

# Guide to the Yale University Corporation and Prudential Committee Minutes

RU 307



compiled by Daniel Hartwig

January 2008

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
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(203) 432-1735  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** RU 307

**CREATOR:** Yale Corporation

**TITLE:** Yale University Corporation and Prudential Committee minutes

**DATES:** 1701-2022

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 31.25 linear feet

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 9.42 Megabytes

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The materials consist of meeting minutes of the Yale Corporation and Prudential Committee.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ru.0307>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ru.0307>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box
- f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

While this collection as a whole is available for research, parts of it may be restricted due to law, university policy or fragility. Any restricted material will be noted as such.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Researchers are required to use the microfilm copy of the materials.

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## Preferred Citation

Yale University Corporation and Prudential Committee Minutes (RU 307). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Processing Information

Yale University records are arranged and described at the accession level by the creating office. The University Archives creates collection level descriptive records, but typically does no further arrangement and description at the accession level.

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## Existence and Location of Copies

Minutes of the Yale Corporation (1701-1990) are available on microfilm [reels 1-12, 1701-1957, are open for research use; reels 13 and higher, 1958-1990, are restricted] (19 reels, 35 mm.) from Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library, at cost. Order no. HM49.

Minutes of the Prudential Committee (1800-1952) are available on microfilm (5 reels, 35mm) from Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library, at cost. Order no. HM50.

Yale Corporation minutes, 1904-1962, and Prudential Committee minute, 1903-1950, are carbon copies of original minutes.

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## Biographical / Historical

"An Act for Liberty to Erect a Collegiate School," passed by the General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut on October 9, 1701, established the ten founders to stand as "Trustees, Partners or Undertakers" of the school and set out the framework for the role of the Trustees. These ten fellows select their successors and are known as the Successor Fellows. Subsequent acts of the colonial legislature and the state assembly provided for additional responsibilities and duties as well as the makeup of the body. On May 9, 1745, an act passed by the General Court of the colony established that the Trustees become a corporation called The President and Fellows of Yale College. On June 26, 1792, in order to receive substantial financial assistance from the state, "the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and six senior assistants in the Council of this State" became members of the Corporation "ex officiiis." On May 12, 1819, an act substituted the six senior assistants with six senior senators. On July 6, 1871, the General Assembly provided for the election of six graduates as Fellows of Yale College "in the stead of the six senior senators of the state..." which was accepted by the Corporation on July 11. These fellows are known as Alumni Fellows and serve one six-year term. They are elected on a staggered basis, two per year. The governor and lieutenant governor continue to serve "ex officiiis."

In 1737, Rector Elisha Williams created "a standing committee of trustees to conduct certain college business between the regular annual meetings of the entire board. This committee ultimately became the Prudential Committee, which performs the same function today.

Yale's Charter provides that its governing body, known legally as "The President and Fellows of Yale College" or, more simply, as "The Corporation" "shall have the government, care and management of the College... and make such reasonable laws... as they think fit and proper for the instruction and education of the students."

The Corporation comprises 19 members:

Three members ex officio: the President of the University and the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Connecticut.

Ten "Successors to the original Trustees", who elect their own successors. Their terms on the Corporation are limited by their own vote to two six-year terms, except that upon recommendation of the President in special circumstances a Successor Trustee may be elected to an additional term of up to three years. Successor Trustees must retire upon reaching age 70.

Six Alumni Fellows elected by the alumni as provided in the Miscellaneous Regulations.

In addition to the President, the officers of the University are: a Provost, a Vice President and Secretary, a Vice President and General Counsel, a Vice President for Finance and Administration, a Vice President for Development, and a Vice President for New Haven and State Affairs and Campus Development.

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## **Scope and Contents**

The materials consist of meeting minutes of the Yale Corporation and Prudential Committee.

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## **General note**

Forms part of Yale Record Group 1-A (YRG 1-A), Minutes of meetings and administrative records of the Yale Corporation.

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## **Arrangement**

The records are arranged in two series: I. Yale Corporation Minutes, 1701-1990; II. Prudential Committee Minutes, 1794-1952; and subsequent accessions.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Yale Corporation Minutes, 1701-1990

Patrons must use FILM HM 49 instead of the originals. Reels 1-14 are open, reels 15 and higher are restricted for a period of 50 years from the date of creation.

The typescript copy is more complete than the Yale College Register

Yale College records (typescript copy of Yale College Register) [The typescript copy is more complete than the Yale College Register]

b. 3, reel 1reel 1U      1701 Feb -1704 Feb

b. 42                      Duplicate copy

b. 3, reel 1reel 1U      1716 Oct - 1857 Jul

b. 42                      Duplicate copy

Yale College Register (includes *Accounts of Yale College*)

b. 1, reel 2reel 2U      [1701 Nov -1704 Feb, 1717 Oct -1800 Nov](#)

b. 2, reel 3reel 3U      1801 Sep -1864 Jul (with index)

Yale Corporation minutes

b. 4, reel 4reel  
4U                      [1716 Oct -1760 Sep](#)

b. 5, reel 4reel  
4U                      1761 Jul -1795 Feb, 1817 Jul, 1819 Sep

1786 Sep -1799 Dec (includes Prudential Committee minutes, 1789-1800)

b. 6, reel 5reel 5U      1798 Sep 12 -1828 Sep 9

b. 7, reel 5reel 5U      1829 Jul -1857 Jul (with index)

b. 8, reel 6reel  
6U                      1858 Jul -1874 Dec

b. 9, reel 6reel 6U      1875 Mar -1900 Dec

b. 10, reel 6-7reel  
6Ureel 7U              1901 Jan -1910 Dec

b. 11, reel 7reel  
7U                      1911 Feb -1914 May [1911 Feb first typed minutes]

b. 12, reel 7reel  
7U                      1914 Jun -1918 Mar

b. 13, reel 7reel  
7U                      1918 Apr -1922 Mar

b. 14, reel 7-8reel  
7U                      1922 Apr -1925 Oct

## Yale Corporation minutes (continued)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| b. 15, reel 8reel<br>8U                 | 1925 Nov -1929 Jan                                 |
| b. 16, reel 8-9reel<br>8Ureel 9U        | 1929 Feb -1932 Nov                                 |
| b. 17, reel 9reel<br>9U                 | 1932 Dec -1937 Feb                                 |
| b. 18, reel 9reel<br>9U                 | 1937 Apr -1940 May                                 |
| b. 19, reel<br>9-10reel 9Ureel<br>10U   | 1940 Jun -1943 Jul                                 |
| b. 20, reel 10reel<br>10U               | 1943 Oct -1946 Dec                                 |
| b. 21, reel 10reel<br>10U               | 1947 Jan -1950 Jan                                 |
| b. 22, reel<br>10-11reel 10Ureel<br>11U | 1950 Apr -1952 Jun                                 |
| b. 23, reel 11reel<br>11U               | 1952 Oct -1954 Apr                                 |
| b. 24, reel 12reel<br>12U               | 1954 Jun -1956 Apr                                 |
| b. 25, reel 12reel<br>12U               | 1956 May -1957 Nov                                 |
| b. 26, reel 13reel<br>13U               | 1957 Dec -1959 Dec                                 |
| b. 27, reel 13reel<br>13U               | 1960 Jan -1962 Feb                                 |
| b. 28, reel 14reel<br>14U               | 1962 Apr -1964 Feb                                 |
| b. 29, reel 14reel<br>14U               | 1964 Mar -1965 Jun                                 |
| b. 30, reel 15reel<br>15U               | 1965 Oct -1967 Oct<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2020 |
| b. 31, reel 15reel<br>15U               | 1967 Nov -1969 Jun<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2020 |
| b. 32, reel 16reel<br>16U               | 1969 Sep -1971 May<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2025 |
| b. 33, reel 16reel<br>16U               | 1971 Jun -1974 Jun<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2025 |

## Yale Corporation minutes (continued)

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| b. 34, reel 17reel<br>17U | 1974 Sep -1977 Apr<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2029 |
| b. 35, reel 17reel<br>17U | 1977 May -1978 Dec<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2029 |
| b. 36, reel 18reel<br>18U | 1979 Jan -1980 Sep<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2034 |
| b. 37, reel 18reel<br>18U | 1980 Nov -1983 Jun<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2034 |
| b. 38, reel 19reel<br>19U | 1983 Oct -1985 Dec<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2038 |
| b. 39, reel 19reel<br>19U | 1986 Feb -1987 Jun<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2038 |
| b. 40, reel 20            | 1987 Sep -1988 Dec<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2041 |
| b. 41, reel 20            | 1989 Jan -1990 Dec<br>Restricted until Jan 1, 2041 |



**Series II: Prudential Committee Minutes, 1794-1952**

The materials are open for research.

Patrons must use FILM HM 49 and HM 50 instead of the originals

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| b. 43                   | 1789 - 1800<br>See: <a href="#">Series I, reel 4</a> |
| b. 44, reel 1reel<br>1U | 1800 Mar -1851 Dec                                   |
| b. 45, reel 1reel<br>1U | 1852 Apr -1906 Mar; Index, 1852 Apr -1862 Jul        |
| b. 46, reel 1reel<br>1U | 1906 Apr -1910 Dec                                   |
| b. 47, reel 2reel<br>2U | 1911 Jan -1913 Dec                                   |
| b. 48, reel 2reel<br>2U | 1914 Jan -1917 Feb                                   |
| b. 49, reel 2reel<br>2U | 1917 Mar -1920 Jul                                   |
| b. 50, reel 3reel<br>3U | 1920 Sep -1923 Jul                                   |
| b. 51, reel 3reel<br>3U | 1923 Sep -1927 Feb                                   |
| b. 52, reel 3reel<br>3U | 1927 Mar -1930 Apr                                   |
| b. 53, reel 4reel<br>4U | 1930 Apr -1932 Jun                                   |
| b. 54, reel 4reel<br>4U | 1933 Oct -1937 May                                   |
| b. 55, reel 4reel<br>4U | 1937 Jun -1940 Jun                                   |
| b. 56, reel 5reel<br>5U | 1940 Jul -1945 Oct                                   |
| b. 57, reel 5reel<br>5U | 1945 Nov -1950 Feb                                   |
| b. 58, reel 5reel<br>5U | 1950 Apr -1952 Oct                                   |

## Accession 2001-A-121: Meeting minutes [computer files], 1980-1999

Restricted until Jan 1, 2050

|     |   |           |
|-----|---|-----------|
| b.1 | 1980-1981<br>2001-a-121_0001<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1474560 bytes (1.47 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i> |           |
| b.1 | 1982-1983<br>2001-a-121_0002<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1474560 bytes (1.47 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i> |           |
| b.1 | 1984-1985<br>2001-a-121_0003<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1474560 bytes (1.47 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i> |           |
| b.1 | 1986<br>2001-a-121_0004<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1474560 bytes (1.47 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i>      |           |
| b.1 | 1987<br>2001-a-121_0005<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1474560 bytes (1.47 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i>      |           |
| b.1 | 1988<br>2001-a-121_0006<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1474560 bytes (1.47 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i>      |           |
| b.1 | 1989-1990<br>2001-a-121_0007<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1474560 bytes (1.47 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i> |           |
| b.1 | 1990-1991<br>2001-a-121_0008<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk</i>   | 1990-1991 |
| b.1 | 1991-1992<br>2001-a-121_0009<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk</i>   | 1991-1992 |
| b.1 | 1993-1994<br>2001-a-121_0010<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1474560 bytes (1.47 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i> |           |

|     |  |      |
|-----|--|------|
| b.1 | 1995<br>2001-a-121_0011<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1492992 bytes (1.49 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i>               |      |
| b.1 | 1996<br>2001-a-121_0012<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1492992 bytes (1.49 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i>               |      |
| b.1 | 1997<br>2001-a-121_0013<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1492992 bytes (1.49 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i>               | 1997 |
| b.1 | 1998 (Sep missing)<br>2001-a-121_0014<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1492992 bytes (1.49 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i> |      |
| b.1 | 1999<br>2001-a-121_0015<br><i>13.5_floppy_disk 1492992 bytes (1.49 Megabytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)</i>               |      |

**Accession 2006-A-214: Draft of minutes concerning professors [George Trumbull?]  
Ladd and [George Martin?] Duncan, 1904**

The materials are open for research.

b. 1, f. 1

Drafts of minutes concerning professors Ladd and Duncan by Mr. Ripley and T.T. Munger 1904 May 16

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**Accession 2019-A-0058: Meeting minutes, 1991-2016**

Restricted until January 1, 2067

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Universities and colleges -- Administration

### **Corporate Bodies**

Yale Corporation

Yale University -- Administration