

HISTORICAL EVENTS

- 1818-19 Federal Act authorizing two townships (46,080 acres) in the state of Alabama to be set aside for "a seminary of learning."
- 1819 Act of Legislature designating federal lands for the seminary of learning.
- 1820 Act of General Assembly establishing "The University of the State of Alabama."
- 1821 Act of General Assembly establishing The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama as a body corporate.
- 1827 Act of General Assembly locating The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.
- 1831 The University of Alabama opened with Alva Woods as the first president.
- 1832 First commencement (A.B. degree awarded to John Augustine Nooe).
- 1835 First M.A. degree awarded to John Augustine Nooe.
- 1841 President's Mansion completed.
- 1847 Delta Kappa Epsilon became the first national fraternity on campus; Alabama Museum of Natural History established.
- 1850 Phi Beta Kappa chapter established.
- 1859 Medical College branch of the University opened in Mobile.
- 1860 Military department and discipline system initiated.
- 1865 Union troops spared only seven buildings on the University campus.
- 1871 A reorganized University opened to students.
- 1892 First University of Alabama football team organized.
- 1893 Became co-educational; *Corolla* first published.
- 1894 *Crimson-White* first published.
- 1896 Library card catalog started.
- 1903 Military system abolished.
- 1904 First summer school.
- 1910 The Alabama Museum of Natural History in Smith Hall dedicated; served as a geological museum for the University's growing collections.
- 1914-15 University band organized.
- 1914 First on-campus fraternity house constructed (Phi Gamma Delta).
- 1920 Medical College moved from Mobile to Tuscaloosa.
- 1929 Denny Chimes dedicated; first section of Denny Stadium completed.
- 1939 Moundville Archaeological Park and its museum opened to the public.
- 1945 Medical College moved from Tuscaloosa to Birmingham; University of Alabama Press formed.
- 1948 Introduction of doctoral programs authorized.
- 1952 First two doctorates awarded (one in history and one in chemistry).
- 1956 First black student admitted (Aatherine J. Lucy).
- 1963 First sustained enrollment of black students (Vivian J. Malone and James A. Hood).
- 1966 Resident branch campuses with separate fiscal operations established in Birmingham and Huntsville.
- 1968 Coleman Memorial Coliseum dedicated; Computer-Based Honors Program founded.
- 1969 The University of Alabama System with separate accredited campuses in Birmingham and Huntsville established.
- 1974 RISE Program established.
- 1976 Position of chancellor of The University of Alabama System established.

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HISTORICAL EVENTS (continued)

- 1981 University sesquicentennial celebration.
- 1984 Conclusion of the first Capital Campaign (total amount raised: \$62 million).
- 1986 University Honors Program established; the University's computerized library card catalog, AMELIA, available for use.
- 1987 Bryant Conference Center opened.
- 1988 The Paul W. Bryant Museum founded.
- 1994 The Stallings Center opened as the new home of the RISE Program.
- 1996 Blount Undergraduate Initiative established. First freshman class accepted in 1999.
- 1998 Conclusion of the second Capital Campaign (total amount raised: \$224 million in gifts and pledges).
- 1998 International Honors Program established.
- 1998 Modeled on UA's RISE Program, the RISE School of Dallas, Texas, opened.
- 1998 Renovation of Bryant-Denny Stadium completed, increasing capacity to 82,000.
- 1999 Construction of the Alabama Institute for Manufacturing Excellence begun.
- 1999 Construction of women's Softball Complex with 1,500 seats begun.
- 1999 Renovation of Sewell-Thomas Baseball Field to a capacity of around 6,000 seats begun.
- 1999 Student Services Center completed.
- 2000 Historic Barnard Hall rededicated as Oliver-Barnard Hall, the first of two Blount Undergraduate Initiative Academic Houses. Blount Living-Learning Center opens to its first resident class.
- 2000 Morgan Auditorium reopens after \$1 million renovation, the first since its construction in 1911.
- 2000 Site dedicated for Shelby Hall, the interdisciplinary science building.
- 2001 University acquires WJRD 7, a local commercial television station. UA is the second public university in the country to own and operate a commercial television station as an integral part of students' education in telecommunication and film. The station's new call letters are WVUA, channel 7.
- 2001 Crimson Promenade dedicated. Constructed of commemorative brick pavers, using donor monies, it is a physical link between the Quad and the Student Services Plaza and a tangible recognition of service to the University by alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends.
- 2002 Crimson Tradition Fund established with a \$10 million gift by Paul Bryant Jr. The fund's focus is improving facilities used by student athletes for study and training, as well as those used by fans.
- 2002 College of Community Health Sciences breaks ground for its \$12.6 million facility. The new building is designed to consolidate all the services and operations of the Tuscaloosa medical campus on one site.
- 2003 The fortieth anniversary of the first successful enrollment of African-American students at the University commemorated with three-day "Opening Doors" program.
- 2003 Inaugural Capstone Convocation and recitation of the Capstone Creed marks the formal entrance of students into the UA community.
- 2003 UA graduates the Blount Undergraduate Initiative's first class of 57 students, who started the program as freshmen in 1999.
- 2003 The School of Law dedicates the site for its first new building expansion after 25 years in its Law Center location.

Source: Office of Marketing Communications. For a detailed listing of UA historical events, visit the web site - about.ua.edu/history.html.