

# Finding Aid for the Harry Meshel Collection, 1970-2000



Collection Number: RG 77/6/3

## Archives & Special Collections

William F. Maag, Jr. Library  
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## Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Harry Meshel Collection, 1970-2000

**Record No.:** RG 77/6/3

**Accession No.:** MSS 2005.38

**Creator:** Harry Meshel

**Extent:** 1 box

**Abstract:** Harry Meshel is a graduate of Youngstown College (now Youngstown State University). He served in the Ohio State Senate from 1970-1993. Then he served as chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party from 1993-1995. In May 2007, Ohio Governor Ted Strickland appointed him to the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees for a nine year term. He has played an important role over the years in the growth of Youngstown State University and NEOUCOM.

## Administrative Information

**Provenance:** Harry Meshel. The materials were given by Sen. Meshel to Wendy Wolfgang, Office of YSU Marketing and Communication, who in turn passed them on to YSU President David C. Sweet, who then deposited the records with YSU Archives.

**Preferred Citation:** Harry Meshel Collection, 1970-2000, RG 77/6/3, Archives & Special Collections, William F. Maag, Jr. Library, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio.

**Restrictions:** None

**Processing Information:** Processed by Lisa M. Garofali, June 2007.

**Revised Edition:** Written by Lisa Garofali, June 2010

## Biographical Sketch

Harry Meshel was born June 13, 1924 in Youngstown, Ohio to Angelo and Rubena (Markakis) Michelakis. From the years 1943-1946, he served in the Naval Construction Battalion during World War II. After the war, he returned to Youngstown and attended Youngstown College. He received a B.S. in Business Administration with honors in 1949 and afterwards went to Columbia University and received his Masters in Urban Land Economics in 1950. He worked as a division manager for Waddell and Reed, Inc. in Kansas City, Missouri. He then returned to Youngstown to serve as Executive Assistant to the mayor in 1964-1968. He also taught social science and business administration classes at Youngstown State University and in 1969 served as Youngstown's Urban Renewal Director.

He entered politics in 1970, running for the Ohio State Senate representing the 33<sup>rd</sup> District. He remained in the Ohio Senate until 1993. In the Senate, he served as Majority Whip (1974-75, 1977-78), Majority Leader (1983-84) and Minority Leader (1981-82, 1984-90). He left in 1993 to serve as the chair in the Ohio Democratic Party, a position he held until 1995.<sup>1</sup>

In May of 2007, Ohio Governor Ted Strickland named Harry Meshel to the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees for a nine year term. He is a member of nearly three dozen organizations, including the William Holmes McGuffey Society, The Mahoning Valley Historical Society, The Stambaugh Pillars and the Trustee's Circle of the Butler Institute of American Art. He also has received awards from dozens of organizations, including the Ohio Education Association, Ohio School Boards Association, Buckeye Association of School Administrators and Ohio Association of Public School Employees. Harry Meshel was an avid supporter of NEOUCOM (Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine). He helped secure funds for the building of a technology center at Youngstown State University. The technology center at Youngstown State University, Meshel Hall, is dedicated to him.<sup>2</sup>

## Scope and Content Note

The collection was created and compiled by Harry Meshel. The documents in the collection relate to Meshel's involvement with the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, Meshel Hall at Youngstown State University, and the closure of his career with the Ohio State Senate. The collection is artificial and is first separated in series by subject matter. Within the subjects, items are separated by type, and each type is chronologically organized. The dates in the collection range from 1970-2000, some of the materials are undated, but the bulk of the collection range between 1970 and 1988. There are gaps and materials are sparse after 1988.

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<sup>1</sup> "The Harry Meshel Papers". MSS 0121 -- (1965-1998). Online posting. 15 Nov. 2002. The Ohio Historical Society and the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor. Retrieved 12 June 2007 <<http://www.ohiohistory.org/youngst/findaid/mss0121.htm>>.

<sup>2</sup> Cole, Ron. "Governor names Meshel to YSU Board of Trustees." Online Posting. 31 May 2007. YSU News Releases. Retrieved 13 June 2007. <[http://cfweb.cc.yosu.edu/news/news\\_viewnew.cfm?RecNum=592](http://cfweb.cc.yosu.edu/news/news_viewnew.cfm?RecNum=592)>.

Series I contains documents that relate to Meshel and NEOUCOM. In this series are correspondence between Meshel and the personnel of NEOUCOM, the Ohio Board of Regents, and A.L. Pugsley, president of Youngstown State. There are also newspaper clippings that start from the idea, the groundbreaking, dedication, and expansion of NEOUCOM. There is a program that involved the Medical School Dinner to help finance and support NEOUCOM. And finally in the series there's a conceptual drawing of the Hippocrates Amphitheatre at NEOUCOM and a document for its fundraising. Series II relates to Meshel and Meshel Hall at Youngstown State University. A majority of the correspondences are between Meshel and Youngstown State University personnel dealing with the groundbreaking and dedication ceremonies. There are correspondences between Edmund Salata, Don Pesich, and Richard Norman, dealing with the negotiation of the architects and funds for the technology school project. Included are also newspaper articles, a cover of a newsletter which features Meshel Hall, programs dealing with the groundbreaking, open house and dedications, and an Undergraduate Information Update which mentions the new technology center. Series III includes newspaper articles of Meshel's last day with the Ohio State Senate in April of 1993.

### **Colophon**

This collection was processed in June of 2007. The revision of the Finding Aid and writing of this colophon is by Lisa Marie Garofali, a History graduate student with over three years experience working full time in the YSU Archives as of June 2010. Added to this Finding Aid during revision is the description of the series listed above the corresponding folders to that series, the author of the Finding Aid and author of the revision has been added in the Administrative section.

### **Series Description**

Series I: NEOUCOM  
Series II: Meshel Hall  
Series III: Ohio State Senate

### **Related Material Sources**

"The Harry Meshel Papers". MSS 0121 -- (1965-1998). Online posting. 15 Nov. 2002. The Ohio Historical Society and the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor. Retrieved 12 June 2007

<<http://www.ohiohistory.org/youngst/findaid/mss0121.htm>>.

"Northeast Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM) Records." RG 20, Youngstown State University Archives and Special Collections. (Currently unprocessed)

### **Index Terms**

A.L. Pugsley  
John D. Millett  
Richard W. Lewis  
Colin Campbell  
Robert J. Bonnell  
Lawrence E. Looby

Michael J. Skurich  
Hanahan/Strollo & Associates, Inc. Architects  
James E. McCollum  
George W. Showalter  
Edmund J. Salata  
Richard Norman  
Don Pesich  
Northeast Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM)  
Meshel Hall  
Ohio State Senate  
Youngstown State University  
Amphitheater of Hippocrates

### **SERIES I: NEOUCOM**

This series is dedicated to Mr. Meshel's involvement with the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine. The Correspondence folder varies in dates from 1970-1990. Topics in the correspondence include: promotion for NEOUCOM, the naming of the College's Regional Conference Center located in the Regional Academic Support Facility in Mr. Meshel's honor, the groundbreaking and dedication of the Regional Academic Support Facility and a thank you letter from Richard W. Lewis, Vice Provost for Administration and Public Affairs for NEOUCOM. The newspaper clippings follow Mr. Meshel's involvement with the College beginning with gather support for the creation of the medical college to the dedication of the Regional Academic Support Facility in the 1980s and his support which is still recognized 30 years later. The program included in this series is from the Medical School Dinner Meeting September 01, 1970. The final file in the series is a request for donations towards the building of the Amphitheater of Hippocrates.

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	Correspondence, 1970-1990
2	Newspaper Clippings, 1970-2000
3	Program, 1970
4	Amphitheater of Hippocrates, undated

### **SERIES II: MESHEL HALL**

This series corresponds to Youngstown State University's high technology building Meshel Hall, which was named after Harry Meshel. The correspondence in this series refers to the building plans and fees, invitations to the groundbreaking ceremonies and the open house dedication. The newspaper clippings cover the development of the building from showcasing the model to the dedication. The Newsletter file includes a newsletter from the computer center in 1987. The Programs file contains the programs and photocopies of the Groundbreaking Ceremonies and the Open House dedication to Harry Meshel. A copy of the 1986-1987 Undergraduate Information Update is given which mentions the new technology center.

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
5	Correspondence, 1983-1986
6	Newspaper Clippings, 1983-1987, undated
7	Newsletter, 1987 Winter
8	Programs, 1984 July, 1986 Jan, 1986 Oct
9	Undergraduate Information Update, 1986-1987

### **SERIES III: OHIO STATE SENATE**

This series is dedicated to Harry Meshel's 22 years in the Ohio Senate. The newspaper clippings cover his departure from the senate in 1993.

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
10	Newspaper Clippings, 1993 Apr