

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.
- 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.

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HISTORICAL EVENTS (continued)

- 1997 Construction of the Alabama Institute for Manufacturing Excellence begun.
- 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 83,818.
- 1999 Construction of women's Softball Complex with 1,500-plus 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 2003 Honors College created as administrative home for the three University-wide honors programs-Computer-Based Honors Program, International Honors Program, and University Honors Program.
- 2004 Shelby Hall, new home to the A&S chemistry department and interdisciplinary transportation and science complex, dedicated.
- 2004 University Medical Center and College of Community Health Sciences facility opens on new site. In addition to the College and multi-specialty clinic, the new building houses the Tuscaloosa campus of the University of Alabama School of Medicine.
- 2004 Lillie Florence Jones Sanford Resource and Design Center, a fully equipped digital-media production facility, opens for student use in Gorgas Library.
- 2005 The Crossroads Community Center opens to assist student organizations with multicultural issues and to facilitate coordination of multicultural issues on campus.
- 2005 The initiative for Ethics and Social Responsibility is established to address issues related to ethics and social responsibility and to help prepare students to serve as effective, engaged ethical citizens.
- 2005 UA launches myBama Freshman Connection and myBama Family Connection websites for freshmen and their parents. The two unique websites were designed to improve retention, campus involvement, and graduation rates.
- 2005 The Creative Campus Community Initiative is established. This unprecedented student-centered initiative focuses on broadening the scope and deepening the experience of the arts and cultural opportunities on UA's campus and in the Tuscaloosa community.
- 2006 Maxwell Hall (the old observatory) becomes the new headquarters on campus for the Creative Campus Initiative.

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