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## Edward Dundas McQueen Gray - Biography

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# EDWARD DUNDAS MCQUEEN GRAY

#### 4th University President

Served 1909 - 1912 Born Croftonhill, Lanarkshire, Scotland July 29, 1854

Edward Gray conveyed news of our University to educational meetings in Denver and Seattle before taking office.



#### Education

Dr. Gray completed his graduate work at the University of Heidelberg and the University of London.

#### Career

Edward Gray had traveled and resided for many years in Europe, Egypt and North and South America before settling in New Mexico in 1893 at Loving. He was a civicminded person who joined in community activities and was an author of several books, novels and a drama.

#### **University Activities**

Dr. Gray was Scotch by birth but English by habit, and he introduced formal dress to the campus, outfitting the Men's Glee Club in full dress suits because he considered it

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a waste of effort to educate non-gentlemen and thought it impossible to produce gentlemen without some of the usual accoutrements.

A bureau of student employment was set up to provide positions for needy students.

The President's Office set up a system of record keeping since no system had been kept up by previous administrations.

In October, 1911, the granting of sabbatical leave was suspended by the Board of Regents until a time when such absence would not work a detriment of injury to the University. Gray also stated that the "salaries of the faculty were the lowest of any in the Territory of the United States."

Gray made several recommendations during his tenure in office

- a home be provided for the President of the University
- a law school be established because of the numerous requests for such a department.
- a Spanish-American College be created in New Mexico "to train native citizens for diplomatic and commercial careers in Latin-American countries."

Dr. Gray tendered his resignation in February 1912 after the Board of Regents indicated that his service were no longer needed.

Excerpt from William E. Davis' <u>Miracle on the Mesa</u>. University of New Mexico, © 2006

Edward Dundas McQueen Gray