

**Finding Aid for the
Ouachita Baptist University
Baccalaureate & Commencement programs
OBU.2023.102**



**OUACHITA
BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

*Archives & Special Collections
Riley-Hickingbotham Library
Ouachita Baptist University
410 Ouachita Street
Arkadelphia, AR 71998*

Repository: Archives and Special Collections, Ouachita Baptist University

Title: Ouachita Baptist University Baccalaureate & Commencement programs

Dates: 1889-

Quantity: 0.19 c.f.

Abstract: Artificial collection of items relating to baccalaureate and commencement activities at Ouachita Baptist College, which became a university in 1965.

Identification: OBU.2023.102

Languages: English

Acquisition Information: Most items were found in collection or acquired by library faculty and staff members.

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Preferred Citation: Ouachita Baptist University Baccalaureate & Commencement programs, Archives and Special Collections, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, AR.

Scope and Contents and Arrangement

Programs produced for annual baccalaureate and commencement activities at Ouachita Baptist College, which became a university in 1965. Collection is incomplete. Items are arranged chronologically.

Historical Summary

Ouachita Baptist University was founded as Ouachita Baptist College on September 6, 1886, and has operated continually since that date. Its current location is on the former campus of the Arkansas School for the Blind, which relocated to Little Rock.

The first president was J. W. Conger, who was elected to the post on June 22, 1886. The OBU Board of Trustees unanimously elected Dr. Ben Sells, former vice president for university advancement at Taylor University, as the sixteenth president of Ouachita Baptist University on April 7, 2016. Those who have served as president include J. W. Conger (1886–1907), Henry Simms Hartzog (1907–1911), R. G. Bowers (1911–1913), Samuel Young Jameson (1913–1916), Charles Ernest Dicken (1916–1926), Arthur B. Hill (1926–1929), Charles D. Johnson (1929–1933), James R. Grant (1933–1949), Seaford Eubanks (1949–1951), Harold A. Haswell (1952–1953), Ralph Arloe Phelps Jr. (1953–1969), Daniel R. Grant (1970–1988), Ben M. Elrod (1988–1998), Andrew Westmoreland (1998–2006) and Rex Horne (2006–2015).

In 1965 the college changed its name to Ouachita Baptist University.

Keywords

Commencement ceremonies
Christian college students
Christian college teachers
Christian universities and colleges—United States
Private universities and colleges
Universities and colleges

Processed by Dr. Lisa K. Speer, 2025.

Box/Folder Contents Inventory

Box 3066

Folder 001	1889
Folder 002	1896
Folder 003	1928
Folder 004	1930
Folder 005	1937
Folder 006	1938
Folder 007	1955
Folder 008	1958
Folder 009	1963
Folder 010	1964
Folder 011	1965
Folder 012	1966
Folder 013	1967
Folder 014	1968
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Folder 016	1970
Folder 017	1971
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Folder 020	1974
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Folder 028	1982
Folder 029	1995
Folder 030	2020
Folder 031	2021
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