

Miami Presidents

From 1810 to the Present Day

Miami University Archives

Joseph Van Horne Miami's First President? 1810

Monday 26th March 1810.

The following Trustees appeared and took their seats, to wit,
William Cony, James Findlay, Thomas Swin, William Ludlow,
John Reily, John Riddle, Ogdon Relf, James Shields and Joseph
Van Horne.

A quorum of the Trustees being present,
Resolved, That the Board will immediately proceed to appoint out of
their own body a President to serve during the present meeting of the
Trustees.

The Board then proceeded to the appointment of the said President.

6
1810. and the votes being taken it was found that a majority of the same
March 26th were in favour of Joseph Van Horne who accordingly took his seat in the Chair.
Resolved, That the Board will immediately proceed to the appointment
of a Secretary to serve during the present meeting of the Trustees.

The Board then proceeded to the appointment of the said Secretary and
the votes being taken and counted, it was found that a majority of the same
were in favour of John Reily who thereupon proceeded to the duties of
his appointment.

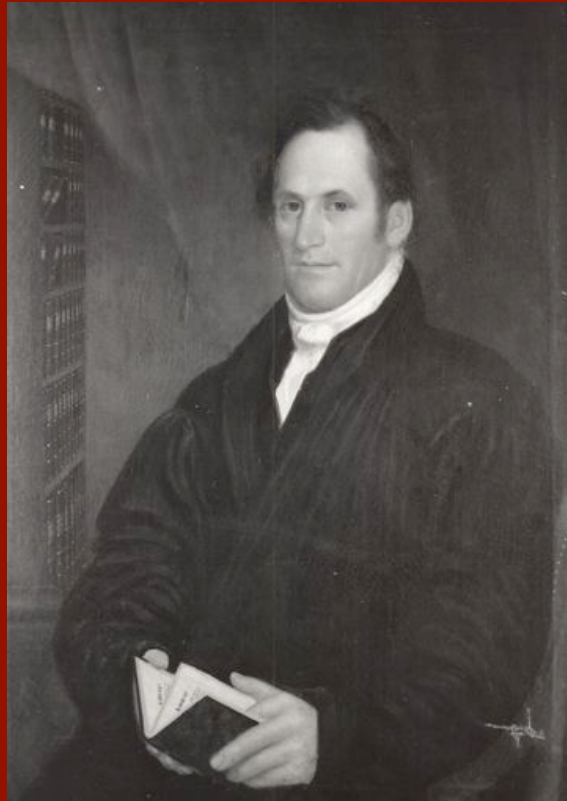
Ordered, That a committee be appointed to prepare and report Standing
rules and orders for the government of the President and Trustees of
the Miami University - And that Messrs. Cony, Shields and Findlay
be the said committee.

Ordered, that a committee be appointed to bring in an ordinance
to regulate the leasing of the lands of the Miami University, And
that Messrs. Findlay and Reily be the said committee.

And then the Board adjourned until to-morrow-morning
at 10 o'clock.

Robert Bishop is generally considered Miami's first president. However, between Miami's chartering in 1809 and opening in 1824, the Board of Trustees normally appointed a "President" to preside over meetings and act, on occasion, as a quasi-executive officer. Records of the period typically refer to "The President *and* Board of Trustees of Miami University," implying that they were separate entities. This is an excerpt from the minutes of the 1810 Board meeting, which named Joseph Van Horne as Miami's first "President".

Robert H. Bishop
1824-1841



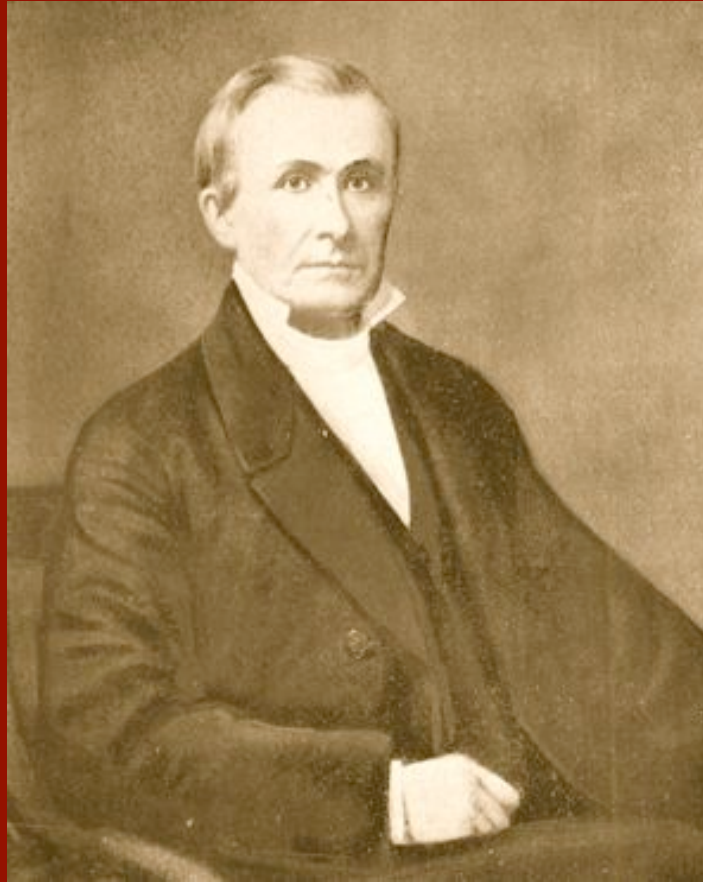
Scottish Presbyterian divine Robert H. Bishop became Miami's president in 1824. His views on student discipline, theology, and slavery were progressive for his day.

Miami Campus During the Presidency of Robert Bishop 1838



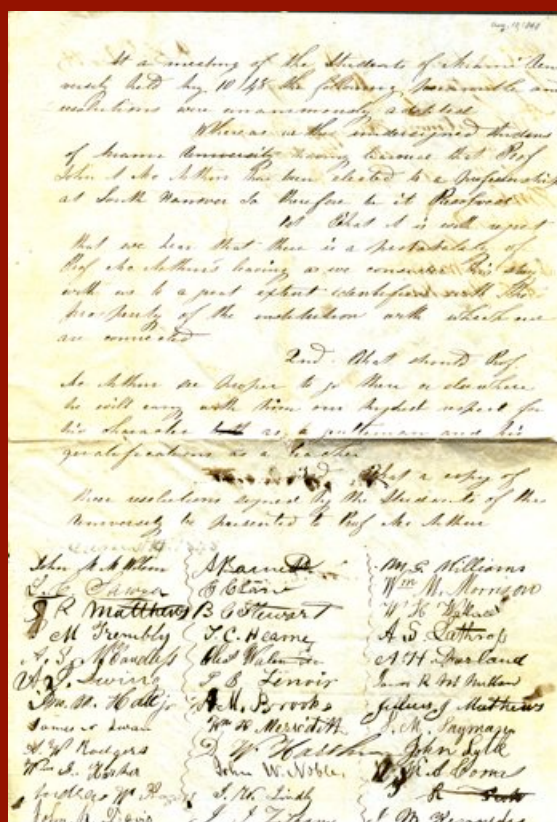
Old Main with North and South Dormitories in the background.

George Junkin
1841-1844



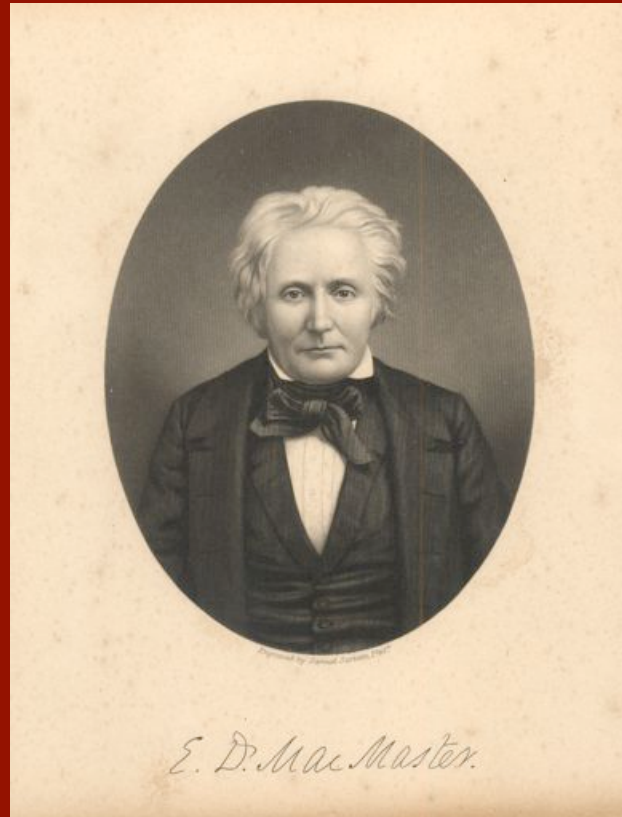
In 1841, the Board of Trustees replaced President Robert Bishop with George Junkin of Lafayette College, Pennsylvania.

John McArthur President Pro Tem 1844-1845



Unfortunately, no pictures or paintings of McArthur are known to exist. This is a copy of an 1848 student resolution urging McArthur to remain at Miami.

Erasmus MacMaster
1845-1849



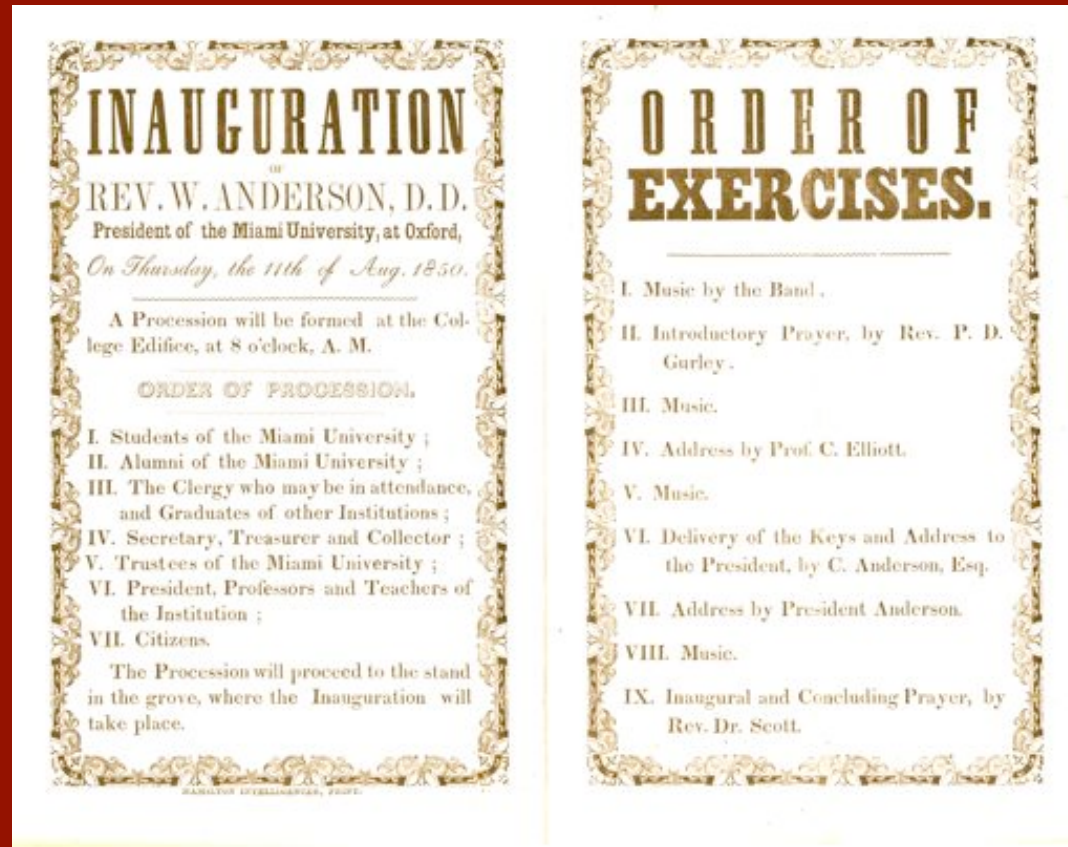
Erasmus MacMaster was at the head of the class when it came to memory power. Contemporaries agreed that MacMaster could easily recall the most minute details of discussions and meetings long past, and effortlessly recite entire literary works from memory.

William C. Anderson
1849-1854



One of Miami's most successful executives, Anderson reversed the dramatic decline in enrollment that had occurred under Junkin and MacMaster. Anderson proved an affable, accessible administrator who won the respect and loyalty of his student body, which for two years included future United States President Benjamin Harrison.

Program for the Inauguration of President William C. Anderson 1849

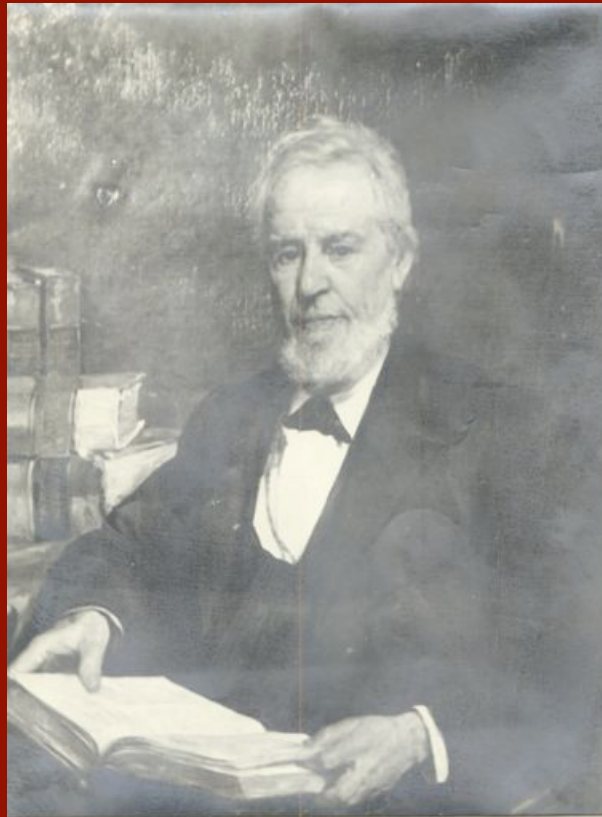


One of the relatively few surviving documents from Anderson's presidency in the Miami Archives. At that time, the new president was customarily given a set of "Keys" to the University.

Orange Nash Stoddard
President Pro Tem 1854



John W. Hall
1854-1866



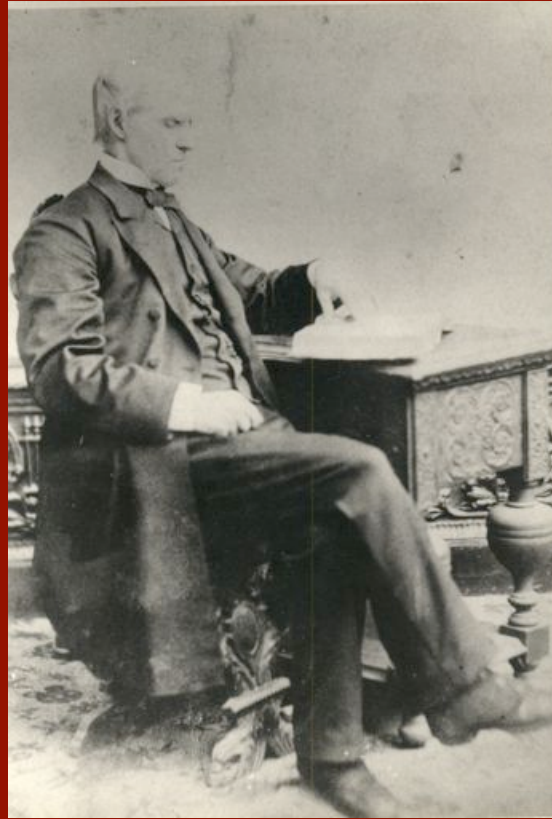
North Carolinian John W. Hall led Miami University during the Civil War. Hall was an able administrator and well-liked by his students. His later presidency was marred by the beginning of a long period of financial instability that would culminate in the University's closure in 1873.

Miami Campus During the Presidency of John Hall 1858



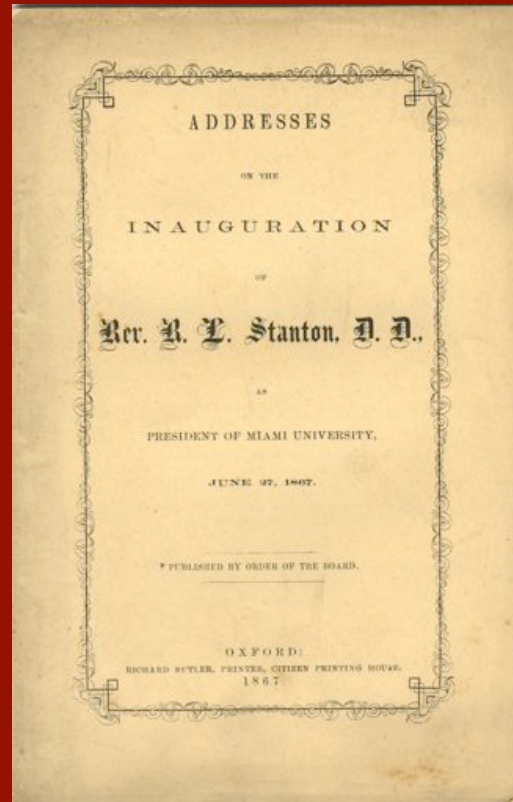
Old Main, with North and South Dormitories. This is the first known photograph of Miami.

Robert Stanton
1866-1871



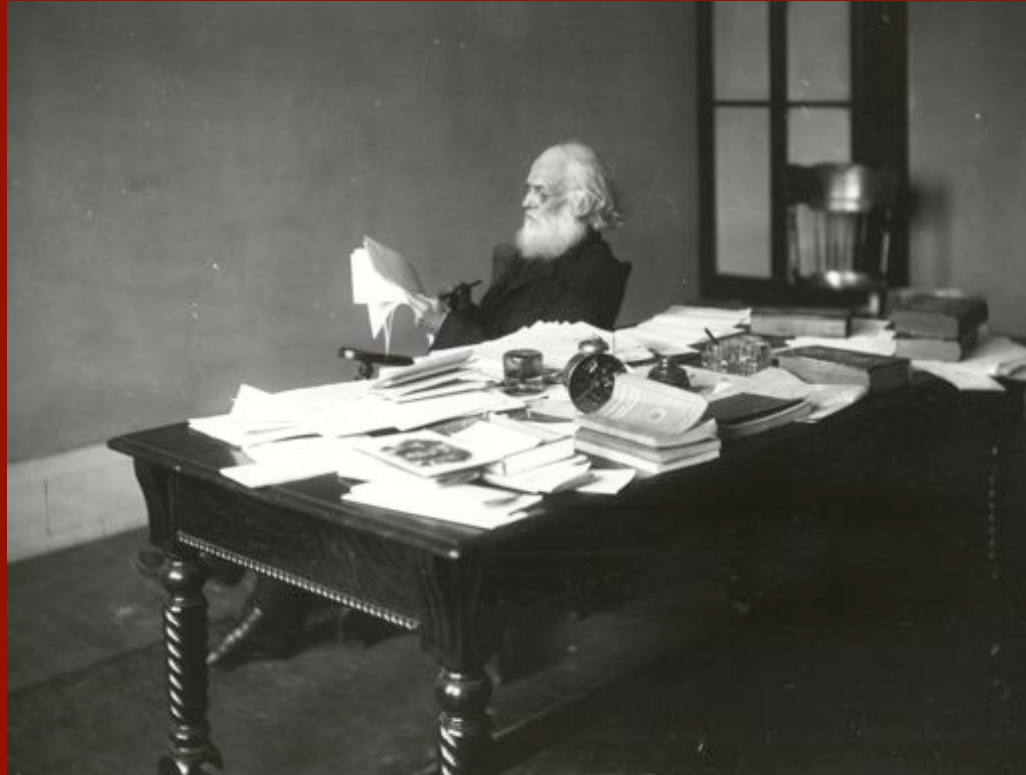
President Stanton had the misfortune to preside over Miami during a time of budgetary woes and falling enrollment. He had to spend much of his time devising ways to make Miami more attractive to a shrinking pool of male applicants. Stanton's improvisations, which included a new military training program, failed to reverse the slide in University fortunes.

Pamphlet Containing Speeches Given at President Stanton's Inauguration, June 27, 1867



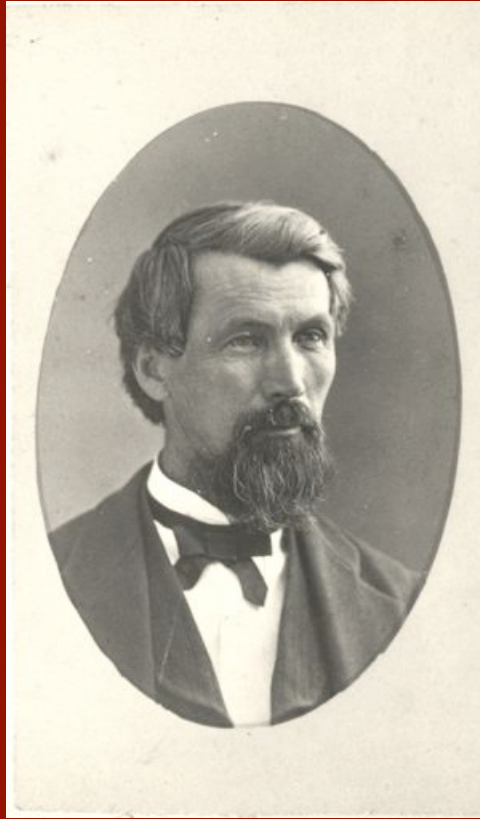
Stanton's inaugural address dealt largely with the financial problems besetting the University. The new president warned that drastic and immediate measures were needed to reverse Miami's fortunes.

Andrew D. Hepburn
President Pro Tem 1871-1873



Although appointed as “President Pro Tempore” by the Board of Trustees, Hepburn is normally included among the ranks of Miami presidents. He was the last president of Old Miami, which closed due to financial problems in 1873.

Robert W. McFarland
President Pro Tem 1885-1888



A long-time faculty member of Old Miami, Robert McFarland answered the call of the Board of Trustees to oversee the reopened institution in 1885. Like Andrew Hepburn, McFarland today is generally dubbed a president despite his technically Pro Tem status.

President Ethelbert Warfield and the Dude Faculty 1889-1891

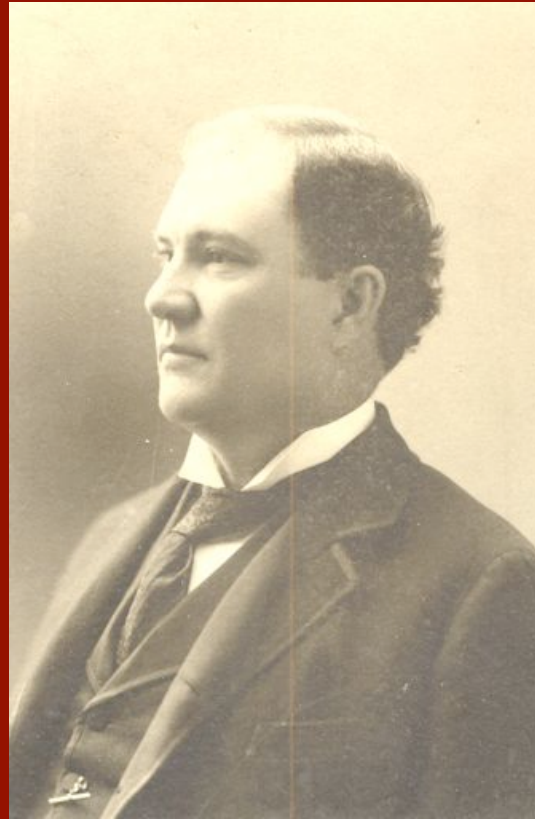


In 1888, the Trustees replaced President McFarland with 27 year-old Ethelbert Dudley Warfield. A Princeton graduate, Warfield hired several young faculty members from other prestigious Eastern institutions. Dubbed the “Dude Faculty,” they sought to remake Miami in the image of their alma maters. In addition to instituting a more demanding curriculum, they introduced Miami to a popular new eastern sport, football.

Ethelbert Warfield's Acceptance of the Miami Presidency 1888

Warfield
Livingston, Ky -
July 2^d 1888.
Prof R. H. Bishop.
Oxford, Ohio.
My dear Sir:
Permit me to
thank you very cordi-
ally for your kind
letter, which I delayed
answering until I had
reached a decision
on the call to Miami
University. I have
finally decided to accept
it & I shall do all
that in me lies, by God's
grace, to make that old
honored institution a
power for the spread of
Christian influences. I
am well fixed in my
belief that culture divorced
from the truth of the
Gospel is the worst of
the devices of the devil,
& that a college which
gives secular learning
without instilling into
the youthful mind the

William Oxley Thompson 1891-1899



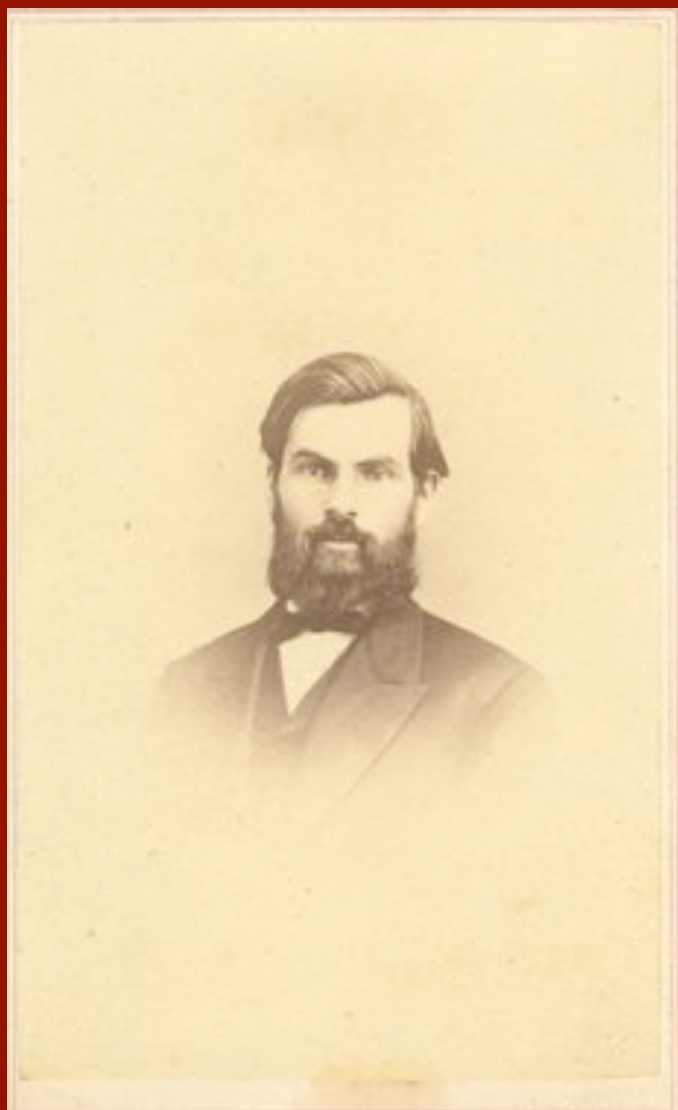
An Ohio native, William Oxley Thompson graduated from Muskingum College. Thompson instituted New Miami's first building program, resulting in the construction of a new science building and gymnasium. Miami also began receiving a regular state appropriation during Thompson's presidency.

Miami Campus During the Presidency of William Oxley
Thompson
circ.1895

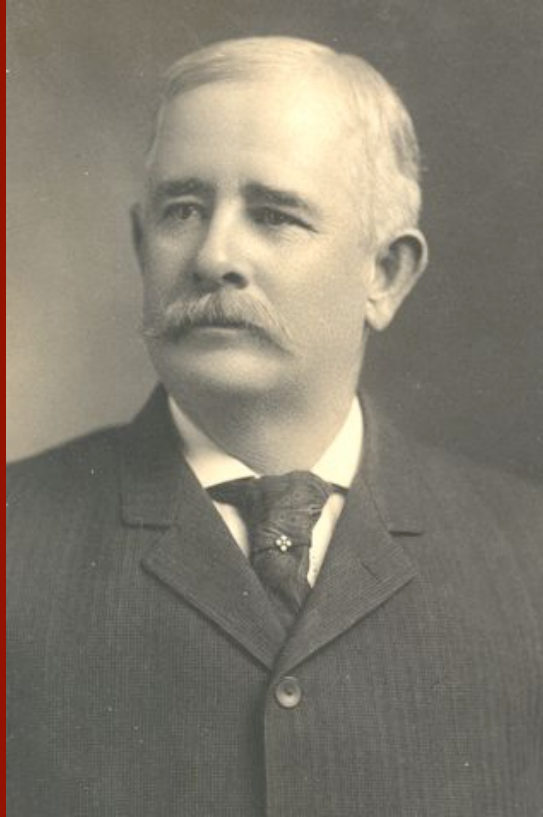


Campus view from the southwest. Brice Hall and Old Main are in the foreground. The small building on right between the two dormitories is Old Egypt, the University science building that burned down in 1898.

William Jasper McSurely
Librarian and President Pro Tem
1899

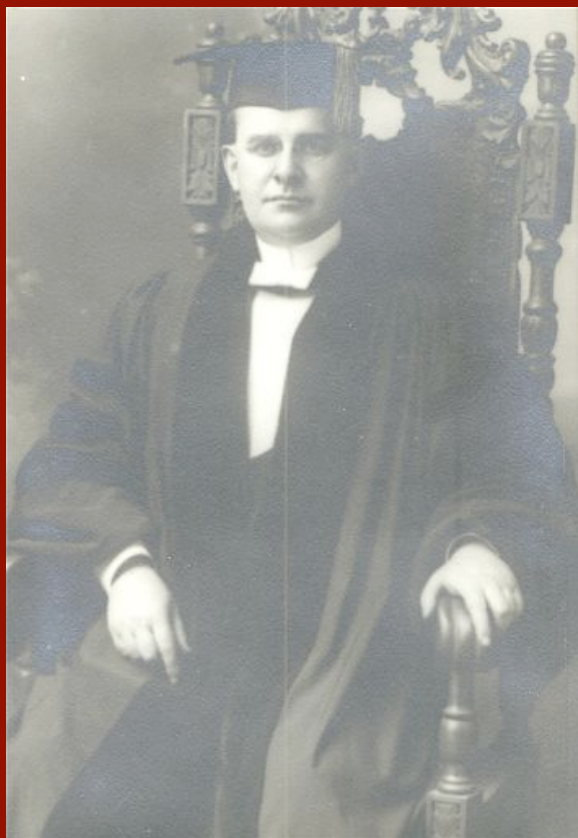


David Tappan
1899-1902



Reverend David Tappan succeeded to the Miami presidency when William Oxley Thompson became head of Ohio State University. Perhaps the most notable event of his administration was the awarding of degrees in 1900 to Miami's first women graduates.

Guy Potter Benton 1902-1911



Guy Potter Benton presided over a period of unprecedented growth in University enrollment and physical plant. A skilled recruiter and fundraiser, Benton spent much of his presidency traveling to promote Miami and to lobby state officials. Many of the new students Benton welcomed were women enrolling in the new Ohio State Normal College.

Commencement Procession

June 1905



Miami President Guy Potter Benton and the Commencement speaker, Secretary of War William Howard Taft, are at the front of the procession immediately behind the University Marshal. The Old Main building (future site of Harrison Hall) is in the background.

Lewis Place
circ. 1910



In 1903, the nephew of Romeo Lewis offered Miami free use of the Lewis home as a presidential residence. Guy Potter Benton was the first president to occupy Lewis Place, which was purchased by the University in 1929.

Raymond Hughes
1911-1927



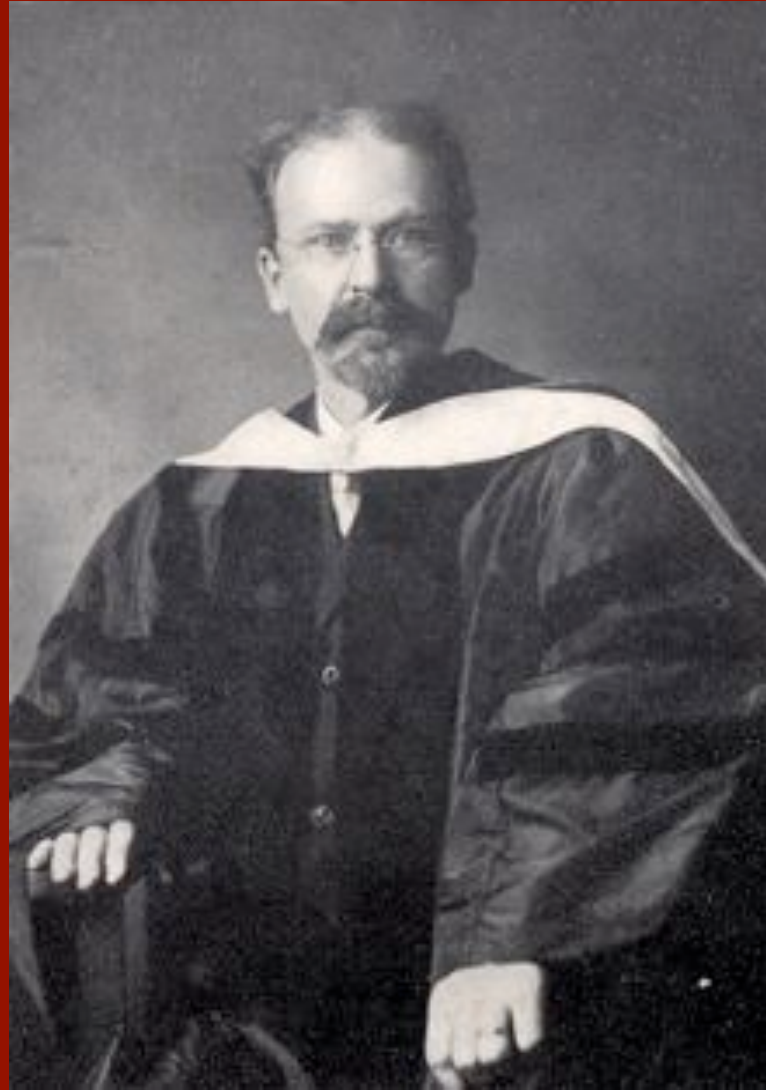
Only Miami's second lay president, Raymond Hughes shared President Benton's commitment to growth. With his financial officer and right-hand man Wallace Roudebush, Hughes formulated the University's first true long-range development plans. In addition to guiding Miami through the First World War, Hughes instituted the nation's second artist-in-residency program at Miami.

Miami Campus During Raymond Hughes' Presidency 1925



Aerial view from the west. University is in background.

Edgar Ewing Brandon
President Pro Tem 1927-1928



Alfred H. Upham
1928-1945



Miami president and alumnus Alfred Upham continued the general policies of Raymond Hughes. During his tenure, day-to-day administration of the University was largely left to his chief financial officer, Hughes' trusted colleague Wallace Roudebush. Together, Upham and Roudebush guided Miami through the Great Depression and the Second World War.

Announcement of Alfred Upham's Selection to the Miami Presidency 1928

Miami University Selects Dr. A. H. Upham, a Miami Son, Now President of the University of Idaho, to Succeed President Hughes



Views of Miami University Buildings—The Old Chapel, The New Chapel, The New McFarland Building, Old Hall, President's Office, New Hall, and the newly acquired Oxford Branch campus and buildings.



Dr. A. H. Upham, an alumnus, will be the fourteenth president of Miami University, one of the few institutions of higher learning established in the Middle West. He was professor of English Literature at Miami before becoming president of the State University of Idaho where he is now serving.



Views of Miami University Buildings—The Old Chapel, The New Chapel, The New McFarland Building, Old Hall, President's Office, New Hall, and the newly acquired Oxford Branch campus and buildings.

**Dr. A. H. Upham Chosen as
Next President at Miami; to**

He has been recognized as the
most capable of graduates of state uni-
versities in one of the leading state
university presidents.

He has been serving in his
efforts to create a real atmosphere
of the highest standard, a very suc-
cessful part of a successful college pro-
gram.

**University was Established in
1809 Under Ordinance of 1787;**

women in a broad way for the future,
and, during and through service in
whatever field they may enter. The
tradition of Miami which the present
administration has desired to carry
out in the future school is to be

World War II at Miami: WAVES Marching in Review on Cook Field 1944



Upon America's entry into the Second World War, President Upham opened Miami's facilities for use by the U.S. Armed Forces. Trainees at Miami during the War included 570 civilian pilots; 4,314 Radio-Navy men; 1,165 Navy WAVES; 467 cooks and bakers; and 1,847 V-12, V-5 and NROTC personnel.

A. K. Morris
President Pro Tem, 1945-1946



Ernest H. Hahne
1946-1952

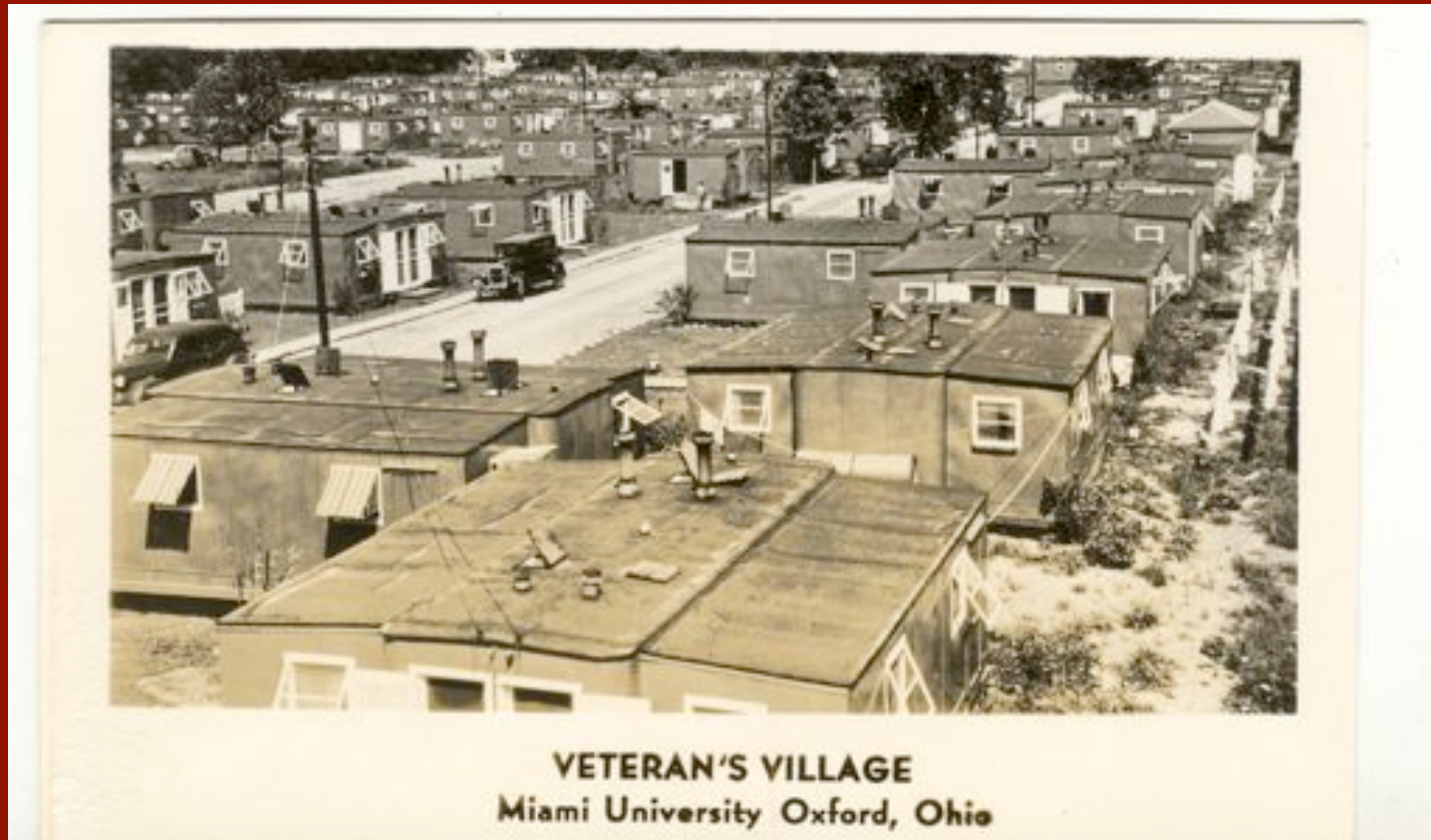


Ernest Hahne came to Miami from Northwestern where he had been an economics professor and liberal arts dean. As Miami president he began modernizing the University's antiquated administrative structure, much of which dated back to the 1910s.

Ernest Hahne's Inaugural Procession on the Way to Withrow
Court
April 19, 1947



Veteran's Village circ. 1949



Plagued by serious illness for much of his tenure at Miami, President Hahne nevertheless proved his administrative mettle on a number of occasions. For example, he deserves a good deal of the credit for the University's successful accommodation of the thousands of veterans and their families who attended Miami under the GI Bill.

Clarence W. Kreger
Acting President 1952-1953



John Millett 1953-1964



President Millett strikes a characteristic pose before the Edwin Fulwider mural in the Student Center. Millett modernized University administration and began an ambitious building program. Millett had a dominating personality but he relied heavily on a corps of exceptionally talented administrators, including Treasurer Lloyd Goggin and Alumni Secretary John Dolibois.

John Millett's Inauguration at Withrow Court
October 23, 1953



President Millett and John Kennedy, 1959
President Millett and Barry Goldwater, 1962



In 1959 Senator Kennedy spoke to a University convocation at Miami Field just prior to beginning his run for the White House. Three years later Arizona Senator and future Republican Presidential candidate Barry Goldwater gave the Hammond Lecture at Miami. The Goldwater-Millett photo was taken by nationally known Oxford photographer George Hoxie.

Charles Ray Wilson
Acting President 1964-1965



Phillip Shriver
1965-1981



Phil Shriver's presidency coincided with the height of the national Civil Rights and Anti-War Movements. His conciliatory leadership during campus disturbances in 1970 was credited with helping to defuse a potentially violent situation. Today, "Uncle Phil" is one of the University's most beloved individuals.

President Shriver Delivering His Inaugural Address October 14, 1965



Master Builders: Phil Shriver, John Millett, and Ohio Governor Jim Rhodes

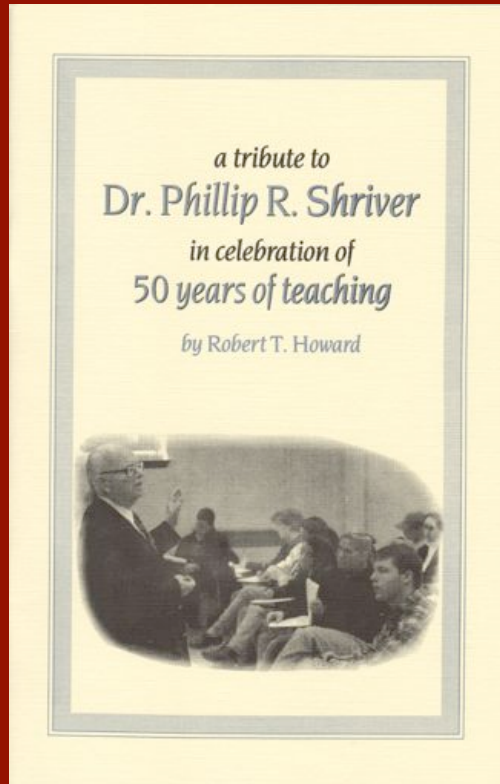


Anticipating that the University would one day be serving huge numbers of Baby Boomers, President Millett undertook a large expansion program, which culminated under President Shriver. Among the jewels of the program were the Middletown and Hamilton regional campuses that opened during the Shriver presidency.

Aerial View of the Oxford Campus During Phil Shriver's
Presidency
1967



From President to Professor



Many Miami alums fondly remember Phil Shriver as one of their favorite teachers. After leaving the Presidency in 1981, he spent the next 20 plus years as a member of Miami's history faculty. Courses taught by Professor Shriver included Ohio History, and his course on Miami History was always one of the most popular courses among students.

Paul Pearson
1981-1992



President Pearson is shown here with his wife Winifred. During his tenure, Pearson worked tirelessly to fulfill Miami's commitment to faculty, staff, and student diversity.

The Miami Report on Paul Pearson's Inauguration October 22, 1981

The REPORT
Miami University
Vol. 1 No. 9
October 22, 1981

Pearson calls for continuing commitment to liberal arts, science

President Paul G. Pearson called for a "continuing commitment to the liberal arts and sciences, the preparation of tomorrow's leaders and support of business and technology through research" as essentials which Miami and higher education must continue to strengthen in his inauguration address last Friday.

"We desperately need to relate our research, scholarship, and creativity to the cultural and economic health of our region," the new president told a crowd of about 3,000 who witnessed the historic and colorful academic ceremony.

Acknowledging the problems of inflation, threats "of a decline in public support, and the consequences of a decline in the traditional college-age population, and occasional public questioning of the importance of a

college education," Dr. Pearson stressed that "these dangers present an exciting opportunity for Miami to do something new, to acknowledge problems and address them in a positive way."

"We must examine what we do, we must establish justification for what we do, and we must chart a course that will move this university toward new and greater excellence. We must seek opportunities to enhance the quality of the faculty, the academic programs, the student body, the facilities and services available, and the governance of the university. I believe the record will show that business and industry will seek out counties and states where creative ideas, research, high-quality education, and cultural opportunities flourish. . . we have a great opportunity to strengthen Miami's

President Paul G. Pearson and John Wald Peck, chairman of the board of trustees, lead the academic procession as it starts up the walk to Millett Hall where the inauguration was held last Friday. The photo at the left shows the university music band up on both sides of the walk as

the procession follows the marshals. The procession started at Widener Court with the music leading the way, then reversed order at the entrance to Millett. About 3,000 people attended the historic and colorful ceremony.

already strong reputation. My job, our job, is to convince the citizens of Ohio and its leaders that our work here at Miami is vital to this state and nation. We must ask the people to invest in a product which does not lend itself easily to thorough examination. The benefits of a first-class system of higher education are reaped years, even decades, later."

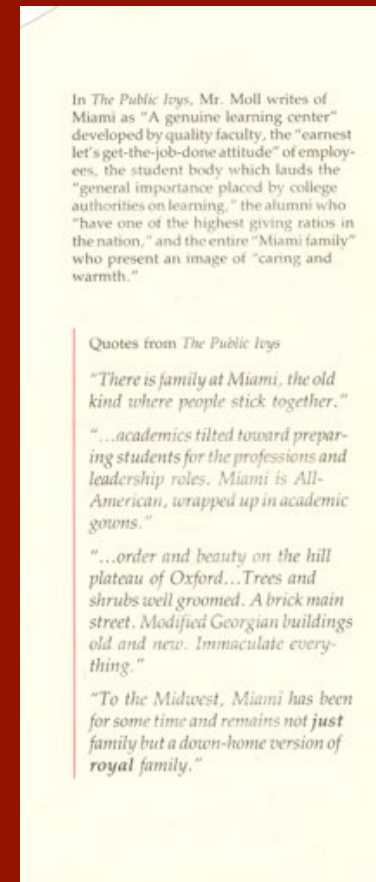
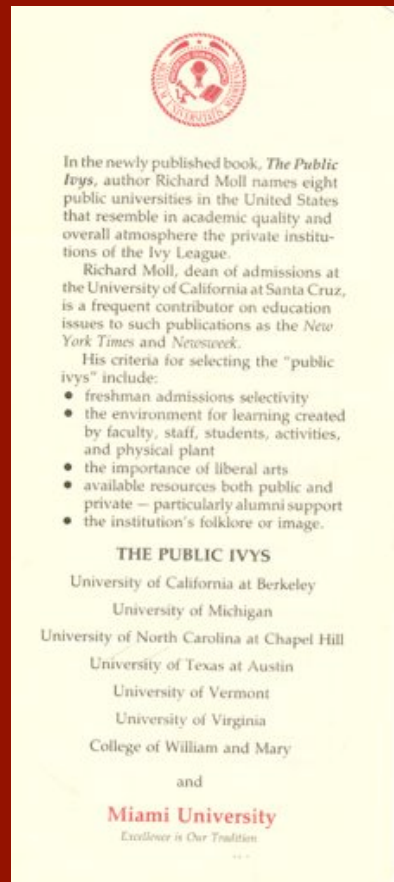
Dr. Henry R. Winkler, president of the University of Cincinnati and former administrator with Pearson at Rutgers in New Jersey, stressed a need for "the cause of low cost public higher education" in his guest address for the inauguration.

"It is time that we in the schools, in the colleges and the universities, and in the general business community get our minds to cooperating much more closely in order to devise new approaches to meet our rapidly changing needs," Winkler said. "The alternative will not only be an in-

creasingly threatened productive capacity; it will be an increasingly alienated major segment of our population. That alternative is, quite frankly, unacceptable if we are to remain a vital and healthy society in the years ahead. . . we must not let this happen. . . we must speak out at every opportunity in behalf of generous and widespread access to the colleges and universities of our state."

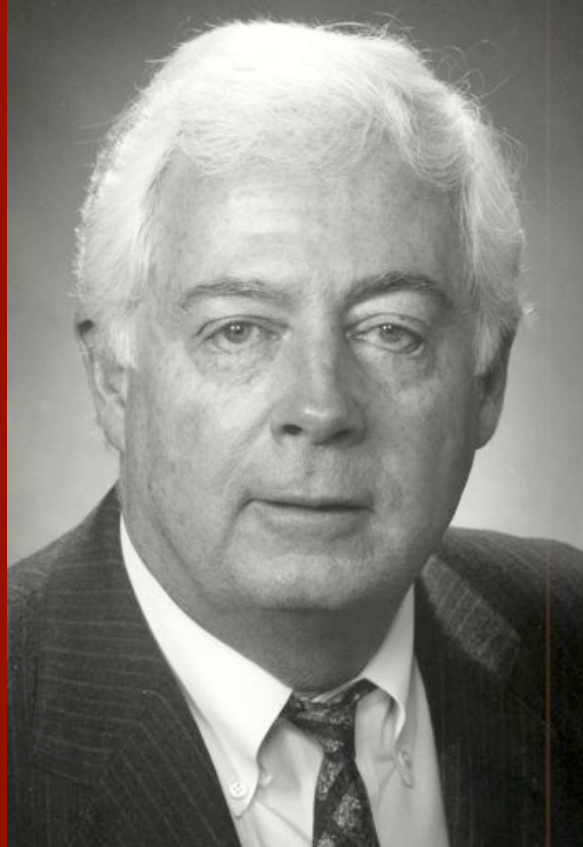
Inside. . .
Wilson named vice president

Miami University Named a “Public Ivy” 1985



In 1985, Richard Moll cited Miami as one of a few elite public universities offering an education comparable to the best private institutions. The honor underscored the University’s efforts under Paul Pearson and subsequent executives to establish a national reputation for educational excellence.

Paul Risser
1992-1995



Paul Risser assumed the presidency after Paul Pearson's retirement. Risser remained at Miami for three years and is likely to be best remembered for his enthusiastic advocacy of computer technology.

Anne Hopkins
Acting President 1995-1996



James Garland
1996-2006



As president, James Garland championed a more rigorous curriculum and a University commitment to research excellence. The Garland presidency also witnessed the beginning of a major new construction program to help Miami meet the demands of a new millennium.

Miami Student Announcement of James Garland's Selection to the Miami Presidency April 30, 1996

The Miami Student
The oldest college newspaper in the United States, established 1926

Volume 123, No. 50 Tuesday, April 30, 1996 Miami University • Oxford, Ohio

INSIDE
campus

MIAMI ALUMNI

On May 12, 2,726 students graduate from the "bubble" of Miami University.
See Next, page 2

city/state

Garland confirmed as president

MICHAEL SOMMERS
The Miami Student

Promising to try to be the "president that you want me to be," Dr. James C. Garland was elected as the 20th president of Miami University on Friday.

The Miami Board of Trustees, the primary governing body of the institution, elected Garland after a four month search to replace Dr. Paul Rioser who left in December for Oregon State University. The search committee, comprised of three Board members, three faculty members, a staff member and one student, helped choose Garland from among over 150 candidates.

Garland, who is presently the Executive Dean of The Ohio State Colleges of Arts and Sciences, is responsible for developing and coordinating programs involving approximately 1,000 faculty members.

Garland has been on the faculty at OSU since 1970. As a faculty member in the Department of Physics at OSU he received over \$5 million in funding for his extensive research and has published more than 90 articles in academic journals.

"This is going to be an experience that is much different for me and my wife Carole," said Garland after his election.

Garland, in a speech given to the Board upon his election, spoke of the many fine traditions at Miami and how he believes that Miami must continue to change to meet the needs of society.

"Society is facing many changes. The values Miami represents are what America needs," Garland thanked many people for their continual help throughout the process. Acting President and Provost Anne Hopkins was at the top of his list.

"Anne is the only person other than myself that is more happy about this process being over," Garland said.

Garland and his wife, Carole, will move to Lewis Place, the university-owned presidential residence, in late July.



Dr. James C. Garland and his wife Carole. Garland will begin his official duties at Miami on Aug. 1.

AMY CHILDS/The Miami Student

President Garland is pictured with his wife Carole.

Trustees Choose Hodge



On April 21, 2006, Miami trustees voted unanimously to hire David C. Hodge as Miami's 21st president. President Hodge is shown here with his wife Valerie.

The New President Meets the Student Press



The New President Addressing the Cincinnati Alumni



In the Footsteps of Past Leaders and Moving Miami University Forward
Miami's 21st President, David C. Hodge

