhower.)

1-7 Correspondence 1917-1918 F
1-8 Correspondence 1917-1918 G
1-9 Correspondence 1917-1918 H
1-10 Correspondence 1917-1918 I
1-11 Correspondence 1917-1918 J
1-12 Correspondence 1917-1918 K
1-13 Correspondence 1917-1918 L
1-14 Correspondence 1917-1918 M
1-15 Correspondence 1917-1918 N
1-16 Correspondence 1917-1918 O
1-17 Correspondence 1917-1918 P
1-18 Correspondence 1917-1918 Q
1-19 Correspondence 1917-1918 R
1-20 Correspondence 1917-1918 S
1-21 Correspondence 1917-1918 T
1-22 Correspondence 1917-1918 UV
1-23 Correspondence 1917-1918 W
1-24 Correspondence 1917-1918 XYZ
1-25 Correspondence 1919-1921 A
1-26 Correspondence 1919-1921 B
1-27 Correspondence 1919-1921 C
1-28 Correspondence 1919-1921 D
1-29 Correspondence 1919-1921 E
1-30 Correspondence 1919-1921 F
1-31 Correspondence 1919-1921 G
1-32 Correspondence 1919-1921 H
1-33 Correspondence 1919-1921 I
1-34 Correspondence 1919-1921 J
1-35 Correspondence 1919-1921 K
1-36 Correspondence 1919-1921 L

Box 2 of 3: Correspondence 1919-1924

2-1 Correspondence 1919-1921 M
2-2 Correspondence 1919-1921 N
2-3 Correspondence 1919-1921 O
2-4 Correspondence 1919-1921 P
2-5 Correspondence 1919-1921 QR
2-6 Correspondence 1919-1921 S

- 2-7 Correspondence 1919-1921 T
- 2-8 Correspondence 1919-1921 UV
 - The 'UV' folder there is a transcript of a speech Andrew Voldstead made at Gettysburg College
- 2-9 Correspondence 1919-1921 W
- 2-10 Correspondence 1919-1921 XYZ
- 2-11 Correspondence 1922
- 2-12 Correspondence 1923-1924 A
- 2-13 Correspondence 1923-1924 B
- 2-14 Correspondence 1917-1922 C
- 2-15 Correspondence 1922-1924 D
- 2-16 Correspondence 1922-1924 E
- 2-17 Correspondence 1923-1924 F
- 2-18 Correspondence 1922-1924 G
- 2-19 Correspondence 1922-1924 H
- 2-20 Correspondence 1923 I
- 2-21 Correspondence 1922-1924 J
- 2-22 Correspondence 1922-1924 K
- 2-23 Correspondence 1922-1924 L
- 2-24 Correspondence 1922-1924 M
- 2-25 Correspondence 1922-1924 N
- 2-26 Correspondence 1922-1924 OPQ
- 2-27 Correspondence 1922-1924 R
- 2-28 Correspondence 1922-1924 S
- 2-29 Correspondence 1922-1924 T
- 2-30 Correspondence 1922-1924 UV
- 2-31 Correspondence 1922-1924 W
- 2-32 Correspondence 1922-1924 XYZ
- 2-33 Granville – Dapp correspondence regarding the Board of Trustees investigation of Granville's dismissal of two instructors, June-July 1922
 - June 17, 1922 From Granville to the Investigation Committee outlining the issues, reasons for dismissal, and the process followed in these particular cases
 - June 17, 1922 From Granville to John F. Dapp, chair of the Board, commenting on the investigation process, presenting reasons for the College's failure to qualify for a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, and inclosing suggested questions to be asked of those appearing before the Investigating Committee
 - June 24, 1922 From Dapp to Granville reviewing some matters of college business, announcing that one of the instructors involved had officially resigned, and suggesting probable outcome of the investigation
 - June 28, 1922 From Granville to Dapp accepting the probable outcome of the Investigation Committee, sharing his earlier arrived at intention to resign in June 1923 to be effective July 1, 1924, commenting further about the investigation process, and responding at length to the specifics of some of the allegations
 - June 28, 1922 From Dapp to Granville sending a copy of a lengthy letter received from Professor Parsons supplementing his testimony before the Investigation

Committee

- July 3, 1922 From Dapp to Granville acknowledging receipt of and presentation to the Investigation Committee Granville's response to allegations
- July 5, 1922 From Granville to Dapp commenting further on the nature of some of the evidence presented before the Investigation Committee and responding at great length to the additional allegations presented in the Parsons letter
- July 8, 1922 From Dapp to Granville acknowledging receipt of and presentation to the Investigation Committee Granville's response to the statements in Parsons' letter
- July 10, 1922 From Granville to Dapp enclosing a communication in support of his contention that an engineering professor did have the required degree refuting Prof Parsons' allegation in that regard
- July 11, 1922 from Dapp to Granville clarifying that the Board's expectation regarding the required degree for rank and pay is that the degree should be earned not honorary

Box 3 of 3 Subject Files

- 3-1 Invitations to Granville Inauguration
- 3-2 Inauguration Programs, including printed copies of the addresses given
- 3-3 Pennsylvania College of Gettysburg Bulletin 1916-1917 (Promotional Publication)
- 3-4 President's Reports to the Board of Trustees - July 1921 (including a rationale for changing the official name of the college to Gettysburg College) and June 1922
- 3-5 Million Dollar Fund Campaign
- 3-6 Official Announcement of Name Change to Gettysburg College
- 3-7 Granville Biographical Material
- 3-8 Miscellaneous
- 3-9 Mathematics Lecture Notes

For more information about President William Granville:

VFM-17: Bikle, Philip M. 2 letters to Dr. Bikle from William Granville describing his concern about an inappropriate performance to be taken on the road, representing Gettysburg. 16 Feb 1913 and 18 Feb 1913. ALS-8pp.

Revised May 2010