

MEBA Archival Collection

Finding Aid - Dr. Garrett T. Wiggins Collection (MS_0012)

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Language of description: English

MEBA Archival Collection

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<http://meba.famuedu/index.php/dr-garrett-t-wiggins-collection>

Dr. Garrett T. Wiggins Collection

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Summary information

Repository:	MEBA Archival Collection
Title:	Dr. Garrett T. Wiggins Collection
Reference code:	MS_0012
Date:	1930 - 1971 (creation)
Physical description:	.5 Linear Feet
Language:	English

Scope and content

"The nation's first Black junior college, Booker T. Washington Junior College, opened in Pensacola, Florida, in 1949 on the campus of all-black Booker T. Washington High School. The two institutions shared a name, a building, and an administrator: Dr. Garrett T. Wiggins.

Dr. Garrett T. Wiggins was, at the time, the only educator in all of northwest Florida with an earned doctorate, and he served as founding (and only) president and dean of the college and principal of the high school and was known as "the smartest man in the county."

Before landing at Booker T. Washington, Wiggins served on the faculty at Florida A&M University. He's remembered as "an educational catalyst, dedicated to the concept that black children must realize the importance of receiving an education."

Booker T. Washington Junior College provided many Black students with a foundation to transfer into Bethune-Cookman College, Edward Waters College, and Florida A&M University with a solid foundation in teaching, medicine, law, and theology.

In 1965, Booker T. Washington "merged" with then Pensacola Junior College, and Wiggins went on to serve as Pensacola Junior College's Director of Research until his retirement. However, many argue the school was effectively closed, as Pensacola Junior College did not make a great effort to include the Booker T. Washington's students or faculty into the fabric of the institution."

<https://a2arnett.medium.com/february-10-remembering-dr-garrett-t-wiggins-and-booker-t-washington-junior-college-b1b3d85bf650>

Notes

Arrangement

A preliminary survey was done on the collection and the records were in good condition. Rusting hardware was removed from the papers, and the records were placed in acid-free folders. A descriptive listing of the item level was created, and the materials were added to the Black Archives Junior College Collection

under the G.T. Wiggins title. The records were put in alphabetical order, and the letters were placed chronologically.

Restrictions on access

Open

Conditions governing use

All rights reserved. Using any part of these collections, objects, and photographs transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, or stored in a retrieval system without the prior written consent of MEBA is an infringement of the copyright law.

Related material

The record types in this collection included photographs, letters, certificates, awards, programs, books/ dissertations.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Civil Rights (subject)

Series descriptions

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
Box MS_0012-01: Garrett T. Wiggins			
<u>Creator:</u> Garrett T. Wiggins			
<u>Date:</u> 1930-1971 (creation)			
<u>Physical description:</u> .5 Linear Feet			
<u>Publication status:</u>			
Published			
File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
MS_0012-01-Folder 01	File - Articles	1947	
MS_0012-01-Folder 02	File - Awards, Certificates and Honors	1949-1985	
MS_0012-01-Folder 03	File - Biographical Data		

MS_0012-01- Folder 04	File - Correspondence - General	1928-1932
MS_0012-01- Folder 05	File - Correspondence - General	1942-1949
MS_0012-01- Folder 06	File - Correspondence - General	1951-1958
MS_0012-01- Folder 07	File - Correspondence - General	1960-1971
MS_0012-01- Folder 08	File - Newsclippings - Miscellaneous	1967-1978
MS_0012-01- Folder 09	File - Newsclippings - Retirement	1969
MS_0012-01- Folder 10	File - Ohio State University (Wiggins' Doctorate Degree)	1947
MS_0012-01- Folder 11	File - Pensacola Junior College	1969-1978
MS_0012-01- Folder 12	File - Photographs - Misc. - (black & white pictures)	
MS_0012-01- Folder 13	File - Photographs - Misc. - (black & white pictures/Gore Admin.)	
MS_0012-01- Folder 14	File - Programs - Commencement - Misc. Schools	1947-1959
MS_0012-01- Folder 15	File - Programs - Misc.	1962-1967
MS_0012-01- Folder 16	File - Syracuse University Wiggins' Diploma & Commencement Program	1925
MS_0012-01- Folder 17	File - Teacher Certificates	1925-1978
MS_0012-01- Folder 18	File - University of Chicago (Wiggins' Masters Degree)	1933
MS_0012-01- Folder 19	File - Washington Junior College	1951-1984
MS_0012-01- Folder 20	File - Scrapbook entitled, "Best Regards to Dr. Wiggins from WSRE-TV"	1969