1961 ASCCU was founded.
1962 ASCCU acquired its first offices and Walter Hager agreed to serve as part-time executive secretary.
1963 President John F. Kennedy is assassinated. Lyndon Johnson becomes president and pushes for passage of numerous educational and civil rights bills.
1964 "Challenge to Change," the first large study of ASCCU member institutions, was conducted.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 becomes law, banning discrimination in educational activities and employment.
Student rebellion over free speech at the University of California, Berkeley. Allan W. Distar selected as first full-time executive director; title later changed to "president."
The board of directors met on Captiva Island and developed nine proposals that shaped ASCCU’s projects and mission for decades.

1965 Richard Nixon resigns.
1974 ASCCU established the Office of Federal Programs (now the Grants Resource Center).
The Higher Education Act is signed at Southwest Texas State College, expanding federal aid to higher education and creating several student aid programs, as well as a National Teachers Corps.
The first Vietnam teach-in is held at the University of Michigan.

1979 ASCCU was the first U.S. higher education association invited to the People’s Republic of China, leading to the establishment of the Chinese Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE).
1981 Apple introduces the first personal computer.
1983 Supreme Court decides Regents of the University of California v. Bakke, upholding use of affirmative action for purposes of diversity in education.

1989 ASCCU began program for species of presidents and chancellors.
President Jimmy Carter establishes the United States Department of Education.

1970 Four students are killed by Ohio National Guard troops during an anti-war protest at Kent State University in Ohio.
1971 The "Morose Commission," led by Wayne L. Morse, former senator from Oregon, addressed strengthening America’s emerging state colleges and universities.
1972 ASCCU’s first international mission—to Mexico—led to the establishment of a Center in Puebla, dozens of missions in subsequent years.
1973 ASCCU presented first Distinguished Alumnus Award to President Lyndon B. Johnson, graduate of Southwest Texas State University (now Texas State University San Marcos).

Partnering with the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges (AACCJC), ASCCU initiated the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC).
The Education Amendments of 1972 are passed, significantly expanding student assistance and civil rights protections, including creating Title IX banning sex bias in education.
Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1972 is passed, expanding benefits for Vietnam-era veterans.
The United States withdraws from Vietnam. Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1973 are passed, requiring accessibility for persons with disabilities.
1982 ASCCU established the National Commission on the Role and Future of State Colleges and Universities, chaired by former U.S. Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell.
1987 Christa McAuliffe Excellence in Teacher Education award established.
1988 George W. Bush elected President.

1989 ASCCU presidents voted to give system executives full membership privileges, including the right to vote and hold office in the association.
The University of Phoenix becomes the first institution to offer online bachelor’s and master’s degrees.
The Berlin Wall is dismantled.
1990 ASCCU established the New Presidents’ Academy. Americans with Disabilities Act passed expanding protections for students and employees.
1991 James B. Appleby becomes ASCCU’s second president. ASCCU undertakes first strategic planning initiative.
1992 ASCCU began a national retention project to assist states in improving academic success for underrepresented undergraduate students.
Bill Clinton elected President.
1997 ASCCU spearheaded the effort to save funding for Title X, the Urban Community Service Grant Program.

2000 ASCCU created the Task Force on Public Engagement, which focused on the institutionalization of public engagement throughout universities.
The 1+2+1 Program is launched as an association-wide exchange program with China. George W. Bush elected President.
2001 The 9/11 terror attacks occur.
2002 ASCCU partnered with the Chinese Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) to establish the Leadership Training Project for university administrators.

2003 In partnership with The New York Times, ASCCU began the American Democracy Project (ADP). Supreme Court again upholds affirmative action to achieve diversity, but not strict numerically based admissions decisions, in a pair of University of Michigan cases.

2004 ASCCU launched the Making Place Matter pilot project, aimed at cultivating state colleges and universities as stewards of their regions.
ASCUC launched its magazine, Public Purpose.
Hurricane Katrina hits the Gulf Coast and many college students in New Orleans are accepted at temporary transfer students by colleges throughout the country.
ASCUC’s trip to Liberia marked the renewal of the association’s work in the country.

2007 Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 is signed into law, establishing new spending programs along with new reporting and record-keeping requirements.
Barack Obama elected the first African American President.
Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act passed, significantly expanding college assistance to veterans serving since September 2001.
2009 Muriel A. Howard became ASCUC’s fourth president.
Massive economic stimulus package (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) signed into law that includes billions to stabilize funding for educational institutions.

2010 ASCUC’s begins Red Balloon project, a national initiative to re-imagine and redesign undergraduate education.
Student Aid and Financial Reconciliation Act passed authorizing expanded Pell Grants but phasing out commercial lender-based student loans in favor of direct federal lending.