

RG 1
Records of the Chancellor's Office
Dr. Joe B. Rushing

History

The archive serves as a record of Dr. Joe B. Rushing's life and career as founding Chancellor of Tarrant County Junior College (TCJC), later named Tarrant County College (TCC) in 1999. Rushing was born in 1921 in Brown County, Texas. He graduated in 1938 and attended Brownwood's Howard Payne College. World War II interrupted his college career and he enlisted in the army and served for four years and another 21 years in the reserves. After the war, Rushing received his master's degree at East Texas State and entered the doctoral program at University of Texas at Austin. From 1960 to 1965, Rushing was the founding president of Broward College in Florida; after which, he came to Fort Worth and became president of the newly established TCJC. In his service as president of TCJC, he managed and organized the construction of three of its' six campuses: South (1967), Northeast (1968), and Northwest (1976). In a 2006 interview with the *The Collegian* (a publication for TCC), Joe B. Rushing determined his greatest accomplishment for TCC was, "setting the course of action, understanding what the college could be, setting up the organization, surrounding myself with smart people and letting them do their jobs."

Provenance

This collection was donated to the archive by the Chancellor's Office; it most likely was created to record events of the founding years of TCJC District. The timeline of these donations has not been determined, although most seem to have been accessioned in the 1970s and 1980s. Some records do have accession dates of 1996 and 1997. The collection is the property of the Tarrant County College District. This collection is available to researchers by appointment. Please contact the [TCCD Archives](#).

Scope and Description

The *Records of the Chancellor's Office: Dr. Joe B. Rushing* collection houses the organizational records of Tarrant County Junior College and personal papers of Dr. Joe B. Rushing. This collection, which dates from 1948 to 1988, is stored in five boxes with the bulk of the material dated 1965 to 1967. The extent of the collection is 2.33 linear feet. The collection includes copies as well as original papers.

Through Rushing's work as founding president of TCJC, the archive includes records of correspondence, business papers, photographs, newspaper clippings, and scrapbooks highlighting the construction of TCJC campuses with the majority focusing on South and Northeast campuses. It also includes publications such as student guides, faculty handbooks, and programs designed to promote TCJC in the community. The photographs in this collection are a mixture of black & white, and color; and include images of the construction of the early campuses, mainly South and Northeast. Researchers interested in the history of TCJC from its founding to 1988 will find this collection to be a valuable resource.

Additionally, the records include a manuscript of a friendship between two families which consists of correspondence between Dr. Joe B. Rushing and Wilhelm Greuling, dated 1948 to 1986. Wilhelm Greuling was a German Prisoner of War (POW) during World War II who was held in a Texas POW camp and was returned to Germany after the end of the war. The correspondence includes photocopies of letters and postcards sent between the two men that reflect their lives and their families after the war and up to 1986. The stories in the letters provide a recorded memory that is an important part of official and unofficial history. Researchers interested in POW camps in Texas and the reconstruction of Germany will find this collection a valuable resource.

Also in the collection are two books: a 1965 yearbook from Junior College of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, Florida that has President Joe B. Rushing inscribed on it and a book of essays and speeches of Joe B. Rushing from the 1960s to the late 1980s.

Box 1 - Founding Documents (1965 - 1980)

Documents relating to construction of South campus; student and employee handbooks, Fine Arts Premier opening; photographs of possible site proposals; and materials and correspondence relating to site proposal locations for South and Northeast campuses.

Folder

1. TCJC Student and Employee handbooks, dated 1965 – 1972
2. Real Estate Site Announcements – newspaper clippings (1965) from *Mid-Cities News Texan*, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, *Fort Worth Press*.
3. Real Estate Site Proposals – 23 Letters of interest from area cities including: Azle, White Settlement, Lake Worth; 9 letters from area schools listing potential students' graduation rate (1965-1971); survey map of proposed land site.
4. South Campus Dedication materials: Dedication Program; Rushing speech (1st draft); notes from Governor Connally speech; copy of Monsignor Wolf's prayer; newspaper clipping of Governor Connally; miscellaneous telegrams to Rushing from: Governor Connally, Lyndon B. Johnson, Jim Wright, Angie & Gene; Tom McCann Sr. & Jr.; newspaper clipping of Rushing & Governor Connally; newspaper clipping of Don Blocker; Guest list for Fine Arts Premiere; Ground Breaking ceremonies Program; letter acknowledging official seal of Texas flag given to TCJC; Draft of proposed opening ceremonies; letter to Lorne Green; letter of decline from Lorne Green; letter to Don Glocker; Schedule of dedication activities.
5. Real Estate (1965), multiple letters from individuals for proposed land sites; site study for utilities; 5 photos (n.d); unidentified landscapes (possible land site proposals); Draft of Junior College Site Study by Carter & Burgess; letter & brochure: How to acquire Federal surplus personal property; city planning maps for land proposal site.

Spiral Notebooks: *Classification & Compensation Guidelines for Planning for TCJC* (1980); *Site Proposal for Tarrant County Junior College* (1965); *Report on the Sites*;

Overview & Guidelines TCJC District (1965);
TCJC: Its Economic Impact in its Service Area (1971) prepared by Office of
Research;
Proposal on Location of TCJC from Azle, Texas.

Box 2 – Joe B. Rushing Correspondence

Photocopies of letters and postcards of correspondence between Rushing and Wilhelm Greuling dated 1948 – 1986. Details of family life, including birth of children and their childhood up to marriage of both men are included. The unbound manuscript, *Miles Across the Miles* contains 60 letters and a few postcards written by Rushing and Greuling as well as a few written by Rushing's daughter. Details of the reconstruction of Germany after WWII are discussed such as: meat rations, currency reform, bombing damage, and the Berlin Crisis, details about both men's career opportunities and reports of vacations taken are included.

Box 3 – Rushing Scrapbook 1 (Construction 1966-1967)

Photographs recording the founding of the college and the construction of the South Campus; photographs of the founding administrators, Board of Trustees, and first TCJC staff and faculty; student life in the 1960s and 1970s.

Photo Album (blue)

60 photographs are black & white as well as some color and are various sizes: 4x6, 5x7, & 8x10. Images detail: the construction of TCJC South campus in various stages, history of the Auto program; dedication ceremonies, and possible graduation. Identified individuals in photographs include: Dr. Rushing, Roger Dearing, Allen Richey, C.A. Roberson, Jim Moore, and Carl Dinkel.

Photo Album (black)

200 photographs are black & white as well as some color and are various sizes: 4x4 & 8x10; Images detail: the construction of TCJC South campus in various stages and a few of Northeast campus; site of Northwest campus; and Luncheon for Coordinating Board Officials.

Identified individuals in photographs include: Dr. Rushing, Morris Parker, Warriner, Merve Croston, J. Styles, T. McCann, Dr. Jack Williams, Jenkins Garret, David Hunt, Dr. Jim Wattenbarger, Miss Carruth, and May Owens.

Books

“Exactly the Right Person.” Contains essays and speeches of Dr. Rushing, dealing with issues ranging from parental disciplines of primary children to the importance of community involvement in schools, from professionalism in law enforcement to the place of the humanities on occupational studies.

1965 copy of Junior College of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, Florida yearbook; inscribed to President Joe B. Rushing.

Box 4 – Rushing Scrapbook II (1966-1967)

Photographs recording the founding of the college and construction of the South Campus; photographs of board officials, luncheons, commissions, Christmas parties, and others dated 1966 – 1967; photographs of construction of the Northeast campus and possibly of Southeast campus. The photographs are black & white as well as some color and are various sizes: 4x4 & 8x10.

Identified individuals include: Lois Carmichael, Betty Beeman, Tom McCann, Sr. & Jr., Dr. Jack Williams, Mr. Garrett, Morris Parker, Reverend Haynes, Dr. May Owen, Pamm Prerson, Jean Stepp, C.A. Roberson, M. Winters, Delbert Adams, Dr & Mrs. Finn, Mrs. D. Adam, Mrs. Rushing, Jack Butler, Dr. Rushing, Presten Geren Sr., Phil Spiegel, Howard Higgins, and Dr. Jim Wallenbarger.

Box 5 – Rushing Collection: GT Conference 10/28-30/ 1971; Fort Worth, Texas

Gold Scrapbook with 49 black & white photographs that are 5x7. Prepared by Bob Miller, Dean of Instruction, NE Campus. Photographs are unidentified. Also included is a black & white proof sheet of Dr. Rushing's Reception (n.d.).

Box 6

Organizational and Policy Manual 1980

Box 7

Board of Trustees Meetings 1970-1976

Box 8

Board of Trustees meetings 1977-1981

Box 9

Board of Trustees meetings 1984-1987

Prepared by Barbara Simmons Hitzfeld