


Abolition of
Dress Codes at
Jackson College



Picking a research topic

- Fashion History
- Men or Women?
- Creation or Abolition?
- Time period



Preliminary Research

Jackson College Handbooks

Jackson Student Council Meeting Minutes

Jackson Judiciary Council Meeting Minutes

Jumbo Book

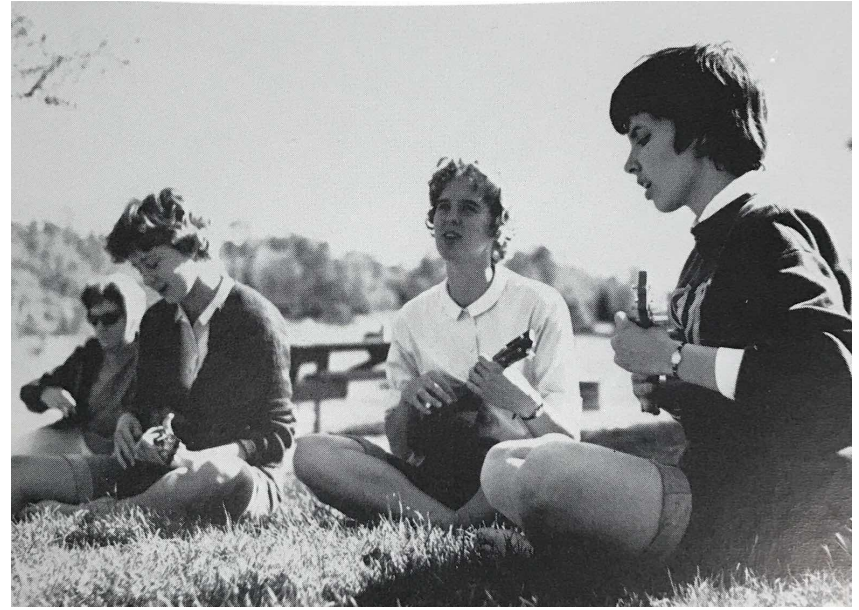
Correspondence of the Office of the Dean

Tufts Weekly

The Observer

Jackson College Photos

Rosalie Kaye Collection



Dead End: Student
Government records
1968-1969 school year

Administration Rules...

15. Bermuda shorts may be worn to Sunday and holiday breakfasts and to breakfast and lunch during the final examination period. Skirts shall be worn at all other meals and at all times on the hill.

Dean Herrick

May 1964

Jackson Students

_____ Class

_____ Dorm

The present dress policy for normal meals in the dining halls is that skirts be worn except for "Sunday breakfasts and suppers, and holiday breakfasts and lunches..." There have been suggestions that changes be made in this policy. The Rules Committee of Jackson College is trying by means of this questionnaire to determine individual opinion so that the wishes of students concerning the dress policy may be better satisfied.

Please fill out all 3 sections.

Categories of dress:

- A. Dress (stockings; heels or flats)
- B. School Clothes (skirts)
- C. Casual (slacks, bermudas, sweatshirts)

Would you make any changes in the definitions of these dress categories?

I. Show your preference of dress for the following meals by placing category A., B., or C. in each blank.

_____ Breakfast, Mon.--Fri.	(C)	355-74 Sat. Breakfast
_____ Lunch, Mon.--Fri.		377-73 Sat. Lunch
_____ Dinner, Mon.--Fri.&Thurs.		367-67 Sat. Dinner
C 303-135 Fri. Dinner		

_____ Sun. Breakfast
 _____ Sun. Dinner (Every Sunday is Date Dinner.)
 _____ Sun. Supper

(A) 488-134 Faculty Dinner

II. When do you think curlers should be allowed? (Check preference or preferences.)

4 Sun. Fri. Dinner
 Sat. Dinner
 349 Night before a holiday (free 12:15)
 Other (specify when) _____

III. There have been suggestions that students be allowed individual discretion in dress for meals. If such a system could be put into effect, would you favor it? If so, do you think individual discretion should be used; A. all meals, B. with the following exceptions _____

Jackson College - (General)
Student Government

“Having to change for meals is more than an annoyance; it takes up time which could be used more valuably for studying. If a girl changes into and out of a skirt for the dinner meal five days a week, she will have spent more than 100 hours changing for dinner at the end of her four years at Jackson.”





Dress at Jackson



Development of Dress Code

1950- Jackson Student Council creates recommendations for wearing dungarees

1952- Dean Bush will not make a specific rule on dungarees, but requests students consider suitability of dress

1955- Jackson Student Council makes restrictions regarding slacks and Bermudas during finals, approved by Dean Bush

1956- First official rule regarding dress appears in the Jackson College Handbook

1957- Restrictions on wearing Bermudas expanded

1958- Handbook includes a section on dress in dining halls

Skirts must be worn at all times except for Sunday breakfasts and suppers, and holiday breakfasts and lunches and breakfasts and lunches during final examination period.

Slippers are never allowed in the dining room.

Girls may come to Friday and Saturday night suppers with their hair set, provided they wear a scarf or some other covering over their hair.

On faculty night girls are expected to wear stockings to dinner.

Phase One of Reform- Institutional Appeals



1960- Request for slacks to be allowed in dining halls on Saturday

1961- Another request for slacks to be allowed in dining halls on Saturday

1962- Third request regarding slacks on Saturdays

Request for clarification regarding wearing slacks during inclement weather

Student referendum regarding opinions on dress policy

Phase Two of Reform- Need for Autonomy

1964- Students want to be allowed to decide on an individual basis if the weather warrants wearing slacks

Dean Herrick does not want to give the JSC more power

“If the Dean wants to present an image of Jackson College which is not what we feel is Jackson College, we have to act.”

1965- “In such areas as personal dress... a girl should be given the right to make her own choices as part of her maturation through experimentation.”

Tufts men offer little support



Jackson Student Council Disbands

Phase Three of Reform- Move Towards Abolition

1966- Jackson Student Council reconvenes in December

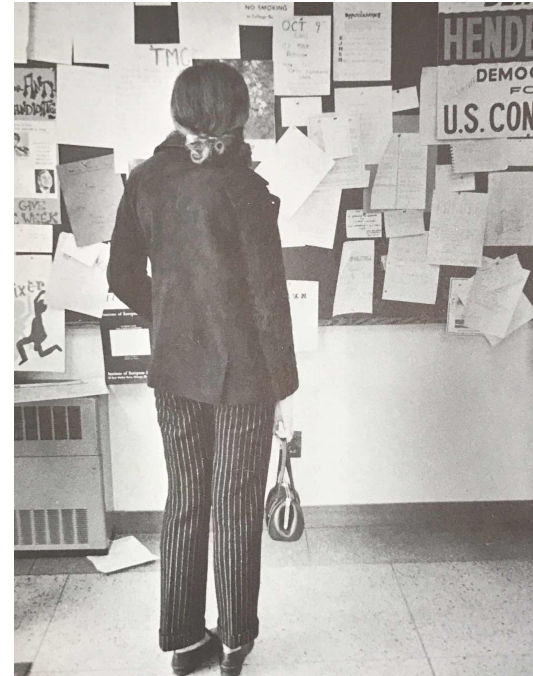
1967- Jackson Self Study Committee announces students should control dress code

Betty Bone becomes Dean of Jackson College

1968- Council discusses revising the dress code

Vote to abolish the dress code, include suggestions of what is considered “good taste in dress”

Dean Chayes works with Jackson students to end *in loco parentis* double standards





Sandals speak for freedom of the toes and of the mind. As one gets older one's shoes as well as one's point of view grow more rigid. Too often the toes grow inward.

“Shoes are sometimes worn,
especially when it snows.”

References

UA033/001 Jackson College, [1896] 1985 Box 009 Jackson College Photos, 1960~85 Jackson College Photos, 1960-1969 UA033/001 9:2
1956 UPO76/Jackson College Handbook, 1911~70 Box 001 Jackson College Regulations, 1911~64
1959 UPO76/Jackson College Handbook, 1911~70 Box 001 Jackson College Regulations, 1911~64
UA033/Jackson College 1903~78 Box: 003 Jackson Student Council Association, 1926-67 3:1 Jackson Student Council May 1964 survey
about dress policies on campus, asking student preferences for dress regulations in the dining hall.
October 7th, 1966 Lax on Jackson Slacks? By Cathy Gody