

A Bulleted/Pictorial History of Ohio University

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Ohio University's Cutler Hall, 1818, National Historical Landmark

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/cutler



Ohio University's College Edifice flanked by East and West Wings circa 1840
(current Cutler Hall flanked by Wilson and McGuffey Halls)

ohiohistorycentral.org

Ohio University History, Dr. Bob

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1. General Ohio University History

1.1 1700s

- Ohio University (OU) co-founders General Rufus Putnam (self-taught in reading, writing, math, and surveying) and Reverend Manasseh Cutler, plus nine others, gathered in **1786** at The Bunch of Grape Tavern in Boston to establish the Ohio Company of Associates and to propose a new institution of higher learning, American Western University, the first in the United States' Northwest Territory (which became the states of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota). The Ohio Company formed in part due to the new U.S. government being unable to pay soldiers of the Revolutionary War; they sought payment in land.



Rufus Putnam
historygallery.com



Manasseh Cutler
ohiohistorycenter.org



Boston's Bunch of Grapes Tavern
freemasonsfordummies.blogspot.com

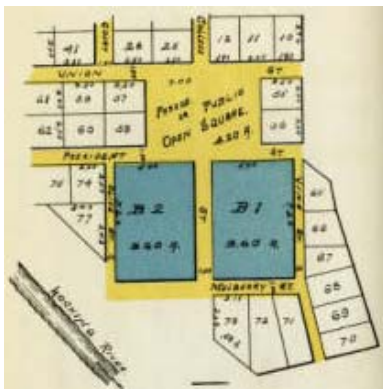
- Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance in **1787**, including an article written by Manasseh Cutler: "Religion morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged". This statement appears on OU's College Gate to this day. Despite or perhaps due to his lack of formal education, Rufus Putnam was the first person in the U.S. to encourage Congress to set aside land for education.



Ohio University College Gate, built 1961

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/clsgate

- OU is the oldest university in the U.S. established by federal legislation, i.e. the Northwest Ordinance of **1787**, prior to the ratification of the U.S. Constitution in **1790**.
- Athens was founded in **1794** by an act of the Northwest Territory Legislature. The town plat contained a square for a college and house lots for a president and professors. Originally Athens County had about 1.5 million acres, carved from Washington County to the east. Today Athens County has about 325,400 acres, since neighboring counties carved into Athens County.
- It was not safe to travel to the site of Athens until the defeat of the Native Americans by Mad Anthony Wayne and the Treaty of Greenville of **1795**. In **1795** Rufus Putnam and his surveying crew rowed down the Ohio River and up the Hocking River to lay out the university townships. There is no truth to the story that the town of Athens was supposed to be located in the much-flatter town of The Plains, but the surveyors were drunk (despite the fact that they carried 40 gallons of whiskey upriver on the expedition). In **1799** Putnam returned to survey the town of Athens and the university site. Originally this planned city was named Middletown since it was about halfway from Marietta to Chillicothe. By **1800** the city was known as Athens, named after the ancient city in Greece, due to the hopes of the founders that it serve as a center of learning and culture.



OU Plan 1800



OU 1844



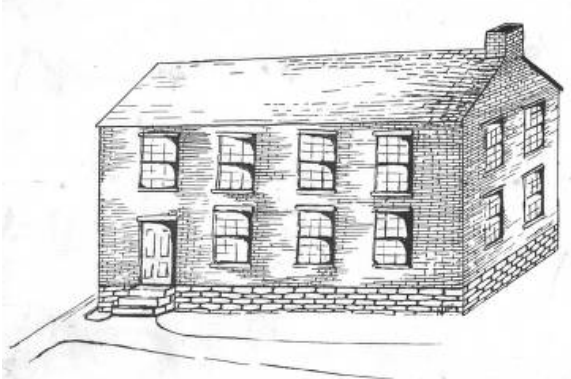
OU 1908

media.library.ohiou.edu

1.2 1800s

- Ohio became the 17th state of the United States on **March 1, 1803**. Ohio is known as the Cradle of Presidents – eight U.S. presidents were elected from Ohio (none of whom would make a top-fifteen list – see **1841**). The reason for this is that Ohio's population boomed during its first 30 years as a state until it had the third most electoral votes in the U.S. at the time. During Ohio's sesquicentennial celebration in **1953** it was discovered that Ohio never obtained the legal documents for statehood, a situation President Eisenhower and Congress remedied quickly.
- The Ohio University was established on **February 18, 1804**, as a result of an official act of the Ohio General Assembly, 66 years before OSU. OU is the oldest public institution of higher learning in Ohio, and the first in the Northwest Territory. OU was the first land-grant university in the U.S., due to the Northwest Ordinance of 1787.

- In **1804** Aaron Burr killed his political rival Alexander Hamilton in a duel in Weehawken NJ, and fled west, visiting Athens. Famously, he also stayed at nearby Blennerhassett Island in the Ohio River, where it is said he was plotting formation of a new country in Louisiana and Texas.
- The original Athens Academy Building was built in **1806-1807**, near the present Galbreath Chapel, and it was razed in **1841**. This was a two-story, 24' x 30' brick building. Today the OU Sundial marks the site of the Athens Academy Building on College Green.



Athens Academy Building
media.library.ohiou.edu



OU Sundial
ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/sundial

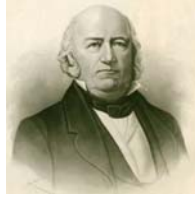
- OU opened in **1808** with three students, one two-room two-story brick building, and one professor, Jacob Lindley (also OU's first president). Lindley implemented a classical curriculum (Greek, Latin, mathematics, and natural science), for the Athens Academy, a college-prep school.
- The OU log cabin Visitor Center across from the Convo was first built on College Street in the **early 1800s** as the Silas Bingham house, a Revolutionary War hero. This house was the residence of the third OU President Wilson and also John Templeton, OU's first African American graduate in **1828**. In the **mid-1800s** the house was moved to East State Street. In **1987** it was moved to its present site as the OU Visitor Center. Its role has greatly diminished after the new Baker Center was completed in **2007**.



Visitor Center

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/visitor

- The first two baccalaureate graduates of OU were granted to Thomas Ewing of Lancaster and John Hunter of Circleville in **1815**. Only these two, of nine students tested, were deemed worthy of college degrees.



Thomas Ewing

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The three oldest OU buildings, Cutler, McGuffey, and Wilson, are still standing on college green. Cutler Hall, originally called College Edifice (and then Center Building), was completed in **1818** (the first higher education building in the Northwest Territory, costing \$18,000 and paid for by OU and not the State of Ohio), and renamed for OU co-founder Manasseh Cutler in **1914**. Its cupola clock was a gift of OU's Class of **1914**. Narrowly escaping demolition in **1945**, Cutler Hall is now a National Historic Landmark. It was renovated and remodeled to its original architecture in **1947**, after many years of neglect. Wilson Hall, originally called East Wing, was completed in **1837**, and renamed in **1939**. McGuffey Hall, originally called West Wing, was completed in **1839**, and renamed in **1948**.

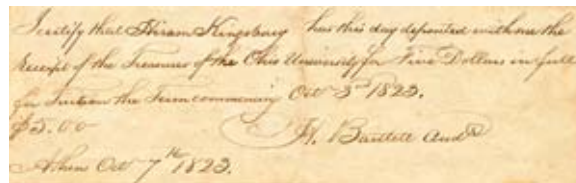


Wilson Hall, Cutler Hall, and McGuffey Hall (L to R)
ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/cgreen



circa 1870
media.library.ohiou.edu

- College-level courses were offered for the first time in **1819**, students were divided into freshmen, sophomore, junior, and senior classes. Tuition was charged for the first time – \$5 per semester.

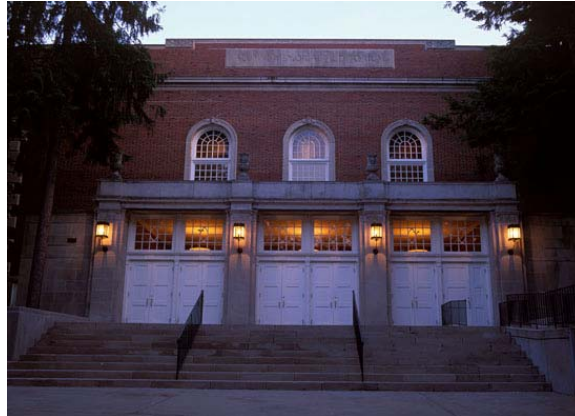


OU Tuition Receipt, 1823

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- Rufus Putnam, one of the founders of the University, donated a valuable collection of books to OU in **1823**.

- In **1825**, Thomas Ewing was awarded the first OU Master's Degree (honorary, in recognition of his achievements on the national scene). In contrast, OU's other first graduate, John Hunter, died one year after earning his degree in **1815**.
- In **1828**, John Newton Templeton, born into slavery in South Carolina, was the first African American to graduate from OU (35 years before the Emancipation Proclamation), and only the fourth in the nation. He lived in OU President Wilson's house (the OU log cabin Visitor Center). Memorial Auditorium was renamed The Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium in **1993**.



Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/memaud

- In **1830** OU student John Brough (future newspapers owner in Marietta, Lancaster, and Cincinnati, member of the Ohio General Assembly, and Ohio Governor), was said to have kicked a football over Cutler Hall (then called the College Edifice).
- The eight U.S. presidents elected from Ohio are Williams Henry Harrison **1841** (shortest term, died in less than a month of pneumonia contracted during his 2-hour inaugural address), Ulysses S. Grant **1869-1877** (administration rocked by cabinet scandals), Rutherford B. Hayes **1877-1881** (unremarkable but inoffensive), James A. Garfield **1881** (assassinated after 4 months in office), Benjamin Harrison **1889-1893** (lived mostly in Indiana, grandson of William Henry Harrison), William McKinley **1897-1901** (assassinated near end of his term), William Howard Taft **1909-1913** (obese, got stuck in the presidential bathtub), and Warren G. Harding **1921-1923** (died of a heart attack halfway through his term). Despite providing 18% of the presidents, Ohio presidents have only served for 12% of U.S. history to date (**2012**).

- The Hocking Canal reached Athens from the north in **1843**. The McGuffey Elms were planted on the College Green in **1843**. They were cut down in the **1950s**, victims of disease and old age.



McGuffey Elms

cardcow.com

- In **1843** the Ohio State Legislature passed an act forbidding OU to revalue lands based on improvements, increased population, and current property values, under heavy lobbying from the lessees of OU. OU's income following this was one-tenth what it could have been. OU did not profit from the Merrill Act, signed into law by President Lincoln in **1862** to endow universities with public lands. On the contrary, the Merrill Act made OSU the new land-grant university for the state of Ohio, due to its central location in Columbus. The OU funding situation was not remedied until the **early 1900s**, in the form of the first annual state appropriations for OU. According to Hoover, if OU was properly funded and managed during this period, OU "might have become one of the great American universities" (Hoover 1954, p. 79).
- OU was closed during **1843-1848**, due to poor financial conditions, partly due to a reluctance of much of the faculty to allow Methodist ministers to gain control of OU, and possibly partly due to a "cherished and bitter hostility of Athens citizens towards the Institution" (Hoover 1954, p. 85). The first OU student publication, The Echo and University Record, reported in **February 1843** that there was a proposal in the Ohio Legislature to move OU to Mansfield (Hollow 2004, p. 43).
- In **1856** OU awarded its first bachelor of science degree. In **1857** the first OU doctor of letters degree was awarded to Thomas Ewing (again, honorary, in recognition of his achievements on the national scene).
- The Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad first reached Athens in **1857**. The railroad ended transportation by canal, which only arrived 14 years earlier. The Hocking Valley Railroad from Athens to Columbus was completed in **1870** (Hollow 2004, p. 55). A never-profitable electric commuter rail line between Athens and Nelsonville, operated by the Nelsonville-Athens Electric Railway Company, ran between **1909-1932**.
- The OU Alumni Association was started in **1859** by Archibald Green Brown (OU grad, **1822**). OU had 171 graduates at the time.
- In **1859** U.S. President Abraham Lincoln called for unity in the nation and also called for volunteers to put down the southern insurrection. OU and Athens County responded strongly for the Union. Morgan's Raiders passed through Nelsonville in **July 1863**. A patriotic group of OU students got into a fight in downtown Athens with anti-war people. Said the Cincinnati Inquirer

“The young men of the Ohio University do not possess the least shade of good breeding. Neither is it taught at that institution.” (Hollow 2004, p. 57)

- In **1860** 28 of the 40 OU faculty members were clergymen, mostly Methodists after decades of domination by Presbyterians.
- The Trisolini House was built as a private residence in **1861**. During **1927-1954** it was the home of OU presidents Bryan, James, and Baker (who moved to 29 Park Place, the current OU president residence). After **1954** it served as a guest house, institute for regional development, and off-campus academic programs. In **1974** it was renamed Trisolini Gallery, whose art gallery moved to the new Baker Center in **2007**. Currently the Trisolini House is the home of the Ping Institute for the Teaching of Humanities.



Trisolini House

media.library.ohiou.edu

- In **1864** the OU trustees raised the president’s salary to \$1,200 per year, all professors to \$900 per year, but froze the janitor’s salary at \$300 per year.
- Women were first admitted to OU in **1871**. In **1873** Margaret Boyd was the first woman to graduate from OU.



Margaret Boyd and the OU Class of 1873

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South Bridge over Old Hocking, 1873

- In **1874** the Ohio General Assembly was strongly supporting the new Agricultural and Mechanical College in Columbus and it proposed that OU and Miami be demoted to preparatory schools (Hollow 2004, p. 68). In **1880** it was openly proposed that OU and Miami be merged with the future OSU, in Columbus. In **1896** the Sleeper Bill provided annual support for OU from the Ohio House of Representatives, allowing for OU's survival. OU survived again in **1906** when representative Lybarger of Coshocton proposed that OU and Miami only retain their preparatory schools, but was defeated.
- By **1875**, 301 students had graduated from OU, most as lawyers, clergymen, or teachers.
- The first woman faculty member, Miss Cynthia Weld, was employed by OU in **1882**. She taught English literature, rhetoric, and history at OU. She taught at OU only a short time before going to teach at OSU.



Cynthia Weld

media.library.ohiou.edu

- In **1882**, there were 22 OU Trustees and only 9 BS degrees and 2 MS degrees awarded.

- Old Tupper Hall on the College Green was completed in **1883**. It served at different times as the chapel, library, music hall, fine arts home, and photography lab. In **1896** it was moved 100' south and 200' east, in 40 days, to make room for Ewing Hall. Old Tupper was demolished in **1966** to make room for Alden Library.



Old Tupper moved in 1896 (Cutler in background)

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- In **1885**, John R. Blackburn became the first African American on the OU Board of Trustees.
- In **1889**, low faculty salaries at OU made it difficult to attract and retain good faculty members.
- Between the two college green gates is the Athens County Soldiers and Sailor's Monument. This monument was built in **1893** to honor the 2610 citizens of Athens County who served in the American Civil War. This monument is credited to General Grosvenor (Eliason, 2005), an Athens resident who served the Union in the Civil War, with support from Civil War veterans. The City of Athens finally ceded this land to OU, after disagreements for most of the 1800s. OU had long objected to the poor state of this parcel, with hogs and other livestock, and a continual trash problem.



Athens County Soldiers and Sailor's Monument

ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ohiopix



Dr. Bob, Fall 2012

- Saki Taro Murayama is usually said to be the first international graduate of OU, in **1895**. However, it is likely that other students born in Europe or Canada pre-dated Murayama as an OU graduate (Bill Kimok, personal communication).
- In **1896** the Faculty Senate formed, by the fourteen department heads.
- Blue and White were OU's colors before the football coach Samuel McMillen, hired in **1896**, proposed that they be Green and White, after his alma mater Dartmouth College.
- In **1896** the first campus newspaper, the Ohio University Mirror, was established. It was renamed the Green and White in **1911**.
- The first dorm at OU, Howard Hall was built in **1896**, for women students. It was demolished in **1976** and remains a small park at OU today.



Howard Hall in the 1940s

media.library.ohiou.edu

- Ewing Hall (photo given later in engineering history) was completed in **1898** and demolished in **1974**, on the site of the present Scripps Amphitheater. It had a 1200-seat auditorium, the president's office, recitation rooms and offices, a gymnasium, the chemistry laboratory, and the art room. The six original Ewing Hall stained-glass windows are now in Walter Hall. Two are general patterns and four are ladies representing Science, History, Education, and Art.



Ewing Hall Stained Glass in Walter Hall, Science ohio.edu/ohiotoday

1.3 1900s

- OU's fight song 'Stand up and Cheer' has been sung at athletic events since the early **1900s**.

OU Fight Song (adapted from Paul McNeely):

Stand up and cheer cheer loud and long for old Ohio
 For today we raise the Green and White above the rest
 Our teams are fighting and they are bound to win the fray
 We've got the team we've got the steam
 For this is old Ohio's day rah rah rah

- The Chinese Students Club was the first international student organization at OU, formed in the early **1900s**.
- The Konneker Alumni Center was originally built as a private residence for General Charles Grosvenor in **1902**. This house hosted future U.S. President Taft in **1908**. A descendant gave it to the Episcopal Church, who sold it to OU in **1980**, purchased with funds from Wilfred R. Konneker. This building is on the National Register of Historic Places.



Grosvenor House
media.library.ohiou.edu



Taft and General Grosvenor
media.library.ohiou.edu

- Summer courses were offered regularly starting in **1902**.

- Ellis Hall was originally named the Normal College Building, completed in **1903**. The term Normal refers to the Education College. It was the first building in Ohio for teacher training and first built with state appropriations (Hoover, 1954). It also housed the Model School, an in-house teacher-training school (Straw, 2007). John Hancock High School (named for an OU trustee, not the U.S. founding father) was run from **1918-1926** on the third floor of Ellis Hall for in-house student teaching by OU education students at the secondary level.



Ellis Hall

media.library.ohio.edu

- In **1906**, OU converted its academic calendar from semesters to quarters. In **1910**, OU converted its academic calendar from quarters back to semesters.
- In **1907**, OU tuition was \$15 per year and Edwin W. Chubb wrote an article ‘Attending College on \$180 per Year’.
- Squirrels were introduced to campus intentionally from Harvard University in **1908**. The OU Board of Trustees felt this wildlife would benefit the university.



OU Squirrels by Jacob Szyпка

finearts.ohio.edu

- The Ohio Gymnasium on Park Place was completed in **1909** as the first OU-built gym. It served both genders until the Men's Gymnasium was built in **1923**, at which time it was renamed as the Women's Gymnasium. It was demolished in **1966** to make room for Alden Library.



Women's Gymnasium

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The classical Athens Post Office building (credited to General Grosvenor, Eliason 2005), built in **1911**, became Haning Hall in **1964** when OU bought it. Haning Hall, across Union Street from Bromley Hall, served as OU's first computer building for many years and is used today for offices.



Athens Post Office / Haning Hall

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The President Street Academic Center (PSAC) was built in **1911** as Science Hall and renovated in **1946**. It was renamed Morton Hall in **1960** and then the Innovation Center in **1982**. It currently stands empty.



PSAC Renovation, 1946

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The Athens Masonic Hall, built in **1911**, was bought by OU in **1922** to use as the Men's Union. It became the coed Student Union in **1939**. Due to the post-WWII student influx, in **1948** a temporary Rec Hall was placed on the College Green near MemAud. The Student Union and neighboring buildings were razed in **1952** to allow for old Baker Center to be built.



Student Union

media.library.ohiou.edu



Temporary Rec Hall, 1948

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The original College Gate was built in **1912**, a gift of that OU Class. It was replaced in **1961** by the College Gate pictured previously, a gift of the Class of **1949**. The photo below shows **1862** alumni of OU at the College Gate in **1912** (L to R John Hatfield, William Scott (first OU grad to become OU president in **1872-1883**, the seventh), Jefferson Clayton and Jefferson Booth).



Original College Gate with 1862 Alumni

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The OU humor magazine The Green Goat was published from **1913-1961**.
- Kenneth Clark (a graduate of Princeton University) wrote the OU alma mater song lyrics, winning \$150 in an OU competition for this purpose in **1915**. The tune was written by OU alumnus and big-band leader Sammy Kaye in **1941** as Remember Pearl Harbor.

Alma Mater Ohio Chorus:

Alma mater Ohio alma mater brave and fair
 Alma mater we hail thee for we own thy kindly care
 Alma mater Ohio when we read thy story o'er
 We revere thee and cheer thee as we sing thy praise once more

- The Alumni Gateway was a gift of the Class of **1915** to honor the one-hundredth anniversary of the first graduates of OU. The well-known quotations were adapted from the main portal of the University of Padua in Italy. Upon entering: “So enter that daily thou mayest grow in knowledge, wisdom, and love”. When departing: “So depart that daily thou mayest better serve thy fellowmen, thy country, and thy God”. Edward Berry, African American owner of the Berry Hotel in downtown Athens (razed **1974**, present site of the Court Street Diner) gave financial support for this gate.



The Alumni Gateway
media.library.ohiou.edu



The Berry Hotel
foorgenealogy.com

- The privately-owned Athena Cinema on Court Street was converted from a grocery store in **1915**. OU bought and remodeled it in **2001**.



The Athena Cinema in 1940

media.library.ohiou.edu

- In **1916** Martha Jane Hunley-Blackburn (daughter-in-law of OU trustee John R. Blackburn) became OU's first African American female graduate. She is the second African American OU grad honored in the naming of Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium in **1993**. MemAud was first built in **1928**, for \$300,000 raised from among the 15,000 existing alumni, \$20 per student, and faculty members giving 10% of their salary for one year.



Martha Jane Hunley-Blackburn

media.library.ohiou.edu

- In **1918** all male students still on campus during WWI were part of the Student Army Training Corps, housed in Howard Hall and temporary barracks on the College Green. The Civil War cannon and cannonballs were later donated to a scrap metal drive during WWII.



WWI Barracks on College Green

media.library.ohiou.edu

- In **1921** 'Old-Beech', a tree on College Green that was young when General Rufus Putnam surveyed the site of OU in **1795**, died.
- In **1922** new OU trustees appointed by the governor of Ohio were on finite terms. Originally OU trustees were appointed for life by the Ohio State Legislature, through **1851**. After this date the OU trustees were appointed by the governor of Ohio, also for life terms.
- Many southern states had specific laws prohibiting African Americans from enrolling in universities. In **1923** the OU Board of Trustees passed a resolution prohibiting these same students from those states from enrolling at OU (OU Archives). In **1923** OU entered into a contract with Athens City Schools wherein no African American student was allowed to practice their required student teaching locally (Hollow 2004, p. 32).

- The Men's Gymnasium, used for basketball and track, was built in **1923**, partly to attract more male students to OU. It was renovated for classrooms in **1961** and renamed Bentley Hall, after a 36-year professor and chair of the Chemistry Department. The Bentley Annex was built in **2003**, on the site of the former Super Hall.



Men's Gymnasium

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The first correspondence courses were offered by OU in **1924**.
- From **1896-1925**, OU athletic teams were known as the Green and White. In **1925**, Hal Rowland's suggestion for mascot, The Bobcat, was chosen because it is a sly, wily, and scrappy animal.



OU Bobcat statue at Peden Stadium

Dr. Bob, Fall 2012

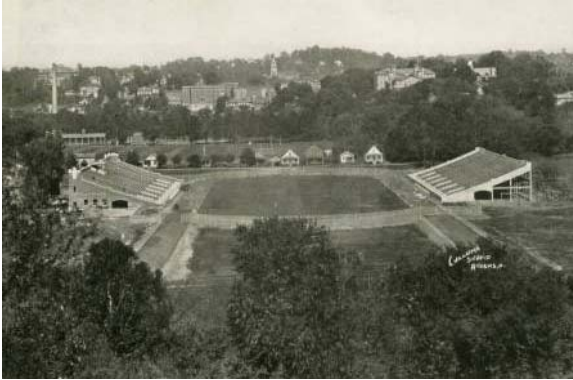


The Bobcat (lynx rufus)

theclevelandfan.com

- Putnam Hall was completed in **1926** and housed the teacher-training elementary Putnam School from **1926-1972**. Then the building housed the Child Development Center, which moved to The Ridges in **2001**. Today the School of Dance occupies Putnam Hall.

- The original football field on the site of Peden Stadium was completed in **1929**, seating 12,000. Renovations then increased the seating to 19,000. It was renamed Peden Stadium in **1960**, in honor of a former coach and athletic director. The five-story tower was added in **1990**. The field was lowered and the seating increased to 24,000 in **2001**.



Football Field in 1929
media.library.ohiou.edu



Peden Stadium prior to Hocking Relocation

- Chubb Library opened in **1931**, accommodating 250,000 volumes, when OU outgrew Carnegie Library (present-day Scripps Hall). Upon being replaced by Alden Library in **1969**, it was renamed Chubb Hall and currently serves as the main student administrative center for OU.



Chubb Library

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The OU University College was initiated in **1935**. All OU freshmen were required to be in University College for their first year, to ensure they were assimilated into OU smoothly, and also to ensure they had adequate backgrounds for college study.
- In **1935** OU reorganized from two colleges (Arts & Sciences and Education) to five (Arts & Sciences, Education, Commerce, Fine Arts, and Applied Science). President James believed that OU's reputation relied too heavily on the Education College and set about redistributing departments that made no sense being in Education and also strengthening the reputations of the new colleges. The position of OU Provost was first established in **1935**.
- The graduate college was initiated in **1936**. This same year a voluntary ROTC program was established, despite widespread protests.
- An Astronomical Observatory was built on North Hill in **1936** and demolished in **1952**. In **1952** the telescope was moved to the roof of the engineering building (now RTEC).

- Scott Quadrangle was constructed from **1937** through **1952**. It has been used for army housing, men's and women's dorms, OU guest housing, and offices.



Scott Quad in 1955

media.library.ohiou.edu

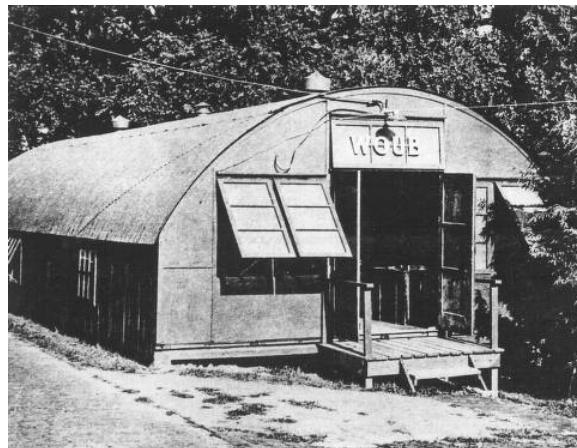
- The student newspaper was renamed The Post in **1939**. This is an independent, student-produced newspaper that is still printed M–F during OU terms.



First Issue of The Post

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The Men's Union and Women's League combined to form Student Senate in **1941**.
- OU students started the radio station WOUB (We're Ohio University Broadcasting) in **1942**. This radio station is still active, being the region's PBS station.



WOUB in a Quonset Hut on College Green

media.library.ohiou.edu

- **In 1943** OU enrollment dropped to 1,306 (from a high of 3,501 in **1940**) as hundreds of male students and 17% of the faculty enlisted in World War II. Women students outnumbered men five to one in this period. A memorial service in December **1945** honored the 221 OU students and alumni who died in WWII.
- Following the end of WWII in **1945**, veterans flooded OU since their educations were paid for by the G.I. Bill. There was a shortage of instructors and space. WWII Quonset huts were used all over campus for faculty offices and classrooms. Due to this influx of students, student housing was also in a critical shortage. OU raised twelve acres east of the main campus above the flood plain. When it rained, this area of dorms consisting of prefabricated surplus WWII barracks became a sea of mud known as Hog Island. Later this area became East Green.



Post-WWII Hog Island

media.library.ohiou.edu

- President Baker (**1945-1961**) encouraged OU faculty to engage in scholarly activity outside the classroom, researching, writing books and articles, and engaging in other creative activities. Apparently he was the first OU president to recognize the value of this strategy for enhancing OU's national reputation. He kept copies of all OU faculty writings in his office. In **1953** President Baker enhanced OU's international reputation by serving as chair of the U.S. delegation to the UN Economic and Social Council in Geneva, Switzerland.
- OU has been chartered in the Mid-American Conference (MAC) since **1946**. Our traditional rival is the Miami (of Ohio) University Redhawks.
- From the **1940s** through the **1960s** the Kissing Circle evolved at a 4-brick-walkway intersection on College Green near the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Any time a man and woman crossed the Kissing Circle at the same time, they were to osculate. Originally a white X on a green background, the Kissing Circle became a prototype for the Graffiti Wall, whose advent in the early **1970s** led to the decline of the Kissing Circle.

- Regional OU branch campuses opened in **1946** in Portsmouth, Chillicothe, and Zanesville to handle an influx of students who were veterans of WWII. Today OU has five regional campuses: the Eastern campus in St. Clairsville, Zanesville campus, Lancaster campus, Chillicothe campus, and the Southern campus in Ironton.



OU Regional Campuses Today

students.ohiohighered.org

- In **1946-1967**, if an OU student missed classes the day before or after a university holiday, they were penalized by adding 1 credit hour to their graduation requirement. This rule was dropped in the change to the quarter system in **1967**.
- In **1947**, OU had 6,000 students from all parts of the U.S.
- Hudson Health Center was built in **1949**. At that time it was considered to be one of the best student health centers in the U.S.
- Evelyn C. Luchs became OU's first female trustee in **1949**.

- The Natatorium was built in **1949**. It was used by the OU swimming and diving teams until **1984**, when the Aquatic Center opened beside Bird Arena (which was built in **1958**, found unsuitable for its intended purpose of indoor football, basketball, and track, and converted to an ice rink). The Natatorium was razed in **1997** to allow room for the Gordy Hall expansion.



The Natatorium

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The original Baker Student Center was completed in **1954**, funded by \$5 student assessments per semester (and matched by the faculty), starting in **1946**. The new Baker Center, still named for the 15th president of OU, was opened in January **2007**.



Original Baker Center

media.library.ohiou.edu



New Baker Center

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/newbaker

- Voigt Hall was built in **1954**, originally a dorm housing 150 OU women students. It was named for Irma Voigt, OU's influential first Dean of Women from **1913-1949**.



Dean Voigt Fireside Chat, 1940s
media.library.ohiou.edu



Voigt and Howard Halls, 1970
media.library.ohiou.edu

- The Ohio University Employees Credit Union was formed in **1955**, based on the work of future interim OU president Harry Crewson. It was the first university credit union in Ohio. The OUECU had 112 members and assets of \$11,880 at the end of **1955**. In **1997** it had 14,000 members and \$87M in assets.



OUECU built in 1980 on Shafer Street

ohio.edu/athens

- The first OU Ph.D. program was in chemistry, initiated in **1956**.

- The non-denominational Galbreath Chapel was built on College Green in **1957**.



Galbreath Chapel

media.library.ohiou.edu

- In the **1950s**, Edwin L. Kennedy (AB 1926 and HON 1965) established the Baker Fund, which continues to support OU faculty research, the Kennedy Lecture Series, and the OU Distinguished Professor Program. The Kennedy Museum on The Ridges is named for him, and he endowed it with funds, plus many valuable Navajo blankets and jewelry pieces.
- Martin Luther King Jr. attended the Ecumenical Conference at OU in **1959**, at the old Baker Center.
- OU's original Trautwein Field for baseball was built in **1959**, located between Grover Center and Peden Stadium (the present site of Bicentennial Park and Walter Hall, both completed in **2004**). It was moved to its present location in Bob Wren Stadium near the West Green in **1998**.



Trautwein Field, 1959-1998

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/trautwein

- The original Grover Center was completed in **1960**. It was the Convo and Ping Center of the day, hosting OU basketball games, plus student, faculty, and community basketball courts, racquetball/handball/squash courts, table tennis, martial arts, weight rooms, and saunas. Grover Center was radically transformed in the **1996-2001** renovation, for classrooms and academic offices, plus WellWorks.

- The Bobcat mascot first appeared on **October 22, 1960** for the homecoming football game against Miami, created by residents of Lincoln Hall and establishing a long-running tradition of Lincoln Hall residents serving as the mascot. OU won 21-0 and went on to a 10-0 season that year. A Bobkitten woman mascot was established in **1969** as part of women's equality on campus, but she no longer exists. The OU mascot was renamed Rufus in **2006**, from the scientific name for bobcat (*lynx rufus*). The Bobcat mascot physically tackled Brutus Buckeye on **September 18, 2010**, on the field prior to a football game with OSU in Columbus. In **2012**, 1000 actual bobcats were estimated to live in Ohio, or one for every 105 OU alumni still in the state.



OU Bobcat Mascots

ohioalumni.org

- The residential West Green was built between **1960** and **1966**. The Osteopathic Medical College took over Irvine, Grosvenor, and Parks Halls starting in **1976** and Crook Hall became the Stocker Engineering Center in **1985**.



West Green under a Spring Hocking River Flood, mid-1960s

media.library.ohiou.edu

- Wolfe Street Apartments, between Clippinger, Morton Hall, the South Green, and the OU Golf Course, was completed in **1962**. It was built for graduate students, married and single parents with children, and visiting faculty. It was demolished in **2012** to build another parking lot.



Wolfe Street Apartments

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/wsapts

- During the Alden administration from **1962-1969**, OU doubled in student and faculty size. Associated with this growth was a great expansion in the campus, the new OU regional airport, and the physics particle accelerator. OU was booming in **1967**, the peak year for new faculty hires. Alden's mission was to make OU the 'Harvard on the Hocking'.

- On **May 7, 1964**, President Lyndon B. Johnson unveiled his War on Poverty in a speech at OU (one of several locations he delivered the speech that day). He addressed 15,000 people outdoors from the West Portico of Memorial Auditorium. He was the first sitting U.S. president to visit OU. The first to visit Athens was Herbert Hoover in a 5-minute unsuccessful re-election campaign whistle stop, in **1932**. The second to visit OU was Barack Obama in **2012**. The 8 other U.S. presidents to visit OU, before or after their administrations, including the number of years before or after are: William McKinley **1891** (6 before), William Howard Taft **1908** (1 before) and **1916** (3 after), Theodore Roosevelt **1912** (3 after), Warren G. Harding **1916** (5 before), John F. Kennedy **1959** (1 before), Dwight D. Eisenhower **1965** (4 after), Jimmy Carter **1989** (8 after), and Bill Clinton **2008** (8 after).



LBJ at OU, 1964

ohio.edu/ohiotoday

- The residential South Green was built between **1965** and **1977**. The Old South (the Front Four) was finished in **1967** and the remaining 15 dorms were built between **1968** and **1977**.



South Green in 1969

media.library.ohiou.edu

- Bromley Hall was built in **1966** as a private student housing building. It was later sold to the College Inn but the Bromley Group bought it back. OU purchased it in **2001** for use as a dorm, allowing renovations of other existing dorms. Occupying the entire block between Congress Street and High Street, fronting Union Street, this was the site of OU's eighth president Super's home. The tenth OU president Ellis lived two houses up Congress Street from this site.



Bromley Hall

media.library.ohiou.edu

- OU has the 'Most Exciting Band in the Land', the Marching 110, founded in **1966**. They are known for a non-traditional dance-style in parades and half-time shows, with contemporary music (now from many decades). This band was originally known as the 110 Marching Men of Ohio. For many years they have been co-ed and long ago the number of members has exceeded 110 (240 in **2012**). Now the name 'Marching 110' comes from the band giving 110% whenever they play. OU was the first-ever marching band to play New York's Carnegie hall, on **October 28, 1976**. The Marching 110 also made history playing in President Bill Clinton's inaugural parade in **1993**. The Marching 110 has also appeared twice in the Macy Day's Thanksgiving Parade, the second time leading the parade in **2005**.



The OU Marching 110

- Clippinger Laboratories and the John E. Edwards Accelerator Laboratory (tandem van de Graff particle accelerator) were constructed at the same time, completed in **1967**.



Professors Finlay and Rapaport in Accelerator Laboratory, 1969

media.library.ohiou.edu

- In **Fall 1967**, OU converted its academic calendar from semesters to quarters. Most OU faculty opposed this change, saying that the switch was based not on academic concerns, but on political, administrative, and financial issues.
- The iconic OU Convocation Center was finished in **1968**. The Convo is used for OU commencement, basketball, volleyball, wrestling, dorm rooms, classrooms, laboratories, offices, concerts, and community events. It seats 13,080 and cost \$8.5M at the time. Despite faculty protests, the Convo was moved ahead of the long-promised new library in construction priority.



The Convocation Center

ohiobobcats.com/facilities/convo-center

- The OU men's varsity basketball team has played in five venues: Ewing Hall basement (**1907-1908**), Ohio Gymnasium near present Alden Library (**1908-1924**), Men's Gymnasium which became Bentley Hall (**1924-1960**), Grover Center (**1960-1968**), and the Convocation Center (**1968-present**).
The Post, 11/15/12

- The Grateful Dead played a free concert at Memorial Auditorium in **1968**, after which Jerry Garcia and Pigpen were seen in the Union Bar. Peter, Paul, and Mary also played Memorial Auditorium in **1968**. Doc Watson played at the OU Folk Festival in **1969**. James Brown appeared at OU in **1969**. Led Zeppelin played the Convo as the opening act for Jose Feliciano in **1969**. Led Zeppelin was unknown at the time. They were paid \$5,000 to perform and tickets were \$2.50. Led Zeppelin upstaged Feliciano, 70% of the near-sellout crowd leaving before Jose took the stage! The Who also played the Convo in **1969**. They were already famous by then, having just finished their seminal rock-opera 'Tommy' and were paid \$15,000 to perform. The OU campus was totally alcohol-free at the time and drummer Keith Moon's whiskey was confiscated.

Jose Feliciano Heads OU's J-Prom Concert

The 1969 J-Prom Concert at Ohio University will feature singer-guitarist Jose Feliciano and Led Zeppelin, a British rock group.

The concert, scheduled for 8:30 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at the Convocation Center, is sponsored by the Baker Center Program Board.

Feliciano, blind since birth, gave his first concert at the age

Central America, and throughout the U.S.

Led Zeppelin is rated among the top ten British rock groups now performing and consists of four young men, all in their early 20's. They are Jimmy Page, lead guitarist; John Paul Jones, pianist and arranger; John Bonham, drums; and Robert Plant, lead vocal and harmonica player.

The Athens Messenger, May 1969



Robert Plant, Jimmy Page, John Paul Jones (L to R) in the Convo Locker before the show



Jimmy Page and Robert Plant on the Convo stage

- The annual Journalism Week was initiated in **1968**. The Athens International Film Festival started in **1974**. International Week, with the International Street Fair on Court Street, began in **1982**. The Spring Literary Festival commenced in **1986**.
- Alden Library was completed in **1969**. Books and other library materials were moved to Alden Library from Chubb Library via roller-conveyors. The east and west wings were completed in **1972**, bringing the total capacity to 1.2M volumes. The Learning Commons was established on the second floor in **2005** and the Faculty Commons on the third floor in **2007**.



Alden Library with East/West Wings
media.library.ohiou.edu



Roller Conveyors
media.library.ohiou.edu

- In **1969**, the bypass of U.S. Route 33 around Athens and OU was completed. This route formerly used Columbus Road, Court Street, and Richland Avenue. U.S. Route 50 also used Court Street prior to the bypass.



Court Street in 1962

media.library.ohiou.edu

- In **1969** OU women students protested their midnight dorm curfew (male students had no curfew). This policy was not lifted until **1972**.
- Morton Hall was built in **1970** for science and math classrooms. It was the first building in the OU South Green Urban Renewal Project. Morton's wings were added in **1973**.

- On **May 4, 1970**, the Ohio National Guard was ordered to open fire on students demonstrating against the Vietnam War at Kent State, killing 4 and wounding 9. At the same time, there were sit-ins and anti-war riots at OU, even more intense than those of Kent State. This was partly due to President Sowle's refusal to close OU; instead of going home, many students from other Ohio universities that did close came to Athens to protest further. When the Ohio National Guard was called in to Athens, there was a 3-hour battle at old Baker Center, resulting in 23 injured and 54 arrested students. At 3 a.m. **May 15th** campus was closed and students ordered to leave immediately to defuse the situation; further classes, final exams, and commencement were cancelled. Some believe that OU would have become another Kent State if the closing did not occur. OU president and alumnus Rod McDavis missed his original undergraduate commencement due to this situation. OU was known as the 'Berkeley of the Backwoods'. Note the movie showing at the old Varsity movie theater (current site of Chipotles) – the Academy-Award-winning film **Z** was about the 1963 military coup in Greece! Tasty irony!!



National Guard in Athens, 1970 (present-day Chipotles and old Baker Center)

athensnews.com

media.library.ohiou.edu

- Since the **early 1970s**, the OU Graffiti Wall served as an outlet for student expression and events promotion, on the way uptown from the West Green. In **2002** the original wall was demolished to allow for the Bentley Annex construction. Amid student outrage, OU constructed three smaller graffiti walls after the annex was completed.



Original Graffiti Wall, 1986

ohio.edu/compass



New Graffiti Walls

ohiobobcat.com

- In 1971 the \$11M Hocking River relocation project was completed to alleviate the spring floods that had plagued Athens and OU for decades. The small creek running behind Stocker and ARC, past the Life Sciences Building, under the new Baker Center, through Emeriti Park, the disc golf course, and the real golf course, with giant sycamore trees lining its banks, is the course of the original Hocking River. Prior to this relocation, the Hocking River had significant damaging floods in the springs of 1832, 1847, 1858, 1873, 1907 (bad), 1913, 1937, 1940, and practically every year between 1941-1970 (with 1964 and 1968 being particularly bad; Straw, 2007).



Peden Stadium and Lakeview (Riverpark) Apartments under the 1968 Spring Flood
ohio.edu/ohiotoday/sum98



athensnews.com

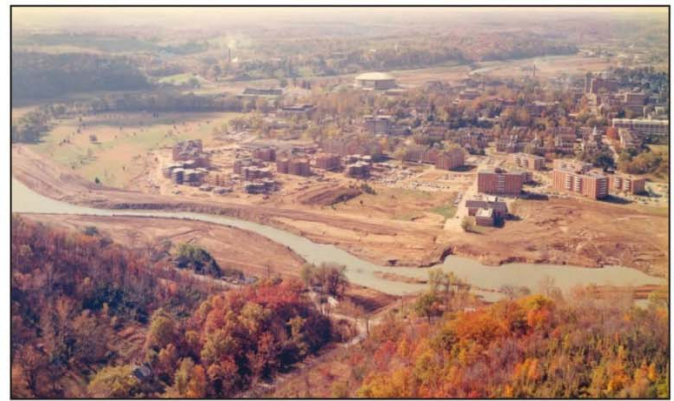
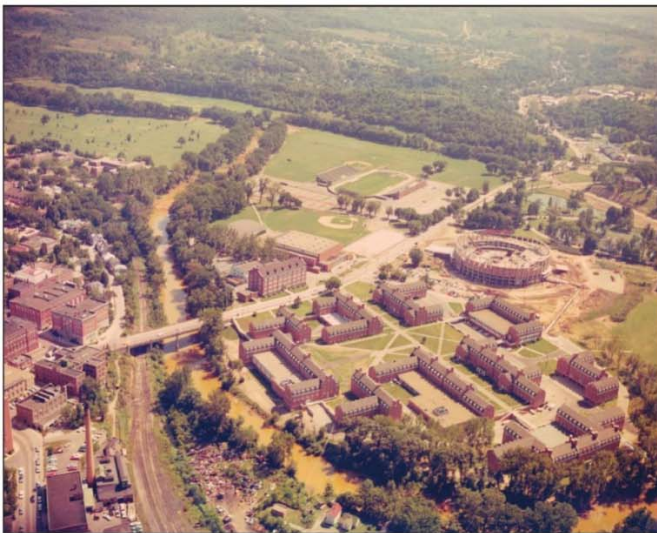


Photo at left: An aerial photo taken in 1967 shows the Convocation Center under construction next to OU's West Green, as well as the original river channel skirting the north side of West Green. The next year, 1968, a major flood overran the banks of the Hocking. Above photo: An aerial photo taken two years later, in 1969, shows the process of channelization underway just to the east and south of the South Green and to the right of the apartment complex then called Lakeview apartments (now Riverpark Towers). The original channel can be seen far in the background fringed by trees as well as a mostly completed Convocation Center. Photos courtesy of The Hocking Conservancy District.

www.athensnews.com, 2019

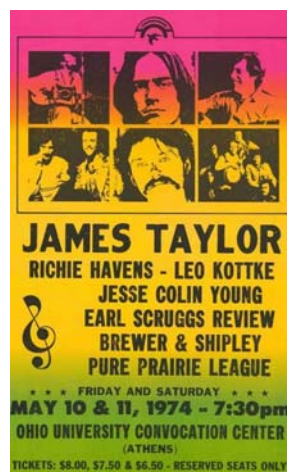
- The beautiful Athens/OU Bike Path was originally built along the re-routed Hocking River in the early **1970s**, from the Athens Pool on East State Street to the West State Street ball fields. In the **1990s** it was extended both to the east and especially to the west, and renamed the Hockhocking Adena Bikeway. Today it runs 19 miles one-way, from Holzer Clinic on Route 50 east of Athens to Rocky Boots in downtown Nelsonville to the northwest. West of Athens the bike path mostly follows the old Hocking Valley Railroad bed. This railway was completed in **1870**. Prior to that, the route followed the Hocking Canal Towpath, **1829-1842**. The old canal is visible in places along the bike path towards Nelsonville.



Bike Path near Richland Avenue Bridge

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/bikepath

- James Taylor played at OU in **1971**. Emerson, Lake, and Palmer gave a concert in Athens in **1972**. In **December 1972** Jethro Tull played the Convo (\$4 tickets). In **April 1973** an unknown Bruce Springsteen played the Convo, sharing a bill with The Eagles, Blood, Sweat, and Tears, and Billy Preston. The Beach Boys and then Santana appeared at OU in **1973**. In **November 1973** Crosby and Nash gave a Convo concert. The Steve Miller Band, and then Stephen Stills, appeared in **1974**. In **May 1974** the 4th annual OU Music Festival, headlined by James Taylor, included a host of national acts (see poster below) at the Convocation Center. In **1976** Springsteen returned, with only a one-week notice, for a show in MemAud. In the **late 1970s** many concerts by national bands were hosted by the Convo, including The Doobie Brothers, Billy Joel (**1976**), Kansas (**1979**), Styx (**1979**), Marshall Tucker, REO Speedwagon, and Blue Oyster Cult (**1980**). In the early **1980s** Neil Young appeared at the Convo, in his Trans phase. It is said that the change to a drinking age of 21 greatly reduced the number of large Convo concerts by national acts, due to reduced profit from a lack of alcohol sales to the concert-goers.



Fourth OU Musical Festival Poster

[ebay.com](https://www.ebay.com)

- In **1976** the OU Osteopathic Medical College opened, 152 years after a medical school was first proposed at OU (a medical school was first proposed before the advent of osteopathy).
- In **1978**, following Harvard's lead in a return to liberal arts studies, OU implemented the Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III systems that are still in effect, with changes over the years.

- In **1979**, on OU's 175th anniversary, Chubu University of Japan donated 175 cherry trees. Storm damage and other factors reduced this number to 97 trees in **2003**. Chubu University then donated enough trees to bring the total to 200 in **2004**, OU's bicentennial year.



Cherry Trees along the Bike Path and the rerouted Hocking River

city-data.com

- Springfest was a highlight of spring quarters in the **1980s**, featuring national acts each year on the intramural fields near Riverpark Towers. Springfest ended in the late **1980s** and was replaced by Palmerfest in the **1990s**. Now there are more student street fests than OU would care to have, many moving to the fall term due to the return to semesters in **2012**.



Springfest Crowd in 1980

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The OU Innovation Center, the technology business incubator, started in **1983**. The current Innovation Center Building on West State Street, next to the Corrosion Center and ISEE, opened in **2003**. OU consistently ranks high in terms of earnings on faculty invention royalties and licensing fees, competing well with famous research universities in that metric. The Innovation Center started in the President Street Academic Center (PSAC) and spent some years on The Ridges before moving to its present location.



Innovation Center

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/innovation

- The OU Edison Biotechnology Institute was founded in **1984**. Internationally-recognized for basic research in molecular and cellular biology, this institute has also moved results to the commercial marketplace, largely responsible for OU's high ranking in licensing faculty research.
- The OU Athens campus more than doubled in size when the state mental hospital was transferred to OU in **1988**. This may be misleading since much of this 665 acre parcel remains as wild woods and grasslands.
- By the time President Charles Ping stepped down in **1994**, after serving 19 years as OU's president, he had conferred more than half of all OU degrees awarded to date.
- The Ping Student Recreation Center, opened in **1996**, has a climbing wall, five basketball-volleyball gyms, two multipurpose gyms for floor hockey, soccer, and other activities, eight courts for racquetball and wallyball, a four-lane walking and jogging track, cardiovascular workout equipment, cybex resistance equipment, aerobics, weight training and martial arts rooms, locker rooms, and a television lounge.



Ping Center

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/ping

- In the Glidden administration, from **1994-2004**, new construction included the Life Sciences Research Facility, Emeriti Park, Walter Hall, plus major renovations to Gordy Hall, Grover Center, and Memorial Auditorium; the expansion of Bentley Hall and Copeland Hall; and groundwork for the new Baker Center that opened in **2007**.
- In the **Fall of 1999**, OU equipped all first-year student dorm rooms with PCs. The following year, this was expanded to all second-year student dorm rooms as well.

1.4 2000s

- The high-quality 9-hole, par-35 OU Golf Course was completed in **2003**, designed by Barry Serafin. Holes 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 are on the north side of the Hocking River and holes 3, 4, 5, 6 are on the south side, accessible by a pedestrian/golf cart bridge built in **2001**. A less-high-quality golf course was on the same site north of the Hocking River, along the Bike Path, for many years, starting in the **1950s** with an 18-hole course that was halved to 9 holes when the South Green was built in the **1960s**. The original course had a driving range, since relocated to West State Street in the **1990s**. Plans for a top-notch 18-hole OU golf course on The Ridges never materialized. Construction of the Ping Center, Tennis Center, and football practice field in the **1990s** severely carved into the original golf course land, leading to the current north/south design.



OU Golf Course (holes 4 and 5 occluded)

<http://www.ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/golf.html>

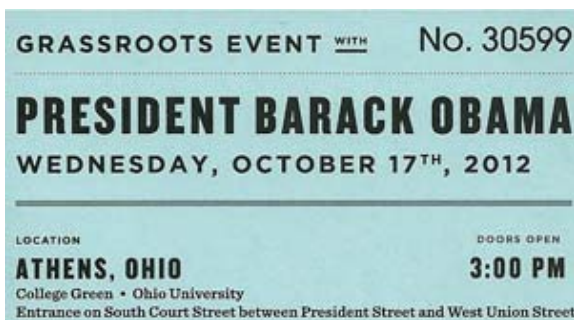
- The OU Ecohouse, 8133 Dairy Lane on the way to the Dairy Barn, was initiated as an ecological student residence in **2005**. Three students are chosen to live in this house each year. Its mission is to demonstrate affordable, green technology and sustainable living. Prior to this, the house was used to host OU guests and visiting faculty.



OU Ecohouse

[ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/ecohouse](http://www.ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/ecohouse)

- The OU football team won their first bowl game in **2011**, 24-23 against Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl. The OU basketball team reached the Sweet Sixteen in **March 2012**. OU's football team beat Penn State 24-14 on **September 2, 2012**, in Penn State's first football game since the severe penalties levied against their football program due to the Jerry Sandusky scandal.
- In **Fall 2012**, OU converted its academic calendar from quarters to semesters. Many OU faculty opposed this change, saying that the switch was based not on academic concerns, but on political, administrative, and financial issues (see **1967**).
- President Obama visited OU's College Green on **October 17, 2012**, for a campaign stop. Obama was the second sitting U.S. President to visit the OU campus.



Obama outside the West Portico of MemAud
thepost.ohiou.edu

- Currently there are over 16,700 undergraduate students on the main Athens campus of OU. Including masters, doctoral, and medical students, the total is over 20,000 students. Overall OU has 58% female and 42% male students. About 6% of OU students are international students, from over 100 countries. OU also has students from all 88 Ohio counties, and from all 50 states. About 8% of the student body is African American, Asian American, Native American, or Latino. There are more than 8,000 full-time and part-time, traditional and non-traditional undergraduate students at the five regional OU campuses.
- There are about 800 full-time Group I faculty members (tenured and tenure-track) on the Athens campus, plus 1100 contract administrators.
- There are over 200,000 alumni of OU worldwide. More than 178,000 of these live in the U.S. and 105,000 of these live in Ohio.

1.5 Ohio University Presidents

List of Ohio University Presidents in Chronological Order

#	Name	Years	Comment
1	Jacob Lindley	1809-1822	Presbyterian minister, taught solo until 1814.
2	James Irvine	1822-1824	Mathematics, residence hall named for him, later occupied by OUCOM.
3	Robert G. Wilson	1824-1839	Presbyterian minister, built a fence around college green to keep pigs out, residence hall named for him.
4	William H. McGuffey	1839-1843	Famous for the McGuffey Reader.
	NA	1843-1848	OU was closed.
5	Alfred Ryors	1848-1852	Mathematics, residence hall named for him.
6	Solomon Howard	1852-1872	Methodist minister, women's residence hall (razed in 1976) named for him.
7	William Henry Scott	1872-1883	Methodist minister, Philosophy, native of Athens, first OU alum president, Scott Quad named for him.
8	Charles William Super	1884-1896	Professor of Greek, Super Hall, named for him, was razed in 1976.
9	Isaac Crook	1896-1898	Methodist minister, residence hall named for him, converted to Stocker Hall in 1984.
8	Charles William Super	1899-1901	Second term.
10	Alston Ellis	1901-1920	English department building named for him.
11	Edwin W. Chubb	1920-1921	English, Acting president, main OU administration building named for him.
12	Elmer Burritt Bryan	1921-1934	Residence hall named for him.

List of Ohio University Presidents in Chronological Order (concluded)

#	Name	Years	Comment
11	Edwin W. Chubb	1934-1935	English, Acting president again.
13	Herman G. James	1935-1943	Residence hall named for him.
14	Walter S. Gamertsfelder	1943-1945	Philosophy and religion; Interim president for two years; residence hall named for him.
15	John Calhoun Baker	1945-1961	Harvard Business School, student center named for him, name transferred to new student center in 2007.
16	Vernon Roger Alden	1962-1969	Harvard Business School, library named for him.
17	Claude R. Sowle	1969-1974	Law; Time of great turmoil for all U.S. universities due to the Vietnam War.
18	Harry B. Crewson	1974-1975	Economics; Interim president for one year; Crewson House named for him.
19	Charles J. Ping	1975-1994	Turned OU around financially; student recreation center and Peden Stadium tower named for him; Presbyterian minister.
20	Robert Glidden	1994-2004	Music; music building named for him.
21	Roderick J. McDavis	2004 - 2017	Educational administration.
22	M. Duane Nellis	2017 - present	Geography.

**Comparison of U.S. and OU Presidents in Chronological Order
to scale vertically by number of years in office**

#	Year	U.S. President
1	1789	George Washington
2	1797	John Adams
3	1801	Thomas Jefferson
4	1809	James Madison
5	1817	James Monroe
6	1825	John Quincy Adams
7	1829	Andrew Jackson
8	1837	Martin Van Buren
9	1841	William Henry Harrison
10	1841	John Tyler
11	1845	James Polk
12	1849	Zachary Taylor
13	1850	Millard Fillmore
14	1853	Franklin Pierce

#	Year	O.U. President
1	1809	Jacob Lindley
2	1822	James Irvine
3	1824	Robert G. Wilson
4	1839	William H. McGuffey
	1843	OU was closed
5	1848	Alfred Ryors
6	1852	Solomon Howard

Comparison of U.S. and OU Presidents in Chronological Order (continued)

#	Year	U.S. President
15	1857	James Buchanan
16	1861	Abraham Lincoln
17	1865	Andrew Johnson
18	1869	Ulysses S. Grant
19	1877	Rutherford B. Hayes
20	1881	James A. Garfield
21	1881	Chester Alan Arthur
22	1885	Grover Cleveland
23	1889	Benjamin Harrison
24	1893	Grover Cleveland
25	1897	William McKinley
26	1901	Theodore Roosevelt
27	1909	William Howard Taft
28	1913	Woodrow Wilson
29	1921	Warren G. Harding

#	Year	O.U. President
		Solomon Howard
7	1872	William Henry Scott
8	1884	Charles William Super
9	1896	Isaac Crook
8	1899	Charles William Super
10	1902	Alston Ellis
11	1920	Edwin W. Chubb
12	1921	Elmer Burritt Bryan

Comparison of U.S. and OU Presidents in Chronological Order (continued)

#	Year	U.S. President
30	1923	Calvin Coolidge
31	1929	Herbert Hoover
32	1933	Franklin D. Roosevelt
33	1945	Harry S. Truman
34	1953	Dwight D. Eisenhower
35	1961	John F. Kennedy
36	1963	Lyndon B. Johnson
37	1969	Richard M. Nixon
38	1974	Gerald Ford
39	1977	Jimmy Carter
40	1981	Ronald Reagan
41	1989	George H.W. Bush

#	Year	O.U. President
		Elmer Burritt Bryan
11	1934	Edwin W. Chubb
13	1935	Herman G. James
14	1943	Walter S. Gamertsfelder
15	1945	John Calhoun Baker
16	1961	Vernon Roger Alden
17	1969	Claude R. Sowle
18	1974	Harry B. Crewson
19	1975	Charles J. Ping
		Dr. Bob graduates with BSME from OU, 1984

Comparison of U.S. and OU Presidents in Chronological Order (concluded)

a.k.a. The Dr. Bob Years at OU

#	Year	U.S. President
42	1993	Bill Clinton
43	2001	George W. Bush
44	2009	Barack Obama
45	2017	Donald Trump

#	Year	O.U. President
20	1994	Robert Glidden Dr. Bob joins OU Faculty
21	2004	Roderick J. McDavis
22	2017	M. Duane Nellis

2. Ohio University Engineering College History

2.1 Ohio University Engineering History, 1824 – present

- A surveying course ‘Mensuration, Gauging, Surveying, and Navigation’ was offered starting in **1824**.
- The first two OU engineering graduates were William W. Ballard in **1851** and William D. Porter in **1883**, both in civil engineering, despite the lack of a department of civil engineering at the time.
- In **1857**, fifty-three years after OU was established, the first engineering course (called Civil Engineering) was listed in the OU catalog.
- The course ‘Hydrostatics, Pneumatics, and Acoustics’ was offered starting in **1859**. All of these early engineering-type courses were taught by mathematics faculty.
- The first reference to engineering as a discipline occurred with the introduction of a series of courses in electrical engineering in **1890**, chaired by Wilber M. Stine. The first such courses in the country were offered by MIT in **1881**. Two- and four-year programs in electrical engineering were offered at OU, by the Department of Chemistry and Physics. Engineering students were charged extra fees: \$10 per year for electrical engineering, and \$1 per term for mechanical drawing students.
- By **1890**, there were 110 colleges teaching engineering nationwide.
- The department of physics and electrical engineering was started in **1893**; the chair was Albert A. Atkinson and the first engineering faculty member was John E. Snow (he only stayed a short time). In **1893** Professor Atkinson’s electrical engineering class installed a Hocking River pump, providing OU with running water for the first time.
- Of the 39 students enrolled in electrical engineering in **1902**, three were from New York and Pennsylvania, one was from Jerusalem, and one was from Japan.



Professor Atkinson and EE Freshmen, 1902

media.library.ohiou.edu

- The first OU BSEE degree was earned by Chauncy W. Waggoner of Sugar Creek Ohio in **1904**.

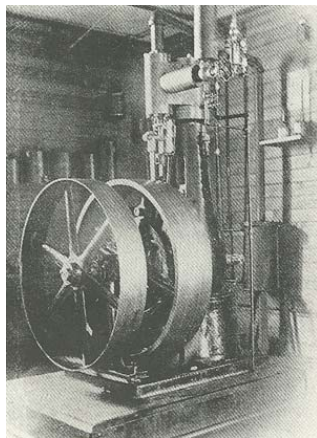
- The department of civil and mining engineering was added in **1904**, led by Lewis J. Addicott, the first civil engineering faculty member. Civil engineering was first housed in East Wing (renamed Wilson Hall in **1939**), directly to the east of Cutler Hall on College Green.



East Wing, First Home of Civil Engineering

Olson, 1985

- No degree was offered in mining engineering. An attempt in **1883** to establish mining engineering at OU was rejected by the Ohio General Assembly, due to a similar program established at OSU. OU would have been a better geographical choice due to the booming coal mining industry in Southeast Ohio at the time.
- In **1906** OU President Ellis fought to retain engineering at OU, from the latest of several attempts at the state level to demote OU and Miami to preparatory schools and move all university courses to OSU in Columbus.
- In **1906** the electrical engineering department used the university lighting department for instruction, with vertical reciprocating and Corliss steam engines, and a 5 HP gasoline engine generating both AC and DC. Ewing Hall on College Green, named for OU's first graduate Thomas Ewing in **1913**, housed the university lighting plant which provided electrical engineering laboratories. The civil and mining engineering department had surveying equipment, drafting tables, a blueprint machine, and a concrete testing machine.



EE Engine Room 1893

Olson, 1985



Ewing Hall

cdm15808.contentdm.oclc.org

- The first OU BSCE degrees were earned by Karl L. Adams of Cincinnati in **1908** and James W. Wisda of Ney Ohio in **1909**.
- The following quote is from the electrical engineering portion of the OU catalog in **1913**: “Ohio University makes no pretense of being an engineering school, but does offer exceptional advantages to students to become thinking men, capable of the highest success in any line of endeavor.”
- George E. McLaughlin, assistant in physics and electrical engineering (hired in **1902**), later formed the Department of Industrial Arts in **1914** and served as its head until **1938**. This evolved into the Industrial Technology Department. It started in the basement of Ellis Hall, moved to Super Hall in **1926**, the IT building in **1956**, and then to Stocker Center in **1985**.



Metal Shop, 1913

Olson, 1985

- In the summer of **1921**, Paul Stocker of Dennison Ohio built a radio out of raw materials (commercial radio had been broadcasting less than a year), sold it for \$75, which paid for his first year’s tuition at OU in electrical engineering.
- The two-year degrees in electrical and civil engineering were discontinued in favor of the four-year degrees in **1929**.
- The OU Board of Trustees established the College of Applied Science in **1935**, with courses in electrical engineering, civil engineering, agricultural engineering, industrial arts, and home economics.

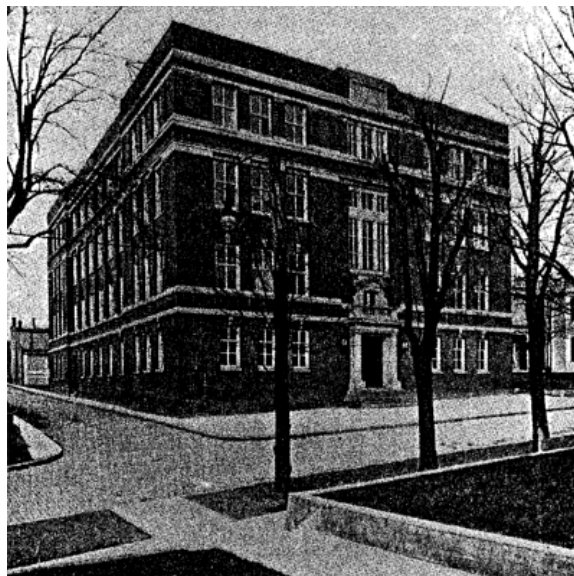
- Albert A. Atkinson, professor of physics and electrical engineering, was appointed as the first College of Applied Science dean in **1936**. The entire college was housed in Super Hall (demolished in **1976**), which is the present site of Bentley Annex.



Super Hall in the 1940s

media.library.ohiou.edu

- A BS degree in Industrial Engineering was offered jointly by the Colleges of Commerce and Applied Science from **1937-1952**, at which time it became an option in Mechanical Engineering. This is doubtless due to the fact that Commerce Dean Armbruster also served as acting dean of Applied Science from **1943-1947**.
- The BS degree in Agricultural Engineering was offered from **1938-1950**.
- A BS degree in Architectural Engineering was offered jointly by the Colleges of Fine Arts and Applied Science from **1938-1960**.
- In **1943** space in the previously-condemned Science Hall was used by the Electrical Engineering Department. Science Hall was subsequently known as the Zoology Building, Old Morton, the first home of the OU Innovation Center, and now the President Street Academic Center (PSAC).



Science Hall

Olson, 1985

- The U.S. Army built the Radar Hill facility on The Ridges in **1940** as a WWII defense station. In **1961**, funded by NASA, OU engineers adapted the Radar Hill hardware for lunar surface studies for the proposed Apollo missions. Radar Hill is bare today, the high point on The Ridges, a favorite of hikers with a 360-degree view.



athensnews.com



Radar Hill Research Facility

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- Flight training was offered at OU in **1940-1944**, a Civil Air Patrol Training Program by Athens Airways (owned by the Athens Messenger). The program was revived in **1945-1948**. Today's Aviation Program started in **1960** in the College of Business and was transferred to the College of Engineering and Technology in **1970**.



Ohio Alumnus back cover, 1945

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Bush Airport, 2012

ohio.edu/airport

- OU bought the East State Street airport (UNI, current site of the Athens Community Center and Kroger) in **1943**. The current OU Bush Airport and Snyder Field near Albany (KUNI) was started in **1969**.
- **Post-WWII**, a flood of engineering students to OU, many who were returning veterans, was exacerbated by lack of sufficient space and low faculty numbers in **1945**. The space in Super and Science Halls was inadequate for this sudden flood of engineering students. The Engineering Annex, a wooden war-surplus building installed at the current site of Porter Hall, was used for engineering drawing classes through **1956**. A second pre-fab wooden building behind this annex was used for a mechanical workshop. The engineering faculty problem of long hours and large classes was worsened further by other OU colleges refusing to allow pay raises to engineering faculty members, relative to their own faculty.

- Civil Engineering offered a seven-course aeronautical structural engineering option during **1944-1951**.
- The OU Mechanical Engineering Department was added in **1947**, by Dean Taylor at the urging of President Baker.



Internal Combustion Engine Laboratory, 1951

Olson, 1985

- The Department of Industrial Arts provided courses for other departments and colleges, and first offered the BS degree in Industrial Technology in **1950**. This resulted from increased demand for technically-trained labor for industry and reduced demand for training vocational education teachers for public middle- and high-schools. This department also offered a non-degree program in printing administration from **1949-1960**.
- The Engineering Building (currently known as RTEC), home of most engineering departments from **1950-1985**, was built from **1948-1958**.

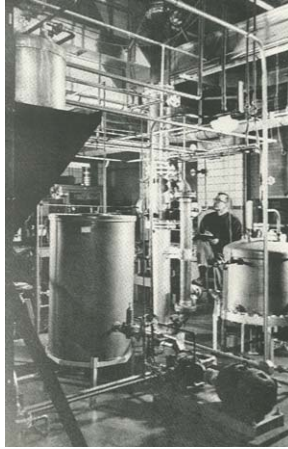


Engineering Building, 1950-1985

Keller, 1996

- MS degree programs were first offered in the Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering departments in **1952**. The Chemical Engineering MS degree program was first offered in **1963**.
- The OU chapter of Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society, was incorporated in **1953**, advised by professor Lew Hicks. Future OU engineering dean T. Richard Robe was the second president of the OU student chapter of Tau Beta Pi in **1954-1955**.

- In the mid-**1950s**, the OU catalog listed professional engineering society student chapters (ASME, ASCE, AIEE, OSPE) as being open to men – by **1960** this restriction was removed.
- The Chemical Engineering Department was formed in **1956**, with the support of OU chemistry professor Donald Clippinger. The first faculty members were chair Thomas H. Curry, Richard S. Mayer, and H. Benne Kendall.



Unit Operations Laboratory, 1957

Olson, 1985

- The College Board of Visitors was organized in the late **1950s**. C. Paul Stocker was the first chairman of the Board of Visitors.
- In the early **1960s**, humanities and social sciences were required for the first time (roughly 13% of all credit hours). This 13% level lasted through the mid-**1990s**, after which a gradual decline has been seen in all engineering departments due to increased curriculum pressures.
- In **April 1962**, C. Paul Stocker, BSEE 1926, HON 1974, and his wife Beth K. Stocker, BS 1928, began their tradition of giving to OU, with a gift of \$500. Interestingly, Paul and Beth did not meet at OU, but in New York City, introduced by another Bobcat alumna.
- In **November 1962**, Fritz J. Russ, BSEE 1942, HON 1975, and his wife Dolores H. Russ also made their first gift to OU, \$25.
- The OU College of Applied Science was renamed the College of Engineering and Technology in **1963**. When the engineering college was renamed, the School of Home Economics was transferred to the Education College.
- The Avionics Research Center was established out of the Electrical Engineering Department in **1963** by Dr. Richard H. McFarland, who served as director for many years. The majority of the external research grants at OU in the **1960s** were in this center. This center has done more than \$100M in federal research contract and grant work for the FAA and NASA, among other sponsors, for aircraft navigation.
- The Ph.D. program in Electrical Engineering was started in **1966** and the Ph.D. program in Chemical Engineering was started in **1968**. Harry Millard Frietchen III earned the college's first Ph.D., in electrical engineering in **1970**.

- The Department of Industrial Engineering was established from Mechanical Engineering by Dr. Robert L. Williams (Dr. Bob's Father) in **1967**, who chaired this department for 22 years. Charles M. Overby was acting chair when Williams was on sabbatical leave in India, during **1970-1972**. A mining systems option was added in **1979**.
- The Clippinger Laboratories building was completed in **1967** and Electrical Engineering was housed there from **1967-1985**, moving to Stocker Center when it opened.
- During Davison's **1969-1971** tenure as engineering dean, there was pressure from OU to decrease the number of quarter hours to 180 for graduation. This move was supported by Davison but resisted by many engineering faculty. In later years this number crept back up to 192 hours and more.
- In **1970** the unrest regarding the Vietnam War hit campus. OU enrollment plummeted from 20,000 to 12,000.
- In **1973** President Sowle and dean of faculties Taylor Culbert presented a formal proposal to eliminate the College of Engineering since enrollment was down. Also, many OU faculty members at the time wanted to move to a strictly liberal arts university. The feeling was that OU engineering students were isolated, taking only engineering classes (not true – on average they took 41% of their courses required for graduation outside the college). It was also felt that the engineering college did not offer any service courses to other colleges. This part was true and many courses for non-engineers have since been added over the years. President Sowle required the deans to present their yearly budget in a public forum and if a department could not justify its existence based on weighted student credit hours, it was in danger of being cut. The College of Engineering was saved because engineering credit hours were weighted more heavily by the State of Ohio than those of other colleges, also due to hard work by Dean Mayer, plus the College Board of Visitors led by Paul Stocker and Fritz Russ. Paul Stocker was also on the OU Board of Trustees at the time and wrote a strong letter to President Sowle in support of continuation of the engineering college.
- In **1974** OU presented an honorary doctorate in engineering to Paul Stocker. Ironically, this honor was conferred by Taylor Culbert who unsuccessfully tried to eliminate the engineering college the previous year.

- C. Paul Stocker bequeathed the \$8M Stocker Endowment to the Engineering College in **1978**, for advanced research equipment, faculty research and enrichment, graduate student fellowships, visiting chaired professors, and undergraduate scholarships. Though the Stocker bequest primarily supported research and advanced equipment, there was a trickle-down benefit for increasing the quality of undergraduate engineering education as well. Upon redeeming the stock gift, OU was actually awarded more than \$14M. The Stockers also initiated the OU 1804 Research and Teaching Grant Fund anonymously.



Paul and Beth Stocker

Keller, 1991

- By the end of the **1970s**, OU engineering enrollment had essentially doubled within 5 years, to 965 undergraduate and 116 graduate students.
- Professor Lewis Hicks is credited with recommending that Professor of Engineering Mechanics and Associate Dean of Engineering Richard Robe at the University of Kentucky be considered for the position he filled from **1980 – 1996**. Dean Robe also credits Benne Kendall and Albert Squibb for inviting him to be a candidate for the deanship. Following the invitation to be a candidate, Athens native Richard Robe did successfully interview for the engineering deanship at OU, but initially turned it down as he and his family were quite happy at University of Kentucky and living in Lexington, KY. The committee and Pres. Ping successfully followed up with him and asked him to reconsider, which he and his family did. He was hired and started in August **1980**. Roy Lawrence, another member of the dean search committee (chaired by Nick Dinos), said that “Much of the good fortune of the Engineering College and ME Department can be credited to Dick Robe”. Dean Robe said that he finally accepted the OU engineering deanship due to the new Stocker Bequest in 1978 becoming available, with the chance to build excellence in the college instructional and research programs, plus being very impressed by the effective leadership and competent administration of OU President Charles Ping and Provost Neil Bucklew. President Ping had a decentralized leadership/management philosophy, placing significant & appropriate authority and responsibility in the Colleges; this represented one of the unique strengths during the Ping years which contributed greatly to the progress made across the University and in the College of Engineering & Technology during this period.

- In the **early 1980s** the College of Engineering & Technology initiated the 5-year Cooperative Education Program wherein students alternate terms in engineering school with working in industry during their three middle years at OU. The co-op positions are paid and an excellent way to obtain experience and explore specific engineering jobs. This was initiated during Dean Robe's tenure, and he credits Associate Dean Joseph Essman and long-time Co-op Program Director Marty North for this program's success.
- In **1981** the Fritz H. and Dolores J. Russ award for best undergraduate teaching and best research paper were established (the first awardees were Brian Manhire and William Baasel, respectively). In **1982** the Fritz H. and Dolores J. Russ professorship was initiated (Robert Savage was the first awardee **1982-1985**) and represents the first endowed named professorship at OU; all prior such titles were named endowed chairs, providing more complete and fuller support than named professorships; these earlier chairs include the Stocker Visiting Chair in electrical engineering established by the Stockers prior to the 1978 Paul Stocker Bequest.
- In the **Summer of 1981** a 10-week pre-engineering program for minority students was initiated and directed by Associate Dean Joseph Essman.
- In the **Fall of 1982** minimum admission requirements were established for direct entry of engineering students into the College of Engineering. Students not meeting these minimum criteria were able to enroll in a pre-engineering program in the University College and then transition to the engineering college with successful completion of specified courses.
- In **1982**, under the leadership of Dean Robe, selective college admission requirements were implemented, quality standards were imposed on the college curricula, and a significant increase in student enrollment ensued. This was quite a risk since the engineering college had just survived an attempt by OU to eliminate it in **1973**. There was significant concern and opposition to this initiative for selective admission (under discussion in **1980 & 81**), both within as well as the administration outside the College. However, this bold move paid off since more high quality students applied, and enrollments, quality, cost-effectiveness, and retention all increased. The OU engineering college was the first to implement selective admissions, followed by the OU colleges of business and communications. Due to success with selective admissions in these three OU colleges, OU itself went to a selective admission policy in **1985**.
- In June **1984** Dr. Bob was honored with the Outstanding Engineering College Senior Award.

- The 3.5 acre (on five floors), \$11.7M Stoker Engineering Center opened in **1985** (ground was broken in **1983** for the largest OU project at the time), during the 50th anniversary of the College. This center boasted 25 miles of cables for voice, data, and video communications, state-of-the-art CAD/CAM facilities, and roof-top space for antennae and solar energy research. Stoker Engineering Center was converted from the West Green dorm Crook Hall, with an open courtyard where the large Stoker 103 classroom and other rooms are currently. Stoker Center united all seven departments in the engineering college for the first time. Prior to 1985 the College of Engineering was split between the current RTEC, Clippinger Hall, and the Industrial Technology Building on W. Union Street (currently known as the Central Classroom Building). This engineering center was named in honor of Paul and Beth Stoker, but it was not funded by their financial bequest.



Stoker Engineering Center

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/stoker

- In the early 1980s, external private fundraising for university development was centralized under Jack Ellis, Director of Development. With Project 85 being initiated in 1983 in the engineering college to raise private funds for the new Stoker Center engineering complex then under construction, Project 85 became the first private fundraising effort by an individual college at OU. With a goal of \$4.5M for equipment and furniture for the new Stoker Center, by **1986**, this effort had yielded \$6M. Today the Russ College of Engineering at OU has the largest private endowment of any public engineering school in the country, thanks to the Stockers, the Russes, and many other generous donors.
- The Integrated Engineering Ph.D. Program was planned starting in **1985** and it operated during **1991-2008**, shared between Civil, Industrial, and Mechanical Engineering, and offering three tracks: materials processing, geotechnical and environmental, and intelligent systems.
- In **1988**, ten years after the Stoker bequest and three years after Stoker Center opened, all degree-granting departments reported growth in enrollment and programs.
- In **1993**, ground was broken for a major expansion of the Stoker Engineering Center which was principally funded with privately donated funds.

- On June 25, **1994**, the 59 year-old College of Engineering and Technology was renamed The Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ College of Engineering and Technology. On September 1, **1994**, Dr. Bob joins the OU ME faculty after 5 years at Virginia Tech (MS, Ph.D., visiting professor) and 5 more years at NASA Langley Research Center (space roboticist).



Fritz and Dolores Russ

ohio.edu/news/pix/russ

- For years the college of engineering had a common first-year curriculum, in which it was easy to change majors after the first year. In the mid-**1990s** this feature slowly disappeared as department after department chose specialization over generalization.
- The Computer Science program in the College of A&S was transferred to the Russ College and was made part of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering in **1995**.
- The Robe Leadership Institute (RLI) was established in **1996** by the OU Board of Trustees after being proposed and endowed with approx. \$500K by the Russ College Board of Visitors. The new incoming Dean Kent Wray asked retiring Dean Emeritus Robe to lead this effort thus making him the founding director and architect of the RLI programs, which are still in existence. The RLI was started to promote leadership education for the students, faculty and staff of the Russ College to promote and learn the skills to accomplish tasks with and through others, both in school and in their professional careers.

- The Corrosion and Multiphase Technology building was constructed for \$2M in **1997** on West State Street.



Corrosion Center

ohio.edu/athens/bldgs/corrosion

- Ohio University established the Fritz H. and Dolores J. Russ Prize, which was made public in 1999, to be awarded biennially by the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) to recognize outstanding bioengineering achievements which improve the human condition and are in widespread use. The Russ Prize is now the top bioengineering prize in the world and has a \$500,000 award with it and is supported with a multimillion-dollar gift to OU from the Russes. Because the Russes asked the University to keep the negotiations for the Russ Prize, initiated in the 1980s, secret until the public 1999 unveiling, it is not generally known that in 1994 President Glidden traveled to DC with Dean Robe to formally initiate the Russ Prize contract with the National Academy of Engineering. The first Russ Prize was awarded to Earl E. Bakken and Wilson Greatbatch, inventors of the heart pacemaker, in **2001**.
- The Department of Chemical Engineering was renamed to the Department of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering in **2003**.
- Charles R. Stuckey, BSME 1966, HON 2005, and his wife Marilyn Stuckey made a gift of \$5 million for a new learning and research facility, in **2004**. Ground was broken for the \$34 million Osteopathic Heritage Foundations / Charles and Marilyn Stuckey Academic & Research Center, a collaborative effort between the Russ College and College of Osteopathic Medicine, in **2007**.
- Fritz and Dolores Russ bequeathed \$95M to the Russ College, the largest gift to any public engineering college and to any public university in the state of Ohio, in **2008**. Soon after this princely gift, the U.S. Stocked Market tanked by 30%. By OU Foundation rules, this prevented spending from the interest of the Russ gift until it got out from underwater, which took three years. Including properties, the final value of the Russ gift was \$124M.
- The Civil Engineering Ph.D. Program was initiated in **2009**.
- The Mechanical and Systems Engineering Ph.D. Program was initiated in **2010**, shared between Mechanical and Industrial Engineering.

- The Academic & Research Center (ARC) opened in January **2010**, during the 75th anniversary year of the College. This building was constructed in partnership with the OU College of Osteopathic Medicine, who shares the space with research labs and offices.



Academic & Research Center

Dr. Bob, Fall 2012

- The Department of Industrial Technology (IT) was renamed the Department of Engineering Technology & Management (ETM) in **2011**.
- The seventh Russ Prize was awarded on **February 19, 2013**, to R. Srinivasan, James Wynne, and Samuel Blum for developments enabling LASIK eye surgery.

2.2 Ohio University Engineering Deans

List of Ohio University Engineering Deans in Chronological Order

#	Name	Years	Comment
1	Albert A. Atkinson	1936-1937	1891 physics graduate of OU, physics and electrical engineering, first OU engineering dean.
2	William M. Young	1937-1943	Electrical engineer, took leave from OU to serve in WWII, resigned from OU after the war.
3	Adolph H. Armbruster	1943-1947	Acting dean, residence hall named for him. ‘Army’ served as the first dean of the College of Commerce from 1936-1951.
4	Edwin J. Taylor	1947-1965	Longest-serving dean to date, Rear Admiral in the U.S. Navy during WWII, Mechanical Engineer, reading room in Stocker Center named for him.
5	Robert L. Savage	1965-1967	Chemical engineer from OSU and Case Institute of Technology, previous experience in the coal industry.
6	Walter J. Fahey	1967-1968	OU Electrical engineering chair and Faculty Senate chair prior to deanship.
7	Irvin P. Badger	1968-1969	Civil engineer, assistant college dean prior to deanship.
8	Richard C. Dorf	1969	Only served for a few days – President Sowle wanted a controller of unruly Vietnam-War-protesting students more than an engineering dean, so he left.
9	Beaumont Davison	1969-1971	OU Electrical engineering chair prior to deanship and VP for Regional Higher Education in 1971.
10	Richard Mayer	1971-1980	OU Chemical engineering chair and Faculty Senate chair prior to deanship. President of Council of Ohio Engineering Deans, 1977-1979.
11	T. Richard Robe	1980-1996	BSCE 1955 and MSME 1962 OU, founding director of the Robe Leadership Institute, Stocker 103 named for him and his wife; hired Dr. Bob in 1994.
12	W. Kent Wray	1996-2000	Civil engineer, went on to be provost at Michigan Tech and Interim Chancellor at the University of Missouri Rolla.
13	Jerrel Mitchell	2000-2002	Interim dean, former chair of EECS, went back to the electrical engineering faculty after his service.
14	R. Dennis Irwin	2002-2019	Former chair of EECS, developed ARC (with OUCOM dean Jack Brose), managed the Russ Gift.
15	Mei Wei	2019-present	Former chair of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Connecticut.

2.3 The Stocker Visiting Chaired Professorship in Engineering

Part of the generous Stocker bequest to the OU College of Engineering & Technology in 1978 was specified to be used to fund a Visiting Chaired Professor in the college. Multiple-year appointments were specified with two chairs, one in Electrical Engineering, and a second to be rotated amongst the other engineering departments.

List of Stocker Visiting Chaired Engineering Professors in Chronological Order

#	Name	Years	Department
1	Carleton A. Sperati	1979-1981	Chemical Engineering
2	John D. Kraus	1979-1980	Electrical Engineering
3	Fred Evans	1980	Electrical Engineering
4	Kare Hellan	1981	Civil Engineering
5	Thomas S. Shelvin	1981-1982	Mechanical Engineering
6	Charles F. James Jr.	1982-1983	Industrial and Systems Engineering
7	Judith Prewitt	1982-1984	Electrical and Computer Engineering
8	Rudolph Drenick	1983	Electrical and Computer Engineering
9	Yellappa C. Das	1984-1985	Civil Engineering
10	John M. Alexander	1985-1987	Mechanical Engineering
11	Joseph I. Elgomayel	1986	Industrial and Systems Engineering
12	Clayborne D. Taylor	1986-1988	Electrical and Computer Engineering
13	James Ferguson	1988	Chemical Engineering
14	Jerome K. Delson	1988	Electrical and Computer Engineering
15	John L. Brown Jr.	1988-1990	Electrical and Computer Engineering
16	Richard H. Atkinson	1989	Civil Engineering
17	Phillip S. Waldrop	1991	Industrial Technology
18	Katsundo Hitomi	1991	Industrial and Systems Engineering
19	Costa J. Rallis	1991-1992	Mechanical Engineering
20	Walter E. Grupe Jr.	1993-1994	Civil Engineering
21	William Shephard	1993-1996	Electrical and Computer Engineering, two terms
22	Edmund K. Miller	1994-1995	Electrical and Computer Engineering
23	Hajrudin Pasic	1994-1995	Mechanical Engineering
24	Anthony S. Green	1995-1996	Chemical Engineering
25	Robert P. Davis	1995-1996	Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering
26	Murray Moo-Young	1997-1999	Chemical Engineering
27	Charles K. Alexander	1998-2001	Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
28	Jon Andresen	2002	Industrial Technology
29	J.M. Floryan	2002-2003	Mechanical Engineering
30	Angie Bukley	2003-2005	Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
31	Ludwig Figueroa	2004-2005	Civil Engineering
32	Klaus Ecker	2006-2009	Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
33	Brian Kinsella	2009-2111	Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
34	William Lozier	2010-2011	Civil Engineering
35	Faiz Rahman	2015	Electrical Engineering

2.4 The Russ Prize in Engineering

The Russ Prize is the top bioengineering prize in the world. It was created by OU with a gift from alumni Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ. This prize, awarded on odd years by the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), recognizes a bioengineering achievement in widespread use that significantly improves the human condition. There is a \$500,000 cash prize and the winner accepts the award in Washington DC and spends some time with the Russ College of Engineering at OU following the award. The table below shows the past winners of this prestigious prize.

While the award became public in 1999, The Russ Prize was officially initiated in 1994 between Ohio University and NAE. Several years of planning and negotiation with the Russes and NAE took place prior to 1994. Also, for many years before that, Fritz Russ had been contemplating how engineers might be recognized for their outstanding contributions to improving peoples' lives and how this recognition might better help the public understand what engineers do.



Russ Prize Medal

en.wikipedia.org

List of Russ Prize Recipients in Chronological Order

#	Name	Year	Contribution
1	Earl E. Bakken and Wilson Greatbach	2001	Inventors of the heart pacemaker.
2	Willem J. Kolff	2003	Father of Artificial Organs.
3	Leland C. Clark Jr.	2005	Inventor of Biosensors.
4	Yuan-Chen Fung	2007	Father of Biomechanical Engineering.
5	Elmer Gaden	2009	Father of Biochemical Engineering, enabled the large-scale manufacture of antibiotics such as penicillin.
6	Leroy Hood	2011	Developer of the automated DNA sequencer. Enabled sequencing of the human genome in a decade.
7	R. Srinivasan, James Wynne, and Samuel Blum	2013	Development of laser ablative photodecomposition, enabling pulsed UV laser surgery (LASIK and PRK).
8	Michael Merzenich, Blake Wilson, Graeme Clark, Erwin Hochmair, and Ingeborg Hochmair-Desoyer	2015	Development of the cochlear implant, allowing the deaf to hear.
9	James G. Fujimoto, Adolf F. Fercher, David Huang, Christoph K. Hitzenberger, and Eric A. Swanson	2017	Development of optical coherence tomography, an imaging technology used to prevent blindness and treat vascular and other diseases for millions.
10	Julio Palmaz, Leonard Pinchuk, John Simpson, Richard Schatz and Paul Yock	2019	Innovations leading to the widespread adoption of percutaneous coronary intervention (formerly known as angioplasty with stent or coronary angioplasty).

3. Ohio University Mechanical Engineering Department History

3.1 Ohio University Mechanical Engineering History, 1947 – present

- Although engineering courses have been offered at OU extending back to **1890**, the mechanical engineering program was not added until **1947**, by Dean Taylor at the urging of President Baker. The initial courses were in machine design, thermal engineering, aircraft engines, refrigeration, internal combustion engines, and heating, ventilation, air-conditioning (HVAC).
- The undergraduate Mechanical Engineering Program has been fully and continuously accredited by ABET since **1951**. ABET, a national organization founded in **1932**, originally stood for Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. However, in **2005**, they formally changed their name to simply ABET.
- The Mechanical Engineering MS Program was started in **1952**.
- Industrial Engineering was a part of the Mechanical Engineering Department during **1952-1967**.
- The ME faculty in **1967** consisted of Gene Adams (chair), William Beale, Fan Chen, Lewis Hicks, and Roy Lawrence. Former ME chair Paul Black was retired by then but still involved in the department.
- In the **1970** attempt to cut the Engineering College by President Sowle and his provost, one thing that helped save Mechanical Engineering was the arrival of twenty Algerian students sent by their government to study mechanical engineering for four years.
- In **Fall 1980**, the basic sophomore-level dynamics course (ME 224, now called ET 2240) was transferred to mechanical engineering from civil engineering.
- The ME faculty in **1984** consisted of Gene Adams, Khairul Alam, Ravi Chandran, Jay Gunasekera, Ken Halliday, Lewis Hicks (early retirement), and Roy Lawrence (chair).
- Dr. Bob graduated with a BSME from OU in **June 1984**, just missing the opening of Stocker Center in **1985**. Dr. Izzi Urieli joined the ME faculty in **Fall 1985**, from South Africa via Sunpower, just missing Dr. Bob as a student.
- In **Fall 1994**, Dr. Bob was the first professor to introduce MATLAB software at OU for teaching and research. He brought a beta evaluation copy from NASA Langley Research Center, who supported Mathworks Inc. in its development of MATLAB.
- The ME Faculty in **1995** were Gene Adams (early retirement), Sunil Agrawal (graduate chair), Khairul Alam, David Bayless, Donna Bruce (secretary), Merry Cibula (graduate secretary), Mo Deghani, Gary Graham, Jay Gunasekera (chair), Ken Halliday, Len Huffman (lab coordinator), Roy Lawrence (early retirement), Bhavin Mehta, Hajrudin Pasic, Izzi Urieli, and Bob Williams.
- The Ohio Coal Research Center was established in the **1950s**. This State of Ohio program has been managed by OU ChE for many years. In the late **1990s**, ME faculty David Bayless took over

the management of the Coal Center. In **2004**, the Institute for Sustainable Energy and the Environment (ISEE) was formed by ME Dr. Bayless of the Coal Center, ChE Dr. Crist of the Center for Air Quality, CE Dr. Stuart of the Biofuels Lab (**2006**), ChE Dr. Botte of the Center for Electrochemical Engineering Research (**2009**), and ChE Dr. Lee of the Sustainable Energy and Advanced Materials Laboratory (**2011**).

- In **2000**, a unique and innovative ME Senior Design Project was added to the required ME curriculum by Greg Kremer, Ken Halliday, and Izzi Urieli. In this nine-month course sequence, seniors working in teams of 5-6 students identify a customer with a need, generate design specifications, and then proceed to design a product from the ground up with theory, computer analysis, CAD, prototyping, and testing of their final hardware before delivery to the customer. This has focused on designing to make a difference: eco-friendly vehicles, machines for local agriculture businesses, design for multiply-handicapped persons to work more efficiently in industry, and design of systems to improve life in third-world villages.
- U.S. Patent No. 6,231,643, “Membrane Electrostatic Precipitator” was awarded to OU ME faculty Pasic, Alam, and Bayless in **2001**. This was the first OU patent to be licensed in engineering college history. Since that time many OU ME faculty have earned patents for their research developments (including Dr. Bob).
- The ME Faculty in **2005** were Khairul Alam, David Bayless, Paul Bosscher, Merry Cibula (graduate secretary), Andy Foley, Gary Graham, Jay Gunasekera (chair), Ken Halliday (assistant chair), Len Huffman (lab coordinator), Frank Kraft (graduate chair), Greg Kremer, Bhavin Mehta, Hajudin Pasic, Dick Robe (early retirement), Izzi Urieli, Stephanie Walker (office manager), Bob Williams, and Carole Womeldorf.
- The ME Faculty in **2013** were Khairul Alam, Mohammed Ali, David Bayless, Merry Cibula (graduate secretary), John Cotton, T.J. Cyders, Jun Choi, Jay Gunasekera (early retirement), Randy Mulford (lab coordinator), Frank Kraft, Greg Kremer (chair), Jesus Pagan (staff – on temporary assignment to the OU Innovation Center), Hajrudin Pasic (graduate chair), Jason Trembly, Stephanie Walker (office manager), and Bob Williams (assistant chair).
- The ME Faculty in **2018** were Khairul Alam (early retirement), Mohammed Ali, David Bayless (graduate chair), John Cotton, T.J. Cyders, Paul Golter, Sarah Hormozi, Kristy Kappagantula, Randy Mulford (lab coordinator), Frank Kraft, Greg Kremer (chair), Brian McCoy (graduate secretary), Toufiq Reza, Alireza Sarvestani, Jason Trembly, Stephanie Walker (supreme organizer for ME), Jay Wilhelm, and Bob Williams (assistant chair).



Mechanical Engineering Class of 2010 with Faculty

3.2 Ohio University Mechanical Engineering Department Chairs

List of Ohio University Mechanical Engineering Chairs in Chronological Order

#	Name	Years	Comment
1	Laverne F. Lausche	1947-1949	Steam Power Engineering, OU Heating Plant named after him.
2	Paul H. Black	1949-1967	Wrote a successful book on <u>Machine Design</u> ; Endowed a scholarship for ME seniors still in place.
3	Otto E. Adams Jr.	1967-1974	Collaborated with Black on a revision of <u>Machine Design</u> ; Dr. Bob's mentor in kinematics & dynamics.
4	Roy A. Lawrence	1974-1991	Despite expertise in thermo-fluid/heat systems, first OU robotics enthusiast; Graduated Dr. Bob in 1984.
5	Jay S. Gunasekera	1991-2006	Internationally-recognized expert in materials forming research; Hired Dr. Bob in 1994.
6	Gregory G. Kremer	2006-present	Design engineering expert; holds the records for career and season tackles at Rose-Hulman Institute.

4. Famous Ohio University Alumni

4.1 Some Famous Ohio University Graduates

- **Roger Ailes**, 1962, President of Fox News Channel, chairman of the Fox Television Stations Group. Ailes was a media consultant for Republican presidents Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan, and George H. W. Bush, and Rudy Giuliani's first mayoral campaign.
- **Frank C. Baumholtz**, BSED 1941, first person to play two professional sports simultaneously (baseball and basketball, 1946–47), and the only Bobcat to have his jersey number retired.
- **Bill Benson**, BSCO 1947, world record holder for fastest mile by an 82-year-old.
- **Kermit A. Blosser**, BSED 1932, EMER 1976, longtime OU coach and charter inductee in the NCAA Golf Coaches Hall of Fame (1980).
- **Tom D. Crouch**, AB 1966, leading historian of flight and curator for the National Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of American History.
- **Daniel F. Dickriede**, DO 1987, 1999 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize as a member of Doctors Without Borders for their pioneering humanitarian work on several continents.
- **Jim Dine**, BFA 1957, pop artist whose work is in the collections of the Guggenheim Museum and the Museum of Modern Art.
- **Robert H. Dougherty**, BSME 1952, retired CEO, Unicom.
- **Thomas Ewing**, the first baccalaureate graduate of OU in 1815. Ewing also earned the first (honorary) Master's and Doctorate degrees awarded by OU, in 1825 and 1857. Ewing served two terms as U.S. senator, Secretary of the Treasury for William Henry Harrison, Secretary of the Interior for Zachary Taylor, and advisor to U.S. Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. Ewing House is a 1969 dorm named for him on South Green. Ewing Hall on College Green, razed in 1974, was also named for him in 1913.
- **Dow Finsterwald**, AB 1952, winner of the 1958 PGA tournament (beating Arnold Palmer).
- **Robert Forsythe**, 1950, architect who designed the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton Ohio.
- **Jonathan Freeman**, BFA 1972, Broadway actor and the voice of Jafar in Disney's movie Aladdin.
- **John W. Galbreath**, AB 1920 and HON 1961, owner of the Pittsburgh Pirates.
- **Bill Greer**, 1985, roadie for Aerosmith, Smithereens, Guns 'n Roses; tour manager, Cinderella and Kiss. An Athens High School graduate. Dr. Bob's football coach in 6th grade.
- **Brandon T. Grover**, 1919, head basketball coach and assistant athletic director, 1923 to 1938.

- **Leon Harris**, BSJ 1983 and HON 1999, former CNN anchor now with ABC affiliate WJLA in Washington, D.C. 1999 OU Commencement Speaker.
- **David Hostetler**, MFA 1949, sculptor known for wood and bronze female forms and emeritus professor of art at OU.
- **JoAnn Jansen**, 1970, movie choreographer for Remember the Titans and Michael.
- **Sammy Kaye**, BSCE 1932, big band leader (Sammy Kaye Orchestra, ‘Swing and sway with Sammy Kaye’).
- **Edwin L. Kennedy**, AB 1926 and HON 1965, senior partner, Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc.
- **Peter King**, BSJ 1979, four-time Associated Press Sports Editors award winner who covers the NFL for Sports Illustrated. 2008 OU Commencement Speaker.
- **C. Frederick Kittle**, AB 1942 and HON 1967, surgeon who performed Chicago’s first heart transplant; collector of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle first editions and correspondence.
- **Wilfred Konneker**, BS 1943, MS 1947, holder of numerous patents for his work in nuclear physics.
- **Matt Lauer**, host of NBC's The Today Show since 1996. Matt dropped out of OU’s telecommunications program in 1979, with only 3 hours lacking for graduation. After he became famous, he finished those three hours by writing a paper for independent study and successfully graduated from OU in 1997. Lauer is a major Bobcat supporter in his Today Show gig.
- **Herman Leonard**, BFA 1947, internationally-renowned photographer known for his iconic ‘Images of Jazz’ collection. 2009 OU Commencement Speaker.
- **Richard O. Linke**, BSJ 1941, TV Producer and personal agent to Andy Griffith, Jim Nabors, Ken Berry, Jerry van Dyke, Frankie Avalon, Bobby Vinton, Forrest Tucker and Ronny Schell.
- **Craig Love**, BSME 1971, a DaimlerChrysler vice president and designer of the Dodge Prowler, which he barely fit into – he played basketball for OU.
- **Cruse W. Moss**, BSISE 1948 and HON 1985, has over 30 years of engineering, manufacturing and marketing experience in tactical vehicles, transit buses and commercial truck and farm equipment. Funded the Moss Professorships in engineering at OU.
- **Clarence Page**, BSJ 1969 and HON 1993, two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning syndicated columnist for The Chicago Tribune. 2001 OU Commencement Speaker. Worked for The Post at OU.
- **Piper Perabo**, Theater 1998, Hollywood actress, Coyote Ugly, Cheaper by the Dozen, The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle, Lost and Delirious.
- **Thomas Powers**, MA 1975, PhD 1977, audiologist who fitted then-President Ronald Reagan with his first hearing aid.

- **Venkatraman Ramakrishnan**, Ph.D. 1976, 2009 Nobel Prize recipient in Chemistry.
- **Lee Rich**, BBA 1944 and HON 1982, film producer (Rain Man, A Fish Called Wanda, Moonstruck, An Officer and a Gentleman).
- **Helen Mansfield Robinson**, Education 1926, an author of the famous Dick and Jane basic reader series, from 1962-1965. There is a reading lab named for her in the Patton College of Education.
- **Fritz J. Russ**, BSEE 1942 and HON 1975, Alumnus of the Year **1983**, leader of post-WWII team that developed instrumentation and procedures to measure aerial effects of nuclear bursts at Bikini atoll on nearby ships. Fritz grew up in nearby Jackson Ohio and established Systems Research Labs in Dayton Ohio. Prior to establishing SRL he and partner Dick Johnson built the world's first transistorized, wireless electric guitar. This was sold to the Sears & Roebuck Company, but Fritz and his partner could not deliver due to the unreliability of early transistors. With his wife, he is the namesake of the Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ College of Engineering and Technology (RCENT) at OU. The Russ Estate donated a world-record \$124M gift to OU RCENT in 2008.
- **Martin Savidge**, 1981, Emmy award-winning television news correspondent for NBC. Also CNN anchor/national correspondent.
- **Lawrence R. Schmidt**, BSCE 1965, General Electric researcher who developed the manufacturing technique behind CDs.
- **Mike Schmidt**, 1971, Led OU to the College World Series in 1970. Major League Baseball third baseman for the Philadelphia Phillies 1972-1989.
- **Diana Schultz**, 1953, child actress in "My Friend Flicka", then OU, then actress of stage, screen, and TV. **Patty Hale** was her screen name.
- **Sander Schwartz**, 1975, president, Time Warner Entertainment.
- **Irving R. Shulman**, 1937, author of the novel version of West Side Story and wrote the screenplay for Rebel Without a Cause.
- **C. Paul Stocker**, BSEE 1926 and HON 1974, Lorain Products founder whose more than 50 patents include the Sub-Cycle static frequency converter, the longest continuously manufactured part in the telephone industry. With his wife, namesake of Stocker Center. Donated \$8M to the Engineering College in 1978.
- **Charles R. Stuckey**, BSME 1966, HON 2005, chairman, president and CEO of RSA Security Inc. RSA supplies technology and products for user authentication and for securing transactions on the Internet. With wife Marilyn, made a gift of \$5 million for a new learning and research facility in 2004, which became the ARC.
- **Connie Tobias**, AAS 1977, BGS 1978, one of the first female captains for a major airline.
- **Brian Unger**, 1987, comedy writer for Comedy Central, The Daily Show. 2006 OU Commencement Speaker.

- **George Voinovich**, AB 1958 and HON 1981, former Republican United States Senator from Ohio. Previously, he served as the 65th Governor of Ohio from 1991 to 1998. Established the Voinovich School at OU.
- **Robert D. Walter**, BSME 1967 and HON 1997, CEO, Cardinal Health.
- **David Wilhelm**, AB 1977, Bill Clinton's campaign manager in his successful first run for the U.S. Presidency. Wilhelm then became the National Democratic Party chairman. An Athens High School graduate. 2002 OU Commencement Speaker.
- **Robert J. Wood**, BS 1978, NASA payload specialist.
- **Bob Wren**, BSED 1943 and EMER 1982, 24-year coach of OU baseball with more than 50 players going to the pros; 12th on the NCAA's career baseball winning percentage list (0.724).

4.2 Some Famous Ohio University Attendees

- **Richard Dean Anderson**, 1970-73, star of MacGyver and Stargate SG-1.
- **Erma Bombeck**, 1948, author, humorist, and newspaper columnist.
- **Nancy J. Cartwright**, 1976-78, voice of Bart Simpson and Chuckie on Rugrats, among many others. 2012 OU Commencement Speaker.
- **Jonathan Edwards**, studied Art at OU in the 1960s, dropped out and went to Boston to pursue a music career, as a singer/song-writer.
- **Arsenio Hall**, 1973-75, actor and TV host.
- **Don King**, boxing promoter, took OU correspondence courses in prison.
- **Paul Newman**, 1943, said to be expelled for rolling a keg down Jeff Hill and accidentally crashing it into OU president's car. Oscar-winning actor and Hollywood icon, film director, entrepreneur, humanitarian, and professional racing driver. Co-founder of Newman's Own food products.
- **Ed O'Neill**, 1966, actor, best known as Al Bundy on Married with Children.
- **Edward James Roye**, 1832-35; fifth president of Liberia, 1870. The only Ohioan to become president of a foreign country.
- **Carr Van Anda**, 1880–82, managing editor of The New York Times, 1904-21. Largely credited for making it the nation's newspaper of record. First to report the sinking of the unsinkable Titanic in 1912.

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Roy Lawrence, retired ME Chair, e-mail communication, September 2012.

T. Richard Robe, retired RCENT Dean, personal and e-mail communications, September and December 2012.

Bill Kimok, OU Archivist, personal and e-mail communications, October and December 2012.

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