

Central Policy Files

1924-1931

The Central Policy Files of the National Academies Archives contain the administrative records of the National Academy of Sciences and its operating arm, the National Research Council, as well as administrative records of the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Medicine. The records in the Central Policy Files encompass operational and program papers documenting the operations and organization of the Academy complex and its study committees. The Academies' activities with international non-governmental scientific unions and organizations are particularly well-represented in the collection.

The documents that make up the Central Policy Files were created and/or received by the institution's Executive Offices while conducting institutional business. The collection therefore only includes institutional, and not personal, papers. The records contained in the Central Policy Files are considered privileged records and are closed to the public for a period of twenty-five years. Records in the Central Policy Files twenty-five years old and older are open to qualified researchers.

The records in the Central Policy Files are organized according to the NAS Records System, the structure of which follows the organization of the institution at the time the records in question were created. Under this system, the placement of an activity within the collection may change over a period of years, corresponding to changes in the organization of the institution. Beginning with the arrangement of records created in 2000, a modified and streamlined version of the NAS Records System has been in place.

For ease of use, the Central Policy Files are divided into discrete date banks, each of which encompasses a given number of years. Outline finding aids to the Central Policy Files correspond to date banks as they exist in the Archives. Because the Academies' activities are so numerous and varied, it is not possible to give capsule descriptions of each. However, the individual entries in the outlines to the collection should provide a general idea of the scope and subject matter of the activities documented.

ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- American Geophysical Union: 1924-1931
- Appointments
 - Chairman: Dunn G: 1924
 - Members: 1924-1931
- Central Petroleum Committee: 1925-1931
- Committees
 - Apparatus Makers & Users: 1924-1931
 - Annual Tables & Critical Tables: 1929-1930
 - Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration Advisory: 1928-1929
 - Conservation of Natural Resources: 1924-1930
 - Cooperation with Research Corp: 1924-1930
 - Disposition of Cleveland Patent for Sterilization & Preservation of Fruit Juices: 1928-1930

- Filing
 - Survey of NRC Filing System: 1924
 - General: 1924
- Initiation & Testing of Projects: 1930
- Investigation of International Critical Tables: 1924
- Nominations: 1924-1931
- Patent Office: 1924-1931
- Policies: 1924-1931
- Projects: 1924-1928
- Publication & Publicity: 1924-1931
- Publications: 1928-1931
- Radio Talks: 1924-1926
- Scientific Property Rights: 1927-1928
- Interim Committee
 - Meetings: 1924-1931
 - Resolution re American Archaeological Work in Egypt: 1924-1925
- Meetings: 1924-1931
- Patent Policy: 1926-1929
- NRC Patent Policy
 - Formal Statement: Feb: 1924
 - General: 1924
- Projects
 - Cooperation with Bureau of Standards: 1925-1931
 - Organic Evolution: 1924-1925
- Reports of Permanent Secretary: 1924-1931
- Research Information Service
 - Executive Committee: Meetings: 1924
 - Reports to NRC Chairman
 - Annual: 1924-1931
 - Interim: 1924-1931
 - General: 1924-1931
- Science Advisory Committee to Trustees of Chicago World's Fair (Centennial Celebration)
 - Brochure: 1929
 - Executive Committee: 1929
 - Final Report: 1931
 - Meetings: 1929-1930
 - Subcommittees
 - Civil Engineering: 1929-1930
 - Electrical Engineering: 1930
 - General Geology: 1929
 - Mechanical Engineering: 1929-1930
 - Mining & Metallurgy: 1929
 - Physics & Optical Physics: 1929
 - General: 1929-1930
- Membership
 - General Lists & Indices: 1929-1930
 - Members-at-Large: 1929-1930

- Professional & Technical Members: 1929-1930
- Radio Talks: 1930-1931
- Report to Trustees: 1930
- Reports
 - Subcommittees
 - Agricultural Engineering to Automotive Engineering: 1930
 - Bacteriology to Botany: 1930
 - Chemical Engineering to Chemistry: 1930
 - Engineering Materials & Materials Testing: 1930
 - Entomology: 1930
 - General Geology to Geography: 1930
 - Illuminating Engineering: 1929
 - Mathematics: 1930
 - Mechanical Engineering: 1930
 - Medicine: 1930
 - Mining & Metallurgy: 1930
 - Physics & Optical Physics: 1930
 - Physiology to Roentgenology: 1930
 - Steel Treating: 1930
 - Veterinary Science: 1930
- General: 1939-1931
- Summer Executive Committee: 1924-1931
- Trustees & Editorial Board for Publication of International Critical Tables
 - Financial Statements: 1924-1929
 - Meetings: 1924-1930
 - Membership: 1924-1931
 - Permission to Reproduce Extracts from Tables: 1929-1931
 - Publication of Tables
 - Announcement: 1925
 - Vol: 1: 1926
 - General: 1924-1931
- General: 1924-1930

FELLOWSHIPS

- Administration of NRC Fellowships
 - Committee to Consider Questions of Procedure: 1929
 - Conference upon Procedures with Respect to Fellowships & Grants-in-Aid: 1930
 - Conferences of Representatives of Fellowship Boards: 1931
 - Cooperation with International Educational Board: 1928
 - General: 1924-1931
- Board of National Research Fellowships in Biological Sciences: 1924-1931
- Heat Transmission Fellowships: 1928-1931
- Medical Fellowship Board: 1924-1931
- National Livestock & Meat Board Fellowships: 1924-1931
- Non-NRC
 - Edison Fellowship for Research: 1929

- Geology & Geography: 1928
 - Ramsay Memorial Fellowship: 1926-1928
- Research Fellowship Board in Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics: 1924-1931
- Rosenwald Fellowship: Fellow: Just E E: 1924-1931
- Seed Germination Fellowship: 1924-1928
- Sulphur Fellowships: 1926-1928
- General: 1924-1931

GRANTS-IN-AID

- Applications: Blumfeldt A E: Carcinogenic Research: 1929-1931
- Beginning of Program: 1929
- Committee on Grants-in-Aid: Meetings: 1929-1931
- Policy
 - Conflict re Referral of Applicants to NRC by Rockefeller Foundation: 1929
 - General: 1929-1931
- Requests for Support: Rockefeller Foundation: 1929-1931
- General: 1929-1931

INSTITUTIONS-ASSOCIATIONS & INDIVIDUALS

- American Association for Advancement of Science: 1924-1931
- American Council of Learned Societies: 1925-1930
- American Petroleum Institute: 1926-1931
- American Psychiatric Association: 1926-1928
- American Society for Steel Treating: 1924
- American Shore & Beach Preservation Association: 1926-1927
- American Standards Association: 1925-1930
- Barnard Free Skin & Cancer Hospital: 1924-1925
- Committee on Research in Syphilis Inc: 1928-1930
- Engineering Foundation: 1924-1931
- Goodnow F J: Inquiry re Pure Research Undertaken in American Universities Without any Utilitarian Aim: 1924
- International Education Board: 1926-1930
- Horological Institute of America: 1924-1931
- National Selected Morticians: 1924
- Personnel Research Federation: 1924-1929
- Population Association of America: Beginning of Program: 1930-1931
- Purdue Research Foundation: 1931
- Rockefeller Foundation: 1929
- Science Service: 1924-1931
- Social Science Research Council
- Hanover Conferences
 - Transcripts: 1929
 - Excerpts re Problems of NRC: 1928
 - General: 1927-1930

- General: 1926-1931

LEGAL MATTERS

- Agreement between American Petroleum Institute & NAS: Negation of Agreement that Patent be Assigned to NAS: 1925-1927

ORGANIZATION

- Articles of Organization & Bylaws: 1924-1930
- Chairman: Dunn G: End of Term: 1928
- File Control: Records: Accessions: Faraday Letter: 1926
- Members NRC
 - Geographic Distribution of NRC Committees: Members & Fellows: 1925-1928
 - Geographic Lists of NRC Past Members: 1930
 - Geographic Lists of NRC Committee Members: 1924-1931
 - Officers: 1924-1931
- Methods & Systems
 - NRC Code of Procedure: 1924
 - NRC Financial Procedures with Respect to Semi-independent Bodies: 1929
 - NRC Fiscal Procedures: 1930
 - Procedure for Initiating & Financing NRC Projects Criticism: 1931
 - Travel Expenses Policy: 1925
- National Academy of Science (NAS)
 - Act of Incorporation: Circumstances re Lincoln's Signing Act: Comments by Daughter of Secretary to Lincoln: 1924
 - Committees
 - Albert National Park: 1925-1931
 - Calendar Revision: 1927-1929
 - Cancer Research: Advisory to US Congress Proposed: 1928-1929
 - Forestry Research
 - Activities: Reports to General Education Board: 1926-1931
 - Beginning of Program: 1924-1925
 - Financial Support: 1925-1931
 - Meetings: 1925-1930
 - Report
 - Prepublication Planning: Arrangements with Macmillan Co: 1928-1929
 - General: 1927-1930
 - Subcommittee on Survey of Status of Research in Forestry: 1925-1927
 - General: 1924-1931
 - Funds for Academy Purposes: 1929-1931
 - Funds for Publication of Research
 - Financial Support: 1925-1931
 - Grants
 - Awarded
 - Publication of Monograph on Cowbirds: 1927-1930

- General: 1935-1931
 - Recommended: 1926-1931
 - Meetings: 1930-1931
 - Recommendation re Continuation of Biological Abstracts: 1929-1931
 - Reports: 1925-1931
 - General: 1925-1931
 - Library: 1928-1931
 - Long-Range Weather Forecasting
 - Appointments: Members: 1931
 - Meetings: Minutes: 1931
 - General: 1930-1931
 - Mathematical Aspects of Reapportionment: Historical Account: Proposed: 1928-1929, 1931
 - Meteor Crater: 1931
 - Nominations: 1924-1931
 - Oceanography: 1930-1931
 - History of Oceanographic Project: Now in Hands of NAS Committee on Oceanography Lillie F R: 1928
 - Meetings: 1928-1929
 - General: 1927-1929
 - Relationship between NAS & NRC
 - Report: General: 1925
 - Selected Correspondence: 1924-1925
 - General: 1924-1925
 - Scientific Problems of National Parks: 1930-1931
 - Smithsonian Institution Proposal for Measurement of Heat Radiation of Sun: 1924
 - Special Meetings: 1930
 - Weights Measures & Coinage: 1926-1931
- Constitution & By-Laws: 1927
- Council of the Academy
 - Executive Committee: 1925-1931
 - Meetings: 1931
 - Membership: 1924-1931
- Election Procedures: 1926
- Meetings
 - Annual: 1924-1931
 - Autumn: 1924-1931
- Members: Formal Listings: 1924-1930
- Officers: 1924-1931
- Projects
 - Interior Department Request for Advice on Care of American Indians: 1931
 - Invitation of Foreign Scientists to Chicago World's Fair: 1930-1931
- Sections
 - Geology & Paleontology: Committee on Grand Canyon: 1927-1929
- Trust Funds: 1925-1930

- General: 1925-1931
- National Research Council (NRC) Activities: 1916-1925
 - Summary: Kellogg V L: 1925
- NRC Reorganization: Proposals: 1925
- NRC Seal: 1928
- Permanent Secretary: Kellogg V L: Resignation: 1931
- Projects Proposed
 - Radium for American Institutions: 1930
 - Study of Safety of Tetraethyl Lead Additives to Gasoline: 1924-1925
- Surveys
 - Cultural Development in US: 1928
 - Facilities in US for Encouragement of Research in Natural Sciences: 1931
- General: 1924-1931

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Exhibits: Chemical: 1924
- Inaugurations Ceremonies: Royal Institution of Great Britain: Faraday Celebrations: 1930-1931
- Newspaper & Magazine Articles: 1924-1928
- General: 1924-1930

PUBLICATIONS

- American Journal of Physiology: 1924
- Journal of Parasitology: 1930
- NAS Biographical Memoirs: Committee on Biographical Memoirs: 1924-1931
- NAS Proceedings: 1924-1931
- NRC: List of NRC Publications: 1919-1926
- Science: 1924-1929
- General: 1924-1930

DIVISIONS OF THE NRC

CHEMISTRY & CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY

- Appointments: Members: 1924-1931
- Bi-monthly Reports: 1924-1931
- Committees
 - Advisory to Bureau of Standards on Research on Impermanency of Records: 1929-1931
 - Chemical Research on Medicinal Substances: 1924-1927
 - Explosives Investigations: 1924-1927
 - Publication of Annual Survey of American Chemistry: 1926-1931
- Directory: 1924-1931
- Executive Committee: Meetings: 1924-1931
- Meetings: Annual: 1924-1930
- Newsletter: 1924-1925
- Plan for Operation of Division: 1931

- Projects
 - Asphyxia Research: Proposed: 1924-1925
 - Bibliography of Electro-Organic Chemistry: 1924-1925
 - Census of Graduate Research Students in Chemistry: 1924-1925
 - Publication of Chemical Reviews: Joint with American Chemical Society: 1924
 - Research Problems in Chemistry
 - Assignment to Dairy & Food Commission of Minnesota: 1924-1925
 - Assignment to Department of Agriculture: 1924-1925
 - Assignment to Universities
 - Albion College: 1925-1927
 - College of the Holy Cross: 1925
 - Cornell College: 1926
 - Daniel Baker College: 1925-1926
 - Drury College: 1925-1926
 - Iowa State College: 1925-1927
 - Monmouth College: 1925-1926
 - Oberlin College: 1925-1927
 - Oregon State Agricultural College: 1925-1927
 - Smith College: 1924-1927
 - State College of Washington: 1925-1927
 - Sweet Briar College: 1924
 - U of Arizona: 1924-1925
 - U of Michigan: 1925-1927
 - U of North Carolina: 1925-1927
 - U of Texas: 1925-1927
 - Washington & Lee U: 1925-1927
 - Washington U: 1926-1927
 - Worcester Polytechnic Institute: 1926-1927
 - General: 1924-1926
 - Formal List of Problems: 1924
 - Solicitation of Problems from Industry: 1924-1926
 - Solicitation of Universities for Engaging in Research of Use to Industry: 1924-1926
 - General: 1924-1927
 - General: 1924-1931
- General: 1924-1931

ENGINEERING & INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

- Activities: Report to NRC Chairman: 1930
- American Bureau of Welding: 1924-1931
- Appointments: Members: 1924-1931
- Bi-monthly Reports: 1924-1931
- Brochures: 1925-1931
- Committees
 - Electrical Insulation: 1926-1931

- Fatigue Phenomena of Metals: Conference: Proceedings: 1927
- Heat Transmission
 - Directory of Research on Heat Transmission in Educational Institutions of US: 1929
 - Subcommittee on Heat Transfer by Radiation: Conference on Heat Transfer by Radiation: 1929
 - General: 1924-1931
- Industrial Lighting: 1924-1931
- Marine Piling Investigations: Joint with Divisions of C&CT & B&A: 1924-1929
- Executive Committee: Meetings: 1924-1931
- Highway Research Board
 - Highway Research News: 1925-1931
 - Meetings: Annual: 1924-1931
 - General: 1924-1931
- Meetings: 1924-1931
- Nominating Committee: 1924-1931
- Plan for Promotion of Research: 1925
- Present Status & Future Possibilities of Division: 1930
- Profitable Practice in Industrial Research: 1931
- Reorganization: Proposal to Establish Functional Committees: 1926
- Survey of Research in Manufacturing Companies in US: 1928
- Tour of Research Laboratories: 1924, 1930-1931
- General: 1924-1931

FEDERAL RELATIONS

- Appointments: Members: 1924-1931
- General: 1925-1931

GEOLOGY & GEOGRAPHY

- Appointments: Members: 1924-1931
- Committees
 - Fellowships: 1926-1931
 - Measurement of Geologic Time by Atomic Disintegration: 1924-1929
 - Pioneer Belts: 1926-1928
 - Sedimentation
 - Treatise on Sedimentation: 1925-1931
 - General: 1924-1928
 - Shoreline Investigations: 1926-1927
 - Studies in Petroleum Geology: 1924-1927
 - Submarine Configuration & Oceanic Circulation: 1925-1930
 - Division: Formal Listings: 1924-1931
- Directory: 1924-1931
- Meetings
- Annual
 - 1930-1931

- 1929*
- 1928
- 1926*-1927*
- 1924-1925
- *Minutes bound with pertinent Annual Report
- Nominating Committee: 1924-1931
- General: 1924-1931

MEDICAL SCIENCES

- Activities: Administrative Summary: 1924-1931
- Advisory Services to Maurice & Laura Falk Foundation: 1930-1931
- Appointments: Members: 1924-1931
- Bi-monthly Reports: 1924-1931
- Circular Letters: 1930-1931
- Commission for Research in Psychiatry: Proposed: 1931
- Committees
 - Advisory to Division: 1930-1931
 - For Research in Infectious Diseases: 1926-1929
 - Abstracting Medical Literature: 1924
 - American Registry of Pathology: 1930-1931
 - Bacteriology: Proposed: 1930
 - Blood Grouping: Joint with Division of Anthropology & Psychology: 1926-1929
 - Brown Staining of Teeth: 1926-1928
 - Climate & Health: Beginning of Program: 1931
 - Dental Investigations: 1924-1926
 - Dental Research Advisory: 1928-1931
 - Hot Springs Investigation: 1924
 - Infectious Abortion: Joint with Division of Biology & Agriculture: 1924-1930
 - Medical Problems of Animal Parasitology
 - Beginning of Program: 1924
 - Studies
 - Entamoeba Histolytica in Tennessee: 1930
 - Host-Parasite Relations between Man & His Intestinal Protozoa: Proposed: 1926-1928
 - Occurrence of Ascariasis in Children Financial Support: 1927-1931
 - General: 1927-1930
 - Occurrence of Schistosomiasis in Puerto Rico: Proposed: 1931
 - General: 1925-1931
 - Medicolegal Problems
 - Meetings: 1926-1929
 - Projects Proposed: Encyclopedia of Forensic Medicine: 1926-1928
 - Report: Coroner & Medical Examiner
 - Criticisms & Supplementary Note: 1928-1929
 - General: 1928
 - Studies
 - Medicolegal Practice Affecting Insurance Companies: 1926-1927

- University Departments of Criminology & Proposed Medicolegal Institutes: 1929-1930
 - Surveys
 - Laws Concerning Dead Human Bodies: 1928-1929
 - Medicolegal Problems
 - Legal: 1926-1927
 - Medical
 - Survey of Baltimore: Proposed: 1927-1928
 - Survey of Boston: 1926-1927
 - General: 1926-1928
 - General: 1925: 1927
 - Statue Law of Coroners & Medical Examiners: 1930-1931
 - General: 1924-1931
 - Microbiology of Soil: Joint with Division of Biology & Agriculture: 1931
 - Nasal Sinuses: 1929-1931
 - Nominations: 1924-1931
 - Pernicious Anemia: Proposed: 1924
 - Pharmacological Research: 1927-1929
 - Pharmacopeia: 1924-1926
 - Physical Causes of Deafness: 1927-1931
 - Beginning of Program: 1925-1926
 - General: 1926
 - Poliomyelitis: 1931
 - Problems in Industrial Medicine
 - Beginning of Program: 1925-1926
 - Studies
 - Dust Prevention in Use of Pneumatic Rock Drills & Stone Cutting Tools: 1927
 - Proposed: Toxicology of Benzene: 1925-1926
 - General: 1926-1930
 - Problems of Heredity in Disease: 1924-1928
 - Results of Radiotherapy in Malignancy: Proposed: 1924-1925
 - Rheumatism: Proposed: 1926-1927
 - Standardization of Medical Publications: 1924
- Directory: 1924-1931
- Executive Committee
 - Meetings: 1924-1931
 - General: 1924-1929
- Meetings: Annual: 1924-1931
- Newsletter: 1924-1928
- Projects
 - Establishment of Information Exchange in Cooperation with Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology: Proposed: 1927-1928
 - Investigation of Therapeutic Value of Radium & Roentgen-ray Treatment in Deafness: 1924
 - National Institute of Nutrition: Proposed: 1924
 - Nephritis Studies: Proposed: 1924-1926

- Opposition to Anti-Vivisection Movements: 1926-1928
 - Study of Physiological & Psychological Effects of Tea in Human Diet: Proposed: 1931
- Surveys
 - Members re Projects for Research in their Particular Field of Possible Interest to Division: 1926
 - Universities re Funding Needs for Medical Research: 1926-1927
- General: 1924-1931

FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

ACCOUNTING

- Auditing Committee: 1924-1931

BUDGETS

- Committee on Budget: 1924-1931
- NRC: 1924-1931

CONTRACTS

- Committees
 - Forestry: Agreement with Macmillan Co: 1929
 - Funds for Publication of Research: Agreements with Thomas C C: 1927-1928
 - Publication of Annual Survey of American Chemistry: Agreement with Chemical Catalog Co Inc: 1927
 - Sedimentation: Agreement with Williams & Wilkins Co: 1925
- Division of Engineering & Industrial Research: Agreement with Harper & Brothers: 1931
- Highway Research Board: Cooperative Road Investigations
 - Agreements with Department of Agriculture: 1924-1925
- Trustees & Editorial Board for Publication of International Critical Tables: Agreements with McGraw-Hill Book Co Inc: 1925-1928

COSTS

- Overhead: Three Percent from Grants: 1929-1931

FINANCE

- Finance Committee
 - Trustees for NAS: Bank of New York & Trust Co: 1925-1926
 - General: 1925-1931
- Financial Reports & Statements: 1924-1931
- Funds: Appropriations for NRC Activities: 1919-1931
 - Listing: 1929
 - Committee on Medicolegal Problems: 1926-1931
- Grants

- Carnegie Corp of New York
 - Building & Endowment Fund: 1924-1929
 - General: 1924-1931
- Rockefeller Foundation: NRC Fellowship Program: 1924-1931
- General: 1919-1923
- General: 1919-1923

GENERAL FILES

- 1925-1931

GOVERNMENT

AGENCIES & DEPARTMENTS

- Commerce: National Conference on Street & Highway Safety: 1924-1926
- Navy: 1924-1930
- Treasury: Public Health Service: Study of Safety of Tetraethyl Lead Additives in Gasoline: 1925-1926
- General: 1924-1931

CONGRESS

- Acts: 1928-1929
- Bills
 - Authorizing NAS & US Public Health Service to Investigate Methods for Affording Federal Aid for Cancer Research: 1929
 - Authorizing NAS to Investigate Methods for Affording Federal Aid for Cancer Research: 1928
 - Federal Aid to State Universities & Colleges in Basic Sciences: 1931
 - Medal of Honor & Awards to Government Employees for Scientific Achievement: 1928-1930
 - National Institute of Health: 1927-1929
 - General: 1924-1930
- Committees: Rivers & Harbors: Hearings: Establishment of National Hydraulic Laboratory in Bureau of Standards: 1928
- Library of Congress: Copyright Office: Copyright Law with Rules for Practice & Procedure: 1925
- Resolutions
 - Chicago World's Fair: 1929
 - Creating Senate Committee on Cancer Research & Requesting NAS & US Public Health Service Cooperation: 1929
 - General: 1926-1931
- General: 1927-1931

EXECUTIVE

- 1924-1929

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- World's Fair: Chicago: 1928-1931, 1933-1934

MUNICIPAL

- Philadelphia: John Scott Medal & Premium: 1926-1927

PERSONNEL RELATIONS

WELFARE

- Employee Benefit Plan Retirement Pension Program: Proposed: 1928-1930

PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT

TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

- 1925-1929