

WERU Radio @ Embry-Riddle

WERU Campus Radio began as the Embry-Riddle Broadcast Club in 1990. This club consisted of a few highly motivated individuals that had the dream of bringing music, news, and entertainment to the students of [Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University](#). Despite the lack of a communications major available at the university, there was an overwhelmingly positive response to the idea of a campus radio station. Soon, the club had secured a storage closet in the Student Center for a studio and purchased equipment to begin playing music in the Student Center. The response from the general student population was great. The student body enjoyed the music and information being played while they ate their meals. This response led to the purchase of low power AM carrier current transmitters to get the Broadcast Club's signal into the on-campus dormitories.

The Broadcast Club was now WERU 710 AM. The students were excited by the fact that the music and news they cared about was now available in the comfort of their own homes. Due to there being such a positive response to the Broadcast Club, the Student Government asked WERU if they would like to become a division of the Student Government Association. This meant more support from the university, both morally and financially. After only 3 years of being a club, WERU was now becoming the first division to be added to the Student Government in a number of years. The incredible success and growth of the station led to WERU being voted "Radio Station of the Year" by Florida Leader Magazine in 1995.

Since becoming a Division of the Student Government, WERU has enjoyed the loyal support of the students, faculty, and staff. In 1996 WERU's motto was "Coming Out of the Closet". We were finally going to move out of the storage closet in the Student Center and have a full fledged studio and offices. Our new home was on the second floor of the Student Center within the Student Government Offices. Today, WERU has numerous pieces of commercial broadcast quality equipment, including an Audio Arts FM Broadcast Mixing Board, Tascam CD Players, Technics SL1200MKII Turntables, and a computer that plays advertisements, public service announcements, and news. WERU's newest equipment addition was a RealAudio computer. This computer allows WERU's signal to be broadcast to any computer in the world via the Internet. In addition to our regular programming, we also carry the University's sporting events via RealAudio so students, staff, and faculty can hear the games even when they are in another state.

The station's current roster includes some fifty students, making WERU the largest member of the Student Government. The organization is completely student-run. In addition to the regular on-air DJs, there is an Operations Board, which comprises the leadership within the station. For current Operations Board members and positions see the [Staff](#) page.

The future for WERU is brighter than ever. With the addition of the RealAudio computer and other new equipment, the station is feeling pretty good. The next step for WERU is to improve service to all of the dormitories on campus by utilizing the cable television system. This plan calls for WERU's signal to serve as the background music for the University's informational page. The ultimate plan is to move WERU into the FM realm.

During the spring of 1997, the Student Government informed WERU that they were interested in funding our transition to the FM frequency range. Finally, the dream of an FM radio station was within reach. With this information, we enlisted the services of a private consulting firm to determine what frequency we should apply for. After this exhaustive and expensive search, it was determined that there were no FM frequencies available in the Daytona Beach area that would serve the Embry-Riddle community. This news was devastating to most of the station's members.

In the Fall of 1997, WERU came across a concept called Radiating Cable FM (RCFM). This concept would allow us to broadcast via legal low-power FM carrier to the entire campus. In the Spring of 1998, WERU received the funds necessary to implement our own RCFM broadcast. The signal is available to the entire campus on 97.3 FM Stereo. This success is due to the hard work and dedication of the 1997-1998 WERU Operations Board, without whom any of this would be possible. A special thanks goes out to our faculty advisor, Taylor Bracey. His efforts above and beyond the call of duty have helped to ensure the future success of WERU.