WAMU

Form EC 126 217
June 1954

NON-COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL FM

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed 2-7-62

Call letters W A M U (EFF. 2-1-81) XW A M U-FM

Station location Washington, D. C.

Name of licensee THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Transmitter location Communications Bldg., ~~Hughes Hall~~, The American University, Massachusetts & Nebraska Aves., N.W. Washington, D. C.

ZIP 20016

Main studio location Communication Building, The American University, Massachusetts & Nebraska Avenues, N. W. Washington, D.C.

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From-- To--
BPED-434 HAAT:255'	7-20-60	88.5mc CH 203	12kw TPO:1kw	U	9-20-60 3-20-61
Construction permit for a new non-commercial educational FM broadcast station.					
BMPED-368	2-16-61	88.5mcs	3.9-kw	U	9-20-60
BMPED-369	"	Ch.203	TPO:3kw	HAAT:460'	8-1-61
Mod. of CP(BPED-434) to change antenna-transmitter location, increase ERP, increase HAAT and extend completion date.					
BMPED-378 (1)	8-10-61	Mod. CP(BPED-434, as mod.) for extension of completion date to 10-15-61.			
BMPED-385 (2)	10-31-61	Mod. CP(BPED-434, as mod.) to inc. ERP to 4.1kw HAAT to 420 ft.			
BLED-340 HAAT:420ft. CH:203	2-7-62	88.5mcs	4.1kw TOP:3kw	U	2-7 10-1-63
Lic. to cover CP(BPED-434 as mod) which auth. a new Non-Com. Edu. FM Station.					
BRED-217	10-15-63	Renewal of license			10-15 10-1-66
BPED-682 HAAT:420'	8-18-65	CP to install new ant(Collins-37M-5,5 secs.) change ant system and increase ERP; 88.5mc. ERP:13.5kw Unl. Ch.#203 TPO:3kw.			decrease height 10-18-65 4-18-66
BMPED-486 (1)	4-28-66	Mod. of CP(BPED-682) for tion date to			ext. of comple- 7-18-66
BLED-536 HAAT: 420'	6-23-66	88.5mcs CH.#203	ERP:13.5kw TPO:3kw	U	6-23 10-1-66
Lic to cover CP(BPED-682 as mod)which auth install new ant. chg. ant-sys and ERP					
BRED-217	9-9-66	Renewal of License			10-1 10-1-69
BSCA-796	6-14-67	Subsidiary Communications Authorization on a multiplex basis of 42 & 67kcs.			
BPED-809 HAAT: 420' cond'l	5-31-67	88.5mc. ch# 203	ERP: 32kw Unl. TPO: 2kw		7-31-67 to 1-31-68
CP to install new trans(RCA-BTF-20E); incr. ERP and incr. TPO;					

Form BC 126 # 2
June 1954

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed .....

Call letters W A M U-FM

Station location .....

Name of licensee .....

Transmitter location .....

Main studio location .....

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From-- To
BMPED-537 (1)	2-14-68	Mod. of CP(BPED-809) for extension of completion date to			7-31-68.
BMPED-570 (2)	7-18-68	MP(BPED-809 as mod.)ext. time			1-31-69.
BMPED-604 (3)	2-14-69	MP(BPED-809 as mod)ext. time			7-15-69
BMPED-633 (4)	6-17-69	MP(BPED-809 as mod)ext. time			10-1-69
BRED-217(S)	9-25-69	Renewal			10-1-72
BRSCA-796	9-25-69	Renewal SCA			10-1-72
BLED-739(L)	1-30-70	Lic. (BPED-809, as mod) changes(TRANS. RCA BTF-20-E1)			10-1-72
EBSA	5-15-72				
BRED-217(S)	10-27-72	RENEWAL			10-1-75
BRSCA-796	10-27-72	RENEWAL OF SCA			
BPED-1586 HAAT: 500'	3-30-73 (H&V)	88.5mhz #203 CP install new ant., chg. HAAT.	ERP: 50kw(H&V) (RC)	Class E	3-30-74 TPO, ERP,
BPED-1586 (L)	12-26-73	MP (BPED 1586) install aux. ant. Main Trans: ERP: 50kw HAAT: 420'			12-26-7
BPED-1719	12-26-73	CP install aux. trans. with main & aux. ant. Main Ant. ERP 22kwH&V 500'H&V Aux. Ant. ERP: 8kw HAAT: 420'			12-26-74
BLED-1233(L)	5-17-74	Lic.(BPED-1586)-Changes,Main			10-1-75
BMPED-1189 (1)	1-6-75	MP(BPED-1719) ext time to			6-26-75
BLED-1340(L)	-3-11-75	-Lic.(BPED-1719, as mod.)-new aux. trans.(with main & aux. ant.)			10-1-75
BRED-217(S) BRSCA-796	9-12-75	RENEWAL(MAIN&AUX.&ANT.)			10-1-78
DELETE SCA per Atty. 5-30-78					

CARD #3

BROADCASTING STATION HISTORY RECORD

First licensed .....

Call Letters ....WAMU-FM.....

Station Location ....Washington, D.C.

Name ....THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY.....

Transmitter Location ....SEE CARD #1.....

Main studio location ....SEE CARD #1.....

Form BC-126
December 1978

Authorization Record

File No.	Granted	Facilities	Expires
BPED781219AJ HAAT: 310' (H&V) (L)	4/13/79	88.3mhz ERP: 13.5kW (H&V) CP to install new aux. ant chg. type trans. & chg TPO.	4/13/80
BMPED790808AM HAAT: 400' (H&V) (L)	10/26/79	88.5mhz ERP: 13kw (H&V) Mod. of CP (BPED-781219AJ) to mke chgs in ant system.	4/13/80
BLED-791219AJ BRED-217	6-19-80	Renewal and Modification	10-1-81
E B S A	2-1-81	CALL SIGN CHANGE	

FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - NON-COMMERCIAL FM BROADCASTING

Call Letters new

Name THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY Station location - Washington, D.C.
(P.O. - c/o Roger Penn, The American University, Massachusetts & Nebraska Ave.,N.W.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BPED-434 Rec'd Filed	4-25-60 4-25-60 4-25-60	Construction permit for a new noncommercial Ed FM broadcast station to be operated on: Frequency - 88.5mc CH 203 ERP - ~~3.92kw~~ 11.76kw Type transmitter - ~~RCA-BTF-1D~~ Type antenna - RCA BFA 4A (4 section) HAAT 254 ft Trans. location - Hughes Hall, American University, Massachusetts & Nebraska Aves.,N.W., Washington, D.C. Studio location - Communications Bldg. American University, Washington, D.C. Remote Control Point - Same as studio	GRANTED ERP: HAAT:	7-20-60 12kw 255'
AMENDMENT R & F	6-30-60 6-30-60	Atty. - Harry Plotkin (Berge, Fox & Arent) AMENDED to increase ERP to 11.76kw; change type transmitter (R.E.L. 519 DL)		

F.C.C. WASHINGTON, D. C.

FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

#2

Call Letters W.A.M.U.

Name THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
Washington, D. C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BMPED-368 Rec'd Filed	1-16-61 1-23-61 1-23-61	Modification of construction permit (BPED-434, which authorized a new Non-Commercial ED FM Broadcast Station) to change antenna-trans. location from Hughes Hall to the Communications Building, The American University, Massachusetts and Nebraska Avenues, N. W., Washington, D.C.; change type antenna to an Andrew, 1302-1, 2 Sections; decrease ERP from 12kw to 3.536kw and increase HAAT from 255 feet to 419.7 feet. Harry M. Plotkin, Atty.	GRANTED HAAT: ERP: (Issued with MPED-369)	2-16-61 460' 3.9kw
BMPED-369 Rec'd Filed	1-16-61 1-23-61 1-23-61	Modification of construction permit (BPED-434, which authorized a new Non-Commercial ED FM Broadcast Station) to extend completion date of construction from 3-20-61 to 8-1-61. Harry Plotkin, Atty.	GRANTED to (Issued with MPED-368)	2-16-61 8-1-61

FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955 #3

APPLICATION RECORD · BROADCASTING

Call Letters W A M U -FM

Name The American University
Washington, D.C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BMPED-378 R&F	6-28-61 6-29-61	Mod of CP (BPED-434 as mod which auth a new Non-Commercial ED FM B/C station for extension of completion date from 8-1-61 to 10-15-61. Atty: Arent Fox, Kintner, Plotkin & Kahn	GRANTED	8-10-61
BMPED-385 R & F	10-18-61 10-25-61	Mod. of CP(BPED-434, as mod. which auth. a new non-comm Ed FM broadcast station) to increase ERP from 3.9kw to 4.128kw. Atty. - G. Bechtel (Arent, Fox etc)	GRANTED	10-31-61 ERP 4.1kw HAAT 420'
BLED-340 R & F	9-29-61 10-4-61	License to cover C.P. (BPED-434 as modified) which authorized a new Non-Commercial Educationa l FM Station. Atty. Plotkin	GRANTED	2-7-62

FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955 #4

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters ....WAMU-FM.....

Name THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
Washington, D. C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BRED-217 Rec'd Filed	6-26-63 7-2-63 7-2-63	Renewal of License Thomas Schattenfield, Atty.	GRANTED	10-15-63
BPED-682 R&F	7-20-65 7-29-65	Construction permit to install new ant (Collins-37M-5, 5 sections), change ant system (decrease height), and increase ERP to 13.42kw. Atty: Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin & Kahn	GRANTED	8-18-65
BMPED-486 R & F	4-4-66 4-6-66	Modification of CP(BPED-682 which authorized to install new antenna, change antenna system, and increase ERP) for extension of completion date from 4-18-66 to 7-18-66. Atty- Arent,Fox,Kintner,Plotkin & Kahn	GRANTED to	4-28-66 7-18-66

FORM BC-121 #5
Aug. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD · BROADCASTING

Call Letters W A M U-FM

Name THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
Washington, D. C. 20016

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BLED-536 R & F	4/25/66 4/25/66	Lic. to cover CP (BPED-682 as mod.) which auth. install new ant., chng. ant-system and ERP. Attys: Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin & Kahn	GRANTED	6-23-66
BRED-217 R & F	6/24/66 7/1/66	Renewal of License Atty: Arent, Fox etc. (Shapiro)	GRANTED	9-9-66
BSCA-796 R & F	4-28-67 5-2-67	Request for Subsidiary Communications Authorization on a subcarrier frequencies of 42 & 67 kicolycles. Atty - Gene A. Bechtel	GRANTED	6-14-67
BPED-809 R & F	4-28-67 5-2-67	Construction Permit to install new type trans (RCA-BTF-20E); incr. ERP to 31.5kw and incr. TPO to 7.0kw; Atty - Gene A. Bechtel	GRANTED cond'l re of trans.	5-31-67 type accept.

6

FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955

NON-COMMERCIAL ED FM

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters WAMU-FM

Name THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BMPED-537 R & F JAN 25 1968	1-5-68 1-16-68	Mod. of CP(BPED-809 which authorized install new type trans; incr. ERP and incr. TPO) for extension of completion date from 1-31-68 to 7-31-68. Atty - Gene A. Bechtel(Arent, Fox, etc.)	GRANTED to	2-14-68 7-31-68
BMPED-570 R & F JUL 8 1968	6-25-68 6-28-68	MP(BPED-809 as mod.) ext. time to 1-31-68. (For Chgs.) Atty - Thomas Schattenfield(Arent, Fox, etc.)	GRANTED to	7-18-68 1-31-69
BMPED-604 R & F FEB 5 1969	1-27-69 1-28-69	MP(BPED-809 as mod.)ext. time to 7-15-69(FOR CHGS.) Atty - Gene A. Bechtel(Arent, Fox, etc.)	GRANTED to	2-14-69 7-15-69
BMPED-633 R & F NO FEE REQUIRED PTA 9-26-69	6-4-69 6-9-69 JUN 10 1969	MP(BPED-809 as mod.)ext. time to 10-1-69 (FOR CHGS.)	GRANTED to	6-17-69 10-1-69

F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D. C.

FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters WAMU-FM

Name THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BRED-217 BRSCA-796 R & F P.N. filed PRESS JUL 8 1969	6-9-69 6-9-69 6-16-69 6-16-69	Renewal of license Renewal of SCA	GRANTED	9-25-69
BLED-739 R & F PTA AMENDMENT JAN 2 1970	9-17-69 9-17-69 9-26-69 9-30-69	Lic.(BPED-809) (as mod.) for changes. Trans: RCA BTF 20 El. Atty: Gene A. Bechtel-Arent, Fox, Kintner, etc trans. line efficiency	GRANTED	1-30-70
BRED-217 BRSCA-796 PN Recd. PRESS JUN 21 1972	6-7-72 " "	RENEWAL OF LICENSE RENEWAL OF SCA Peter Tannenwald, Atty. AMENDED 8-16-72 re: employment policy	GRANTED	10-27-72

F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D. C.

Form BC-121
September 1969

#8

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

88.5mhz

Call Letters WAMU-FM

Name The American University
Washington, D. C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BPED-1,586 R & F No Fee Required Press MAR 30 1973	3-14-73 3-15-73	CP to install new ant. (RCA BFC-6B, 6 sects.); chg. TPO; ERP: 50KW and HAAT: 499.75'. Atty: Peter Tannenwald	GRANTED	3-30-73
BPED-1,719 R & F No Fee Required Press DEC 14 1973	11-6-73 11-9-73	CP to use formerly licensed antenna (Collins 37M-5, 5 sects.) with main transmitter for Auxiliary purposes only and formerly licensed transmitter(RCA BTF-10B) with both Main and Auxdliary Antenna. Atty: Peter Tannenwald(Arent, Fox, Kintner etc.)	GRANTED	12-26-73
BLED-1233 R & F PTA PRESS	3-15-74 3-18-74 4-1-74 MAY 8 1974	Lic.(BPED-1586)-Changes, Main. Atty: Arent, Fox, etc.(Peter Tannenwald)	GRANTED	5-17-74

Form BC-121
September 1969
10-62

#9

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

88.5mhz

Call Letters WAMU-FM

Name The American University
Washington, D.C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BMPED-1189 R & F NO FEE REQUIRED PRESS NOV 27 1974	11-14-74 11-15-74	MP(BPED- 1719) ext. time to 6-26-75. (Changes) (Aux. Trans. & Ant.) Atty: Peter Tannenwald	GRANTED TO	1-6-75 6-26-75
BLED-1340 R & F PTA PRESS	12-13-74 12-17-74 1-6-75	Lic.(BPED-1719)-new Auxiliary trans.(RCA,BTF-10B).w/main & aux.Antennas. Atty: Arent, Fox, Kintner,etc.(P.Tannenwald)	GRANTED	3-11-75
BRED-217 BRSCA-796 R & F PN Recd. PRESS JUN 19 1975	5-30-75 5-30-75 6-2-75 "	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (MAIN & AUX.TRANS.& ANTENNAS) RENEWAL OF SCA P.Tannenwald,Atty.	GRANTED	9-12-75

Form BC-121
May 1976

#90

APPLICATION RECORD · BROADCASTING

Call Letters W A M U - FM

Name THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BRED-217 R&F PRESS	5-23-78 5-30-78 JUN 30 1978	Renewal of License (Main, Aux. Trans. & Antennas) Atty.: Peter Tannenwald	GRANTED	6-19-80
BPED781219AJ PRESS	FEB 5 1979	CP to install New Auxiliary Antenna (SHIVELY 6810-2, 2 sects. Circular Polarized); chg. type Trans. (RCA BTF-20-E1); ERP: 13.5kw; HAAT: 398' & chg. TPO.	GRANTED	4/13/79
BMPED790808AM PRESS (0)	SEP 11 1979	Mod. of CP (BPED-781219AJ) to make chgs. in Ant. Sys. (Incre. Hght. of Tower). Atty. Peter Tannenwald (Arent,Fox,Kintner etc)		

#11

APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING

Call Letters: WAMU XWAMU-FM

Name: THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Station Location: WASHINGTON, D.C.

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BLED-791219AJ PTA PRESS	1/15/80 MAR 19 1980	License to cover (BMPED-790808) for changes. Atty: Peter Tannenwald	GRANTED 3-26-80 issued with renewal
BRED810601VC PRESS	AUG 3 1981	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty. Vonya B. McCann PETITION TO DENY AND TO INTERVENE filed 9-1-81 by National Black Media Coalition, D.C. Media Task Force & Pluria W. Marshall. PETITION TO DENY AND TO INTERVENE filed 9-1-81 by National Black Media Coalition, Pluria W. Marshall & Clarence N. Patterson, Jr.	GRANTED 4-14-82

Form BC-121
March 1979

About the History Cards …

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file.

FM History Cards were initiated in the early 1940s, with the authorization of the earliest FM stations in the FM band, then at 42 to 50 MHz. (The band was shifted to its present location, 88 to 108 MHz, in 1946.) History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12th Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). Prior to that move, the History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only a few sets of microfiche exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images, like those you see above.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They are not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found. Cards may be incomplete, missing, or occasionally out of sequence.

The History Cards are presented here as they were copied to microfiche, to preserve this record for public use, and with the hope that they will be of value to future researchers of radio station history.