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COLLEGE FILES  
RG 11

Yenching  
Corres.  
Williams, Walter + Sara  
1930-1944

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
COLUMBIA

SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

March 19, 1930

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

Dear Doctor Stuart:

I think, if agreeable to you, we would prefer having Vernon Nash as exchange professor for the academic year 1931-32. In return we would send to you Professor Frank L. Martin for the same period. x To

Mr. Nash could take over Mr. Martin's work here with reservations that would permit him to conduct campaigns for added support for the School of Journalism at Yenching University. x To

I realize the value to us and to Hin Wong of having him as exchange professor, but all things considered I believe it would be more useful to arrange with Mr. Nash.

I hope your plans will permit you to come to Columbia so that we can discuss the details of the arrangement. //

With cordial personal regard,

Very sincerely,



WW:VP

The following letter sent to the attached list of 18 persons interested in the Yenching journalism project but who did not contribute.

*For Journalism  
General file*

November 30, 1932

You will doubtless have received recently from Dean Frank L. Martin a copy of the Yenching Gazette, daily newspaper of Peiping which is published by the Department of Journalism of Yenching University, Peiping. This English-language daily will soon complete its successful first year. In addition to it, the department also publishes a daily newspaper in the vernacular for the "Peking West" community, made up principally of the student bodies and faculties of Yenching and of Tsinghua University. The latter is the American Boxer indemnity college.

Mr. Martin writes that our joint Missouri-Yenching undertaking to provide education for the profession of journalism in China is progressing satisfactorily in every way. It is now in its fourth year on a comprehensive basis. The enrollment of majors this year (forty) is almost double that of last year. Chinese newspaper men are very cordial and active in their support and cooperation. The graduates each year have promptly found appropriate work. A promising movement is under way among the alumni of Yenching and of Missouri in Shanghai to raise funds in China toward the further support of our work.

The exchange arrangement by which Dean Martin of the University of Missouri has spent this year at Yenching, and Vernon Nash of Yenching University has been with us here, has proved very helpful to both institutions. The time has now arrived when we must consider what our next move shall be. Dean Martin will reach Columbia in time to resume his duties here at the beginning of the second semester. It is highly desirable that Mr. Nash should return as soon as possible to Peiping.

It scarcely seems justifiable, however, for us to incur the heavy expense of a trip to China for him and his family when our present funds will be exhausted within eighteen months. It has been our hope, as you know, that permanent endowment funds could be obtained at the end of the five-year pioneering period in 1934. We still believe this to be a well-grounded hope, but the present does not seem a propitious time for efforts to that end.

The opportunities and demands of the work make it seem almost imperative that Mr. Nash get back to China by the opening of their second term there. But should we recommend to the

trustees of Yenching University in New York that they assume the risk that they might have to bring him back in a little more than a year for financial solicitation work, or face a suspension of the work? It rather seems desirable that we seek to find sufficient additional funds at this time to extend our experimental period at least two more years. Mr. Nash could then return to China for another two or three years and come home, if necessary, in 1935 or 1936 to assist in our efforts to secure a permanent endowment for this most promising and significant undertaking.

We ought to have an additional \$20,000 at least before sending Mr. Nash out again. Failure in this or, at worst, a temporary lapse in the work, would mean that we would lose much of the cumulative value of what has already been so successfully done.

All this is set before you that you may be familiar with the existing situation. We earnestly seek, and will greatly appreciate, any advice you may have to give. We consider that the initial contributors to our pioneering fund, and others who manifested unusual interest, constitute an informal advisory committee. We are exceedingly gratified and grateful that, in such difficult times as these, payments upon pledges have been made so faithfully that our work has been able to advance in keeping with our best hopes.

Since it is most difficult at such a time to interest entirely new friends, our hope for the continuance of the work under Mr. Nash's direction rests upon two possibilities: (1) that many, or all, of those who contributed to the five-year fund will be willing to make an additional subscription at this time, in view of the exceptional circumstances; (2) that certain individuals who evinced unusual interest before but did not find it possible to contribute then will now join us with as large a subscription as may be possible for them.

In the initial effort in 1928, more than \$60,000 (net) was obtained. Gifts ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 were made. Among the larger contributors were the following newspaper men: Adolph S. Ochs, W. T. Dewart, the late Walter Strong, Col. R. R. McCormick, Robert P. Scripps, William E. Scripps, James Wright Brown, G. B. Dealey, E. K. Gaylord, Marcellus Foster, C. M. Palmer, The American Society of Newspaper Editors, the Missouri Press Association, and the United Press.

I wonder if you, at this time, as one of those who were unusually friendly to the undertaking, will join these men by making a subscription. Payments thereupon may be made at your convenience prior to July, 1936. I hope that your decision can be favorable but I also trust you will understand that this letter is written to you primarily as a report of the present status of an undertaking in which you have been interested.

In making this appeal, I am not, in my own thinking, asking for something so much as I am offering you an opportunity to participate in what I feel to be one of the great potential openings for far-reaching service in our time.

Sincerely yours,

Walter Williams.

4  
1/10/33  
accepted  
N.Y.C.

*Mo. - Yen. Fdn*

University of Missouri  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COLUMBIA

WALTER WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

April 6, 1933

Dr. N. Gist Gee  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City  
N Y

Dear Dr. Gee:

Following the conference with President J. Leighton Stuart of Yenching University and Dr. N. Gist Gee, a representative of the Board of Directors of Yenching University, it was agreed that the Department of Journalism of Yenching University, sponsored by the School of Journalism of the University of Missouri, to which you have so generously contributed for a five-year period, might be administered by an educational corporation to be organized under the laws of Missouri and to be known as the Missouri-Yenching Journalism Foundation.

This Foundation, when authorized by court decree, would have control of all matters pertaining to the administration of the department, financial as well as educational, subject to the educational rules of Yenching University, and would be an educational corporation without capital or profit, as permitted by law. It conforms to the plan adopted by Yenching University in its association in similar educational projects with Harvard and Princeton Universities.

This plan will be presented to the Board of Trustees of Yenching University at a meeting in New York City late in April.

In order that we may present the project to this Board, and also prepare for a legal entity such as described, it is necessary to form a preliminary Board of Directors for the Foundation. This preliminary Board would consist of nine members, suggested as follows:

Dr. Walter Williams, President of the University of Missouri and Dean of the Missouri School of Journalism

Professor Frank L. Martin, Associate Dean of the Missouri School of Journalism

Mr. Robert L. Clark, Treasurer of the Kansas City Power and Light Company

*Copies to  
B.A.G.  
E.M.B.*

1020

Mr. James Wright Brown

Dr. N. Gist Gee

Mr. E. K. Gaylord, The Oklahoman,  
Oklahoma City

Mr. Robert P. Scripps, Scripps-Howard  
Newspapers

Mr. W. F. Prisk, Pasadena Star-News

Mr. W. T. Dewart, The New York Sun

I am inviting you to serve as a member of this preliminary Board, representing the University of Missouri, Yenching University, and the contributors to the original fund for the establishment of the Yenching Department of Journalism. The expenses of incorporation will be borne by Yenching University, and service on the Board incurs no financial liability.

266  
accepted  
4-10-33

I earnestly hope that we may have the valuable aid of your services thru your acceptance of appointment upon this Board.

Very sincerely

Walter Williams

University of Missouri  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COLUMBIA

WALTER WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

April 17, 1933

Dr. N. Gist Gee  
Yenching University Office  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York  
NY

My dear Dr. Gee:

I send you enclosed a statement to be submitted, if you see wise to do so, to the Yenching Board of Trustees. It is a report of our action taken at a recent conference.

With high regard, I am,

Very sincerely

Walter Williams

acknowledged

1022

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1023

Apr 17, 1933

PROPOSED STATEMENT TO THE YENCHING BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
from President Williams and Dean Martin  
of the School of Journalism of the University of Missouri

At a conference in Columbia, Missouri, on March 28th, participated in by Dr. Stuart, Dr. Gee, Mr. Nash and ourselves, it was the consensus that our joint undertaking to provide education for journalism in China could best be forwarded by the creation of a corporation of the State of Missouri, to be known as the Missouri-Yenching Journalism Foundation which should operate along lines similar to the Harvard-Yenching Institute and the Princeton-Yenching Foundation. It was proposed that this body should accept full responsibility and authority in the direction and control of the journalism work carried on in connection with Yenching University, subject to the academic and scholastic standards of the institution.

If your board of trustees sees fit to authorize such a transfer of responsibility and authority we are willing and prepared to accept same. Upon the assurance of Dr. Stuart and Dr. Gee that such a proposal would probably be favorably considered by you, we have already approached a group of individuals among those financially interested in our venture, asking them to serve upon the incorporating board of directors subject to your approval. We have thus acted so that the new plan, if approved, can be put into effect at the earliest possible moment.

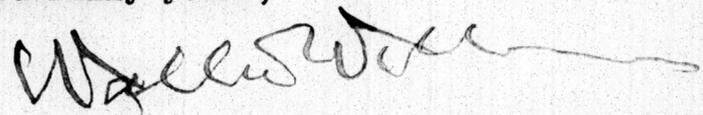
To date the following have signified their willingness to serve:

President Walter Williams, University of Missouri  
Frank L. Martin, Associate Dean, School of Journalism,  
University of Missouri  
Robert J. Clark, Treasurer, Kansas City Power & Light Co.,  
Kansas City  
James Wright Brown, Editor and Publisher, New York City  
Dr. N. Gist Gee, Vice-president, Yenching University  
W. E. Prisk, Pasadena Star-News

Others to whom invitations have been sent are:

W. T. Deward, New York Sun  
E. K. Gaylord, Oklahoman, Oklahoma City

Respectfully yours,



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APR 21 1933  
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1025

May 2, 1935.

President Walter Williams  
University of Missouri  
Columbia, Missouri

My dear President Williams:

The Executive, Finance and Promotion Committees of the Yenching University Board of Trustees met this afternoon and took formal action upon the proposal to create a corporation of the State of Missouri to be known as the Missouri-Yenching Journalism Foundation for the purpose of carrying on the Department of Journalism in connection with Yenching University.

Their action favored the general principle of the creation of such a Foundation for the purposes indicated, but expressed a desire to safeguard the following points:-

1. That the fundamental purposes of the University be adhered to in all the activities in the Department of Journalism.
2. That the unity of University administration here and on the field be maintained.
3. That the Trustees of Yenching University have the right to nominate one of the members of the Board of Directors of the Missouri-Yenching Journalism Foundation.
4. That the University have the right to elect the personnel of the staff of the Department of Journalism upon the nomination of the Missouri-Yenching Journalism Foundation.
5. That the University be not responsible for the finances of the Missouri-Yenching Journalism Foundation.
6. That arrangements be perfected so that there shall be no conflict in the promotional work of the Missouri-Yenching Journalism Foundation and Yenching University. The University will be very glad indeed to cooperate as fully as possible in all plans for promotion and will await suggestions from you as to how and when we can help.

It was also decided that it would be best for Mr. Nash to go on back to the field at such an early date as may be thought wise.

1026

President Walter Williams

-2-

May 2, 1953.

Would it be possible for you to submit to the Executive Committee a copy of your proposed document of incorporation before final legal action is taken.

Very sincerely yours,

*(Signed for Dr. Gee  
by MAG)*

Vice-President

AGG:PW

1027

University of Missouri  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COLUMBIA

WALTER WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

May 9, 1933

Mr. N. Gist Gee  
New York  
N Y

Dear Mr. Gee:

I thank you for having sent to me your letter of the second of May, with the proceedings of your Executive Committee. I am referring it to Dean Frank L. Martin for reply.

With high regard, I am,

Very sincerely

*Walter Williams*

... is today.

# WILLIAMS QUILTS POST AS MISSOURI EDUCATOR

## College President, 70, Became Ill After Trip Around the World Last Year. 1934

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Sept. 10.—Dr.

Walter Williams, 70-year-old president of the University of Missouri, resigned his post today after four years of service "in order that a younger man may be chosen for the responsibilities of the presidency."

The educator and journalist submitted his resignation at a meeting of the Board of Curators here today. It becomes effective on Dec. 31 or on any date thereafter that the board may determine. The board accepted reluctantly, although when Dr. Williams took the post on Jan. 1, 1931, he declared his intention of resigning when he reached the age of 70 on July 2, 1934.

Ill since his return from a world tour last year, Dr. Williams underwent a major glandular operation last June. He has been confined to his home since then.

Following his retirement, Dr. Williams will resume his duties as dean of the School of Journalism, a position he has held since he founded the school, the first of its kind, in 1908.

Dr. Williams is well known in this country and in the Orient as an editor, journalist and historian.

In Asia he became something of a good-will Ambassador for this country. Last Spring he and Mrs. Williams made a trip around the world.

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September 12, 1934

Dr. Walter Williams  
President, University of Missouri  
Columbia, Mo.

Dear Dr. Williams:

I have noticed in the morning Times of yesterday the enclosed article concerning your plans for the future. I regret very much to learn of your continued illness and trust that this will soon be over and you will be enjoying your normal health again. I know that for a man as vigorous as you are to be handicapped by illness is a very serious matter. You are in good hands, however, and I am sure Mrs. Williams is taking the best care of you.

We are, of course, interested in your plan to return to the Deanship of Journalism and hope that it will be possible to work out some plan of cooperation whereby the Department of Journalism at Yenching will be maintained upon a basis somewhat similar to the present one. I would like very much to see the Department of Journalism at Yenching stabilized in connection with your interest in the University there.

I hope next spring to be able to visit the West Coast and if we have not been able to formulate plans before that time we may be able to discuss the future of that department.

With every good wish for you and Mrs. Williams and with warm personal esteem, I am

Very sincerely,

N. Gist Gee

NGG:HW

1030

University of Missouri  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COLUMBIA

WALTER WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

September 14, 1934

Dr. N. Gist Gee  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York  
NY

Dear Dr. Gee:

It was characteristically gracious of you to write your generous letter. I am hoping of course to be of such further service in journalism as my health and strength permit. I will be glad to see you upon your visit to the West Coast.

And, with every good wish from Mrs. Williams and myself, I am,

Very sincerely

Walter Williams



103

December 5, 1935.

924 Providence Rd.

102 SOUTH GLENWOOD AVENUE

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

ack 12/11/35

Dear Dr. Stuart:

After talking with Dean Martin I have decided to go on to Yenching University. He feels sure the board will guarantee funds for my stay there.

I believe he has written you in detail of what he has proposed to the board & that he is also suggesting that Vernon Nash be brought back to U.S.A. to manage the Walter Williams Memorial Foundation Campaign. He is eager for Vernon to come back in ~~January~~<sup>February</sup> if

Dec 5, 1935

102 SOUTH GLENWOOD AVENUE

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

possible. If that is arranged, I presume you would want me to take over much of Vernon's teaching, and I hope, as you suggested, it may mean that a salary could be arranged for me.

At any rate, I am leaving the financial end of things to be settled by Dean Martin, you and Vernon, and I am going. I shall in any case hope to serve Yenching in every possible way for I am so interested in the welfare of the University and its department of Journalism.

I am hoping to leave California on the S.S. Lurline, Matson line, Dec. 19.

3.

and stay a week in Honolulu, then take the Chichibu Maru on Dec. 31 arriving Yokohama Jan. 10. I plan to stay in Tokyo a week, then go by train thru Korea and Manchuria arriving in Peiping at least by Jan. 27, probably earlier.

I can change any of this itinerary if you think I should get to Peiping earlier, or later.

If anything happens here to delay my getting away <sup>so early</sup>, I shall sail Dec. 23 from California on the Chichibu and not stop over in Honolulu. If I find I can make the Seaside I expect to leave here December 12.

I hope all this meets with your favor.

And I hope your visit in U. S. A. is proving successful, satisfying and happy.

Cordially,  
Sara Lockwood Williams

Dec 5, 1935

192 SOUTH GLENWOOD AVENUE

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

P.S. Would you please ask Mr.  
Garside to have sent to me  
a number (perhaps 50) of the  
smallest-size folder on Yenching  
University which sets forth so  
briefly and clearly the facts  
concerning the institution. I  
should like to send copies to  
my relatives and friends who  
want to know what sort of  
place this is I am going to.

Sent  
12/17/35

S. L. W.

1035



Honolulu from Dec. 24 to Jan. 3,  
when I sail on the Empress of  
Canada. I can be reached by  
Canadian Pacific S.S. office in  
Honolulu or Yokohama, and  
at the Imperial Hotel in  
Tokyo. I plan to stop a few  
days in Tokyo, then go on by  
train thru Korea and  
Manchuria, probably  
arriving in Beijing  
January 25 or 26.

With seasons greetings  
and best wishes to you  
and others in the office.

Very sincerely,  
Sara Lockwood Williams  
(Mrs. Walter Williams)

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days in Tokyo then go on by train thru  
Korea and Manchuria, arriving in  
Beiping about January 25 or 26. I shall  
send word on to Vernon from Tokyo as  
to exact date of my arrival. I shall  
be at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo,  
and can be reached in Honolulu in  
care of Canadian Pacific S.S. office.

I hope your stay in U.S.A. will  
prove satisfactory and successful  
in so far as your work is concerned  
and most joyous and beautiful  
personally.

I hope, too, that you will be back  
in Beijing during my stay this next  
semester.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Sara Lockwood Williams.

P.S. Writing on the train makes  
some of my words stutter!

Sara Lockwood Williams

July 13, 1944

College of Arts and Industries, Kingsville, Texas

Mr. E. M. McBrier,  
150 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. McBrier:

I appreciate receiving all news of the China Colleges and especially of Yenching and its faculty members. I am always so proud of having been on Yenching faculty and have so much admiration for the achievements of that organization, I wish I could send personal greetings and such sincere good wishes to Dr. Stuart, Dr. Porter, Miss Speer and so many others.

Very sincerely,

Sara Lockwood Williams  
(Mrs. Walter Williams)

Special Hand sent

1042