First and Finest

The history of Ohio University

1800

1803: Ohio University is founded

1803: Ohio becomes 17th state

1804: Ohio General Assembly approves OU's charter

1810

1819: Tuition is $6 per semester

1818

- College (Office renamed Cutler Hall in 1914) is completed

1820

1830

1829

- John Newton Templeton becomes the first black and the nation's fourth African-American graduate

1840

1840: University suspends operations due to financial hardships

1845: University reopens with tuition payments set at $20 per year

1843

- The Echo and University Record becomes first student newspaper

1850

1860

1862: Morrill Act establishes Ohio University as a land-grant institution

1862: American Civil War begins

1865: American Civil War ends

1870

1873

- Isaiagrad Blood becomes the university's first female graduate

1880

1890

1892: First yearbook, "The Athena," is produced by the 17 member senior class

1892: OU joins w/ Marietta, Otterbein, Wittenberg, and Denison to form Ohio Athletic Conference

1892: Baseball becomes OU's first official athletic team

1896: Greek and white are adopted as school colors (previously black and white)

1896

- OU football team is organized

1897

- Juji Taro Murayama of Japan becomes OU's first international graduate

1900

1900: Extension department is established to deliver instruction to students throughout southeastern Ohio

1910

1914: Wright Brothers' flies/ins

1918: World War I ends

1920

1929: Peter Stadium, home to the OU football team, opens

1930

1930: Richland Avenue Bridge is built

1930: University is reorganized into 5 colleges: Arts & Sciences, Education, Applied Sciences, Commerce, and Fine Arts

1939: The Post, OU's independent student newspaper, is established

1939: Vivian's Inn it begins

1940

1940: World War II ends

1946: OU joins the Mid-American Conference

1950

1959: Rev. Martin Luther King attends 18th Ecumenical Student Conference on the Christian World Mission, in Athens

1960

1963: Football team goes 10-0 and is voted NCAA National College Division Champions

1964: Women's College is created and becomes the Honors Tutorial College in 1972

1968: College of Communication is established

1969: Alden Library opens

1970

1972: Bruce Springsteen plays at Memorial Auditorium, the last concert before the three chairs and curtain closes off the stage

1974: Ohio Supreme Court rules that Greek houses are school housing. Premises Liquor Permits Bowl

2000: Ohio Supreme Court rules that Greek houses are school housing. Premises Liquor Permits Bowl

2001: Ohio Supreme Court rules that Greek houses are school housing. Premises Liquor Permits Bowl

1980

1983: The Ohio Innovation Center, a business incubator, is started

1990

1993: Cable television is installed in dorms. University gets an interactive homepage

2000

2000: An academic hall rooms are equipped with computers

2005: Ohio University celebrates 1st Bicentennial

2007

- The new John Calhoun Baker University Center opens

2010

2010: Women's basketball team reaches 3 consecutive Elite Eight and 3 consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances

2011: Football team wins first bowl game in school history, Frisbee Bowl, Boise State

2011: Ohio University ranks among nation's top "Green" Schools after debunking Michigan and Lucas Heights

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Presidents

- Robert Lindley (1822-1825)
- Edward Wilson (1825-1828)
- Jeremiah Morrison (1828-1834)
- William McGuffey (1836-1839)
- Alfred Taylor (1840-1843)
- Solomon Mitchell (1843-1845)
- William Henry Scott (1872-1885)
- Edwards William Super (1886-1896)
- Isaac Lewis Guitteau (1899-1900)
- Edwin Boyer Peters (1900-1908)
- Alston Ross Boyd (1908-1914)
- Alexander Ernest Jones (1914-1918)
- Bryan Cochran Pearson (1918-1927)
- Vernon Ezra Tolles (1933-1947)
- Alfred Alexander Lawshe (1947-1950)
- Claude Alexander Phillips (1950-1962)
- Vernon Ezra Tolles (1962-1967)
- Claude E. Hawk (1967-1969)
- Charles J. Ping (1974-1975)
- Robert Alden (1976-1986)
- Frederick Michael (1986-1995)

60th among public national universities. U.S. News & World Report college rankings

70 nationally competitive awards (2010-11)

10 Fulbright Scholars (2010-11)

81% of freshmen receive financial aid

200,000 Total Alumni Worldwide

OU is home to academic excellence and transformative teaching, a close-knit community, and a rich history. Students are proud to call Ohio University and Athens home. Learn more at www.ohio.edu