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[Minutes regarding the Medical School and Presbyterian Hospital](#)

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. TRUSTEES.

Minutes regarding the Medical School and Presbyterian Hospital, 1918-1919

1 volume (approximately 45 pages)

HISTORICAL NOTE: Presbyterian Hospital was established in 1868 by philanthropist and book collector James Lenox who intended that the new hospital accept all patients “without regard to race, creed, or color.” It opened in October 1872 on a site bounded by Madison and Park Avenues, 70th and 71st Streets. Presbyterian affiliated with Columbia University in 1911 to form the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, which opened in 1928 in Manhattan’s Washington Heights neighborhood.

Presbyterian Hospital and New York Hospital merged on Dec. 31, 1997 to form New York Presbyterian Hospital.

New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital was the first post-graduate, non degree-awarding medical school in the United States. It was founded by surgeon John Allan Wyeth in 1882. During the First World War, the facility was used by the United States military.

Often afflicted with funding issues, Polyclinic merged with the French Hospital of the French Benevolent Society in 1969 to form the French and Polyclinic Medical School and Health Center. It closed May 13, 1977.

SCOPE & CONTENT: Typescript minutes of joint meetings of the Committee on Education and Committee on Finance of the Columbia University Board of Trustees in relation to Presbyterian Hospital, held June 11, 1918, and subsequent reports of the Special Committee on Hospital and Medical School Matters, October 7-November 25, 1918, regarding future relations between the University and Presbyterian Hospital.

Includes a report on the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital from the Committee on Education (Nov. 4, 1918) to the Trustees recommending that Columbia University accept a transfer of the property of Polyclinic and to absorb the institution as the Post-graduate Medical Department of Columbia University.

In addition, the minutes of the Special Committee on the Medical School, April 14, 1919, propose using the Polyclinic for an Institute of Neurology and Psychiatry and Clinic for Functional Re-education of disabled soldiers, sailors and civilians or for the use as an Institute of Industrial Hygiene.

Other topics covered include the transfer of the Lenox Hill Hospital property to the University, and business relating to the Faculty of Medicine and the University, such as appointments and medical school budget.

Includes a copy of the printed “Resolutions Adopted June 3, 1918 - Committee on Administration of the College of Physicians and Surgeons,” and a May 16, 1919 letter to John A. Wyeth of the New York Polyclinic Graduate Medical School and Hospital from the Trustees on regarding the proposal to purchase and administer the Polyclinic facilities and post-graduate program.

PROVENANCE: Transferred from Columbia University Archives, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, 2019 (accession #2019.011).

LANGUAGE: English.

CUSTODIAL HISTORY: Originally held in binder with cover title: Minutes of Special Committee on Presbyterian Hospital and Special Committee on the Medical School.

RELATED COLLECTIONS: The [Central Records of the Office of the Vice President for Health Sciences / Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, 1883-2003](#) contain correspondence and other administrative records documenting hospital affiliations with the Faculty of Medicine.

Additional information may be found in the [Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1755-2018](#), held by the University Archives, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

“WYETH, John Allan | Marquis Who Was Who in America 1607-1984 - Credo Reference.” n.d. Accessed August 27, 2019.
https://search.credoreference.com/content/entry/marqwas/wyeth_john_allan/0?institutionId=1878.

SUBJECTS

Columbia University. Board of Trustees.
Columbia University. College of Physicians and Surgeons.
Columbia University. Faculty of Medicine.
Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center.
Columbia University. Administration.
Presbyterian Hospital (New York, N.Y.)
New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital.
New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital.

Wyeth, John A. (John Allan), 1845-1922.

Education, Medical – United States –20th century.
Medical colleges – New York (State) – New York.
World War, 1914-1918 – Education and the war.