THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA HAS COMPLETED A QUARTER-CENTURY OF EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTING.

1929: The University began radio broadcasts over commercial stations in Alabama.

1940: A department of radio education was established for production of education programs (Extension Division) and teaching of radio (Arts & Sciences College). The series "Alabama Editorial Review" was inaugurated and was broadcast on three Alabama commercial stations.

1945: The Radio Broadcasting Services was established as a department of the Extension Division, separate from the teaching of radio. Graydon Ausmus became head of this department. Services, including programs distributed and number of stations carrying them were greatly expanded.

1949: (December 5) WUOA-FM, Alabama's first non-commercial, educational station went on the air. Operating hours were 3-9 p.m., Monday-Friday.

1950: (January 25) WUOA-FM formally dedicated.

1950: (June 3) Broadcasting hours increased to 8-hour day, six-day week.

1950: WUOA joined National Association of Educational Broadcasters Network.


1952: (April) "Alabama Document" series won first award for best educational public affairs series at annual Ohio State Institute for Education by Radio-TV.

1952: Graydon Ausmus, WUOA manager, elected president of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters. He had previously served as regional director and vice president.

1952: WUOA begins broadcasting 10 hours daily, Sunday-Friday.

1952: (November) WUOA-FM awarded $5,000 grant-in-aid from NAEB and Fund for Adult Education for the production of an 18-program study of Southern economy entitled "Document: Deep South."

1952: WUOA staff recorded interviews for NAEB series "The People Talk Back," later broadcast nationally.


1952-53: WUOA series "Alabama String Quartet" featuring the University String Quartet broadcast nationally on 70 educational stations.

1953: (June) WUOA broadcasting hours increased to 10-hour day, seven-day week.

1953-54: WUOA staff produced 224 programs for statewide broadcast over a total of 40 Alabama stations, to an estimated quarter-million listeners daily.

1953: (October) Manager Graydon Ausmus reelected to NAEB presidency for second term.

1954: (April) WUOA series "Document: Deep South" won first award for best presentation of public affairs at Ohio State Institute. Series was accepted for nation-wide broadcast on 103-station NAEB network.

1954: University offered $100,000 grant-in-aid to develop educational TV facilities by Fund for Adult Education. Construction on television studios as part of statewide network begins in September 1954.
1954: University awarded $5,300 grant-in-aid from NAEB and the Educational Radio-TV Center for production of an 18-program study of atomic research and rocketry.

1954: __________, British Broadcasting Corporation producer, joins WUOA staff on Fulbright exchange program.

1954-55: University approves power increase of WUOA-FM from 4,800 to 16,000 watts. New 200-foot tower erected. Audience survey proves WUOA has a growing and enthusiastic audience.