



Interview No.: OH 5.5

Title: Walter W. Fingar, DMD, Interview by Brooke Fox and Susan Hoffius,
22 November 2011

Interviewers: Fox, Brooke and Susan Hoffius

Interviewee: Fingar, Walter W.

Date: 2011-11-22

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Subject (Topical):

Medical College of South Carolina.

Medical University of South Carolina.

Medical University of South Carolina. College of Dental Medicine.

Dental students.

Dental school--United States.

Education, Dental--United States.

Subject (Names):

Fingar, Walter W.

Buhler, John

Sharry, John H.

Haisten, Arthur

Butts, Herbert

King, Charles J.

Hall, Walter A.

Lawson, Benjamin F.

Corcoran, John

McCurdy, Layton

Subject (Genre):

Oral histories.

Interviews.

Summary:

Walter W. Fingar, DMD, joined the College of Dental Medicine (CDM) in 1968 as its first faculty member in Operative Dentistry. During his tenure at MUSC he served as an assistant dean and an associate dean under Dr. Arthur Haisten before becoming dean of the college in 1987. He begins his interview discussing his background, including his childhood, education, and military career. Dr. Fingar then talks about his dental career and how he joined the faculty of the CDM. He identifies early faculty, their departments, and describes their personalities. He describes the teaching and laboratory facilities in Colcock Hall when he arrived on campus. He discusses his relationship with previous deans Drs. John Buhler, John H. Sharry, and Arthur Haisten. Additionally, he describes each dean's administrative styles and their approaches to dental education. Dr. Fingar describes his career trajectory from faculty to dean of the CDM.

Collection: Waring Historical Library Oral History Collection

Contributing Institution: Waring Historical Library (MUSC)

Media Type: Oral Histories

Note: This interview is part of "The College of Dental Medicine Oral History Project" series. These interviews document the experiences of early students, faculty, and staff. Nine interviews were conducted between September 2011 and March 2012 in preparation for the College's 50th anniversary.

Transcript has been edited by the interviewee.

In cases where the audio and the transcript differ, the audio is provided for background use only.

See also: Collection # OH 5-5.9

Language: English

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