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Guide to the Sam A. Agnello Papers, 1961-1976

Contains materials pertaining to the career of Sam A. Agnello, coordinator of medical television and director of the Division of Audiovisual Education at Duke University Medical Center. Types of materials include correspondence, reports, proposals, outlines, a newspaper clipping, and committee materials. Major subjects include Duke University School of Medicine, audiovisual aids, and medical education. Major correspondents include Joseph E. Markee, William G. Anlyan, and Wilburt C. Davison. Materials range in date from 1961 to 1976.

2004

Descriptive Summary

Collection Title: Sam A. Agnello Papers, 1961-1976

Creator: Agnello, Sam A.

Extent: 2 record storage boxes, 300 items, 1 linear feet

Processed By: Archives staff

Date Completed: 1982

Encoded By: Emily Glenn

Historical Note

Sam A. Agnello was a native of Jamestown, N.Y. He received his A.B. degree from Duke University in 1939 and joined the staff of Duke University in 1941. He served as an administrative assistant in the Department of Anatomy and later was appointed medical television coordinator.

A television system was first installed at Duke University in 1960 in the Department of Anatomy with seven single-channel systems. The programs for first- and second-year students included demonstrations of physiologic experiments. Broadcasts were used to help students see and hear research works in progress. As of 1964, television projectors could be used in twenty-one locations throughout the medical center. Agnello worked closely with Joseph Markee and F.D. McFalls in the development of television as a local tool for teaching and research. Some projects were funded by the Duke Endowment and the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation.

In 1965, Agnello was named director of the Division of Audiovisual Education, an entity of the School of Medicine. The division was made up of three sections: Medical Art, Medical Photography, and Medical Television. The division's aims were to provide the Duke community with professional cinematography capabilities, custom color slide processing, and continuing education, user instruction, and training in medical photography, art, and television.

Agnello held offices in the Council on Medical Television, Inc., the Southeast Chapter of the Biological Photographic Association and co-authored several articles on the use of television for medical teaching and research.

Collection Overview

Professional papers of Sam A. Agnello. Proposals and reports include correspondence with Joseph E. Markee and William G. Anlyan.

Arrangement Note

Files are arranged in alphabetical order.

Online Catalog Headings

Anlyan, William G.

Audiovisual Aids.

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Davison, Wilburt C. (Wilburt Cornell), 1892-1972

Duke University. Medical Center.

Duke University. School of Medicine.

Markee, J. E. (Joseph Eldridge), 1904-
Medical Education.

[Related Materials](#)

Elon H. Clark Papers.

Duke University Medical Center Archives

Joseph E. Markee Papers.

Duke University Medical Center Archives

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Detailed Description of the Collection

Papers, 1961-1976

Box 1

Correspondence, Anlyan, William G. (The Problems of Today), 1970
Audiovisual Education proposal, 1966
Audiovisual Education, report to faculty, 1967
Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, grant proposal for television cables to expand anatomy and physiology teaching, 1962
Biomedical Communications Facility, 1963
Central T.V. Facility, proposals, 1965
Central T.V. Facility, report, 1964-1965
The Commonwealth of Children Symposium
, correspondence and planning materials, 1961
The Commonwealth of Children Symposium
, photographs, 1961
Correspondence, Davison, Wilburt C., 1970
Duke Endowment Foundation, proposal, 1961
Faculty Videotape Interviews, correspondence and outlines, 1964-1971
Five-Year Forward Planning, 1968

Box 2

Given Foundation Proposal, 1961
Heart, Cancer, and Stroke Project, 1965-1966
Medical Communications Committee, 1966
Public Relations Committee, chair, 1968-1976
Duke Names Medical-TV Coordinator, no date