Hofstra University Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency Dr. Meena Bose, Director Spring 2014

ONLINE RESEARCH SOURCES IN THE GEORGE BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The George Bush Presidential Library and Museum began construction in 1991. The Museum opened to the public in 1997, and the Research Room opened to the public on January 20, 1998, five years after President Bush left office and the first day that his presidential records became subject to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. The archives contain more than 45 million pages of documents, more than two million photographs, and thousands of hours of video and audio recordings.

The Library website includes historical information on the Library and Museum as well as an introductory video. For scholars, the website contains several pages of interest, including Research, Museum, Education, and related links.

The George Bush Presidential Library & Museum http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu/

RESEARCH

The Research section of the Bush Library website contains biographies of President George Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush, photos from the Bush presidency, at home and abroad, and information on the Bush archives. A Guide to Holdings explains which offices comprise the White House Office, identifies the people who managed and administered each office, and summarizes the Library's holdings (listed by staff member) for each office.

Finding aids for processed collections are available online, including Donated Records, Systematically Reviewed White House Staff and Office Files, Subject Categories from the White House Office of Records Management Subject File, and Processed FOIA Requests. Donated papers include George Bush's Personal Papers, from World War II through his political career before becoming Vice President. A descriptive finding aid is available online, though

not actual records. The Staff Files include the President's Daily Diaries, Press Office Files, and Office of Speechwriting Files. Again, finding aids are available online, but not documents. The Office of Records Management has 45 of 58 broad subject classifications open for research, including Agriculture, Housing, and White House Administration, and brief descriptions are provided in the online finding aid.

The Library provides the full text of selected documents online, including Memoranda of Meetings and Telephone Conversations (Memcons/Telcons), Presidential Meetings With Foreign Officials, NSC Meetings, Bush Administration, NSC/DC (Deputy Committees) Meetings, Bush Administration, National Security Reviews, and National Security Directives. A link to an electronically searchable collection of President Bush's Public Papers is provided as well.

Additionally, the Library has two special links to documents, "Selected China Documents" and "Selected Documents from the Archives." The former contains several hundred pages of documents pertaining to U.S.-China relations, and the latter contains digitized copies of frequently requested documents, such as George Bush's Acceptance Speech at the 1988 Republican National Convention, the 1990 National Security Strategy Report, and more.

The Library's Audio-Visual Archives include more than two million still photos, 10,000 video tapes, and 1,000 audio tapes from George Bush's vice-presidential and presidential years. Some photos from Bush's earlier political career and family life also are available. Selected photographs are available for viewing online.

EXHIBITS

The Exhibits page provides summary descriptions of every exhibit displayed at the Museum from 1998 to the present. Exhibits address topics of importance to the Bushes, such as "Offshore Drilling: The Promise of Discovery" and "Conquering Cancer: A Commitment for the Ones We Love." State and local topics of interest, such as "College Station: A Community History," are examined in exhibits as well.

EDUCATION

The Education page contains a link to the National Archives's Presidential Timeline page for all of the presidents with presidential libraries, and a link to annual Art and Essay Contests. Several resources are provided for educators as well. The Distance Learning page discusses the uses of digital documents, and provides links to selected online exhibits and educational activities. Teacher resources include detailed curriculum lesson plans on such topics as the 1990 Clean Air Act, the Gulf War 1990-91, and the reunification of Germany.