

A Guide to the James Hugo Johnston, Jr. Papers 1876-1962

James Hugo Johnston, Jr. Papers 1891-1974
1891-1974

A Collection in Special Collections and Archives 1963-10
Special Collections and Archives, Johnston Memorial Library
2002

History

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Descriptive Summary

Collection number

1876-1962

Language

English

Abstract

Business and personal correspondence of the son of the president of Virginia State University. James Hugo Johnston Jr., served as professor of history, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Vice President of Virginia State University. He authored many articles on history and authored *Race Relations in Virginia and Miscegenation in the South*.

Creator

James Hugo Johnston, Jr.

Physical Characteristics

2000 items

Repository

Special Collections and Archives, Johnston Memorial Library, Virginia State University

Administrative Information

Access

No restrictions on access.

Use Restrictions

No use restrictions.

Preferred Citation

James Hugo Johnston, Jr. Papers, Accession number: 1963-10, Johnston Memorial Library, Virginia State University

Biographical/Historical Information

Mr. James Hugo Johnston Jr., was born on May 10, 1891 on the campus of Virginia State University in the village of Ettrick, Virginia. James Hugo Johnston Jr. was the son of James Hugo and Anna Johnston Sr. James Hugo Johnston Jr. followed in the footsteps of his father by serving on the faculty of Virginia State University; which his father James Hugo Johnston Sr., had served as the Universities second president. James Hugo Johnston Jr. married Bessie Adkins on September 24, 1922 and fathered one son James Hugo Johnston III.

Mr. James Hugo Johnston Jr., studied in 1905-09 at Virginia State University until he was forced to finish his education at Virginia Union University because of the abolishment of the college program at Virginia State University. Mr. Johnston later received his B.A in 1913 from Virginia Union University; and later went on to the University of Chicago where he received his M.A in 1925 and his Ph.D. in 1937.

Mr. Johnston served as a member of the Virginia State University faculty since 1914-1961. He served as professor of history 1914 to 1920; Dean of the college 1929-1949 and 1950-1957; Acting president 1949-1950; and Vice president 1943 ? June 30, 1961.

Mr. Johnston was an aspiring man who's correspondence includes letters from William E. Dodd, Will Alexander, Luther Foster, and most influential Dr. Carter G. Woodson. The letters talk about the many problems James Hugo Johnston Jr. went through on his journey to publish his doctoral dissertation on race relations in the south "1776-1860."

James Hugo Johnston's many organizational memberships included; the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (President 1942), the American Historical association, the Virginia State University Alumni Association (treasurer) the Virginia Teachers Association, and the American Teachers Association.

James Hugo Johnston Jr., was the author of *Race Relations in the South 1776-1860* and numerous Articles.

James Hugo Johnston Jr., retired from Virginia State University on July 1, 1961. He later continued to work on the history of Virginia State University until he died in 1974.

Scope and Content Information

James Hugo Johnston Jr., son of the second president of Virginia State University was one of the first African Americans to receive the Ph.D. in History. James Hugo Johnston Jr., was a professor of history and government at Virginia State University from 1914 until 1961. During this time he served as Dean, Vice president and Acting president of the University.

His correspondence reflects his long career as a scholar and as well as one of the primary administrators of the University. There are quite a few interesting letters with Carter. G. Woodson regarding the publication of his Doctoral dissertation.

In the Johnston papers are correspondence from the Julius Rosenwald and Guggenheim foundations, these were organizations that James Hugo Johnston requested funds for to aid him in his Ph.D. degree. Along Mr. Johnston's process he also received letters from the Fellowship of the Social Science research Council, The university of Chicago, The general education Board, Julius Rosenwald foundation and the Guggenheim foundation.

Series Description

Series I. Correspondence The Correspondence discusses a wide range of topics. Included in this series are some correspondence from Carter G. Woodson, and other notable colleagues of James Hugo Johnston Jr.

Series II. Virginia State University National Alumni Association This series reflects Johnston's position of treasurer of the National Alumni Association. Included are ledgers, correspondence, executive committee notes, treasurers reports, printed programs and a listing of Virginia State University Alumni Association events and projects from 1931 until the 1960's.

Series III. Literary Documents used for the history of Virginia State University from 1882-1914. Which was commissioned by the school. This was never published.

Series IV. Research Research notes used by Johnston for his dissertation and history of Virginia State University.

Series V. Photographs Photograph's of family and non-family members. The photos are grouped in two sub series, which include pictures of the Johnston family, and non-family member photos.

Series VI. Printed Degrees of James Hugo Johnston Jr., and other family members from Virginia State University, Virginia Union University, Shaw University and the University of Chicago. Also are copies of two Newspapers from Danville, Virginia. One of them, is *The Mirror*, which was African American.

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The Photo shows the band at Virginia Union University sitting on the steps of a building. The band consisted of nine members the instruments ranged from the cello, trumpet, trombone snare drum, violin and snare drum.

Photo**Physical Location** Oversize 2**Scope and Content**

This Photo shows seven Virginia Union University male Graduates in thier caps and gowns. Each Graduate has his seperate picture.

Photo**Physical Location** Oversize 3**Scope and Content**

The Photo shows twelve male Graduates of Virginia Union University in a Formal Class Picture.

Series VI: Printed**Sub Series A: Degrees****Virginia Normal & Industrial Institute May 15, MDCCCXVIII James Hugo Johnston SR., Public School Teacher Degree****Box-folder 14:1****Virginia Normal & Industrial Institute May 15, 1903 Lowell P. Johnston , Public School Teacher Degree****Box-folder 14:2****Virginia Union University June 4, 1913 James Hugo Johnston Jr., Bachelor of Arts Degree>****Box-folder 14:3****Virginia Union University June 5, 1929****Box-folder 14:4****University of Chicago July 7, CDDCCCXXV James Hugo Johnston Jr., Masters of Arts Degree****Box-folder 14:5****University of Chicago March 16,1937 James Hugo Johnston, Docter of Philosophy Degree****Box-folder 14:6****Sub Series B: Honors****Virginia State College Alumni Association 1959 James Hugo Johnston****Box-folder 14:7****Sub Series C: Newspapers****The MirrorVol. 1 No. 2 September 26, 1903 Danville, Va****Box-folder a.****The MirrorVol. 1 No. 3 October 3, 1903 Danville, Va****Box-folder b.****The MirrorVol. 1 No. 4 October 10, 1903 Danville, Va****Box-folder c.****The BeeMay 23, 1908 Danville, Va****Box-folder d.**