



**Collection Name:** Gordon Ross Hennigar Jr. Papers  
**Collection #:** MSS 1015  
**Size:** 9 folders, .5 cf  
**Dates:** c. 1964-1998, n.d  
**Processed:** August 2014, Michael Chapman/SDH  
**Restrictions:** None

### **Biographical Note:**

Gordon Ross Hennigar Jr. was born on December 16, 1919 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. He attended Dalhousie University in Halifax, and then went on to receive a graduate medical degree from Dalhousie University in 1945. After graduation he served in the Royal Canadian Medical Corps until 1946, when he was assigned as an Assistant in Pathology to Dalhousie University and Banting Institute in Toronto. In 1947 he moved to the United States and received an internship at Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. He then worked as an instructor in Pathology for Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. For the next seventeen years he taught at numerous universities in their pathology departments. In 1964 Dr. Hennigar was recruited from the Kings County Hospital in New York City to be the chairman of the Pathology Department at the Medical College of South Carolina in Charleston, a position he held until his retirement in 1991. He was a lead figure in support of S.C. state legislation to replace coroners with medical examiners and introduced many revolutionary techniques for performing autopsies. He was married to L. June King Hennigar with whom he had five children. Dr. Hennigar died on November 17, 1998.

### **Scope and Content Note:**

The Gordon Ross Hennigar Jr. Papers, c. 1964-1998, n.d. consists of nine folders of materials relating mainly to his professional career. The papers are arranged alphabetically by folder title. Among the professional materials included is correspondence during his position as chairman of the Pathology Department at the Medical College of South Carolina (1964-1991). A majority of these papers detail communications and requests between Dr. Hennigar, on behalf of his employees and himself, and the dean of the College, Dr. William Marcus Newberry. These requests pertained to such needs as additional funding for equipment and requests for leaves of absence to attend medical conferences. The remaining papers document Dr. Hennigar's early years at the college and his recommendations for personnel openings and his advice to other individuals for the improvement in medical practices occurring at the college. Also included is his curriculum vitae, which list his educational and professional

background and many of his academic honors and memberships. There is a booklet recalling the testimony and photographs of a roast of Dr. Hennigar on November 21, 1987. Within another folder, there are Dr. Hennigar's yearly faculty contracts that show his gradual pay and responsibility increase. There are also comment slips attached to numerous documents dealing with the discussion of the Education Testing Act of 1979 and of several articles about advancing practices in pathology, topics shared between Dr. Hennigar and his colleagues.

**Citation:** Gordon Ross Hennigar Jr. Papers, MSS 1015, Waring Historical Library, MUSC.

### **Subject Headings:**

Hennigar, Gordon Ross (1919-1998) (Gordon Ross)  
 Newberry, W. Marcus (William Marcus)  
 McManus, J.F.A. (Joseph Forde Anthony), 1911-  
 Medical University of South Carolina.--Dept. of Pathology.  
 Medical University of South Carolina.--Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.  
 Medical College of South Carolina--Dept. of Pathology  
 Pathology, Clinical--methods  
 Pathology--methods.  
 Coroners and Medical Examiners--South Carolina  
 Coroners and Medical Examiners--South Carolina--legislation & jurisprudence  
 Legislation, Medical--South Carolina  
 Universities--organization & administration South Carolina  
 Education, Medical--South Carolina  
 Physicians--South Carolina  
 Pathology--South Carolina  
 Educational tests and measurements-law and legislation United States.

### **Inventory:**

Folder 1: Correspondence with Dr. Marcus Newberry (1976-1979)  
 Folder 2: Correspondence with Dr. Marcus Newberry (1980-1991)  
 Folder 3: Correspondence with others (1963-1964)  
 Folder 4: Correspondence with others (1965-1991)  
 Folder 5: Curriculum Vitae  
 Folder 6: Departmental Roast, November 21, 1987, booklet  
 Folder 7: Departmental Roast, November 21, 1987, photographs  
 Folder 8: Faculty Contract Statements  
 Folder 9: Misc. Items