Associated Universities Inc.
& Riccardo Giacconi
AUI – Associated Universities Inc.

• AUI was established in 1946 as an educational institution dedicated to research, development, and education in the physical, biological and engineering sciences.

• Nine northeastern universities joined in sponsoring AUI in 1946: Columbia University, Cornell University, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, University of Rochester, and Yale University.

• “..interested in promoting and establishing in the NE a Govt research laboratory for nuclear science”

• 1947-1998 – Built & managed Brookhaven National Laboratory

• AUI/BNL were responsible for the design, development, construction, and operation of numerous major facilities, the most recent being the National Synchrotron Light Source and the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider.

• Six Nobel prizes awarded to BNL research during this time.
THE FOUNDING OF THE BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

BY ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC.
National Radio Astronomy Observatory

• 1950s: US catching up with the world in radio astronomy...
• NSF requests AUI to bring forward a plan for a national instrument.
• NRAO established in 1956 in Green Bank, WV.
• Major instruments: 140’, 300’, GB Interferometer, Very Large Array, 12m telescope @ KP, Very Long Baseline Array,
• Green Bank Telescope, Atacama Large Millimeter Array, Expanded Very Large Array – on RG’s watch...
AUI – late 90’s

- AUI President – Lyle Schwartz
- Based on two safety incidents at the lab – DOE canceled AUI’s BNL contract.
- Interim President – Martha Haynes – AUI searches for new directions, business.
- RG – AUI President - 1999-2004 (where I encountered him...)

- Astronomy challenges:
  - ALMA – joint development underway; defining international relationship
  - VLA → EVLA upgrade – simultaneously
  - GBT – difficult litigation getting underway...

- Other business – Science on the ISS?
Speakers

**Pat Donahue** – worked closely with RG from the beginning of his AUI period

**Gene Levy** – AUI Board member during RG’s key President years

**Al Wootten** – North American ALMA Project Scientist for ALMA