100
YEARS OF BUSINESS EDUCATION
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA:
A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
OF THE DARLA MOORE
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
In 2019, the Darla Moore School of Business and the University of South Carolina celebrated the 100th anniversary of business education at the university. The school was first established in 1919 as the School of Commerce under the direction of young, new dean George Olson, veteran economics professor George McCutchen and university president William Currell. It evolved into the School of Business Administration and then the College of Business Administration before becoming the Darla Moore School of Business in 1998 thanks to a notable gift from South Carolina businesswoman Darla Moore. In 2014, the school was relocated to a stunning and innovative new building where students are transformed into vibrant community leaders who understand the intersection of modern business and society.

The business school that graduated its first class of nine students in 1923 is launching its second century with more than 6,100 world-class students. Through the leadership of eight deans and four acting and interim deans, the school progressed from an early foundational curriculum in political economy to today’s coursework in international business, coding in R for data analytics, software tools for investment banking and projects that restructure supply chains to optimize productivity. The classroom experience is still rigorous, but it now focuses on the challenges of the 21st century, providing the knowledge and tools to motivate, educate and guide students so that they can secure the jobs they aspire to today and are equipped with the skills and abilities for the jobs of tomorrow.

The following timeline highlights significant dates and accomplishments in the 100-year history of business education at the University of South Carolina and the Darla Moore School of Business.
1942: The School of Commerce is founded with $3,000 appropriated by the South Carolina General Assembly.
1919: The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees approves the establishment of the School of Commerce at the university.
1919: George Olson is appointed dean on Nov. 1, serving until his death in June 1946.
1919: Offices are established in Davis College, where the Department of Economics was located.
1920: The new business administration curriculum is launched within the School of Commerce and taught by a faculty of 12.
1921: Offices expand into DeSaussure College.
1923: The first graduating class of the School of Commerce is composed of nine individuals: eight male, one female.
1923: Dean Olson helps launch the first University of South Carolina uniformed band.
1923: Offices over Rutledge Chapel are recorded as early as 1923.
1924: Business student enrollment reaches 110.
1927: The 1897 South Carolina State Legislature benefits Greek letter fraternities from all state colleges and universities is lifted.
1929: The Beta Gamma chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, an international professional fraternity of business, is chartered.
1937: The Master of Arts in Economics (MAEcon) is established.
1937: The Secretarial Sciences program begins, sharply increasing female enrollment in the School of Commerce; the school numbers 13 faculty members and 344 students.
1944: The Department of Retailing is created.
1946: The School of Commerce becomes the School of Business Administration; the Master of Arts in economics becomes the Master of Science in Business Administration; the school is comprised of 20 faculty members and 1,374 students.
1946: Samuel Derrick is appointed dean in June, serving until June 1961.
1948: Offices move to Harper College, possibly earlier.
1953: The first graduating class of the School of Commerce is composed of nine individuals: eight male, one female.
1962: The undergraduate program is accredited by the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSBB).
1963: Graduate AACSB accreditation is granted; there are 1,426 undergraduate and 68 graduate students.
1963: The University of South Carolina integrates for the second and final time. UoSC was the only state-supported southern university to integrate before the legislation was reversed.
1965: The School of Business Administration becomes the College of Business Administration; the school numbers 1,907 undergraduate students, 101 graduate students, and 46 faculty members.
1965: The Ph.D. in Business Administration program is established.
1966: The Master of Accounting (MAAC) is first offered in the fall.
1967: James "Jim" Kane is appointed dean in July, serving until July 1969.
1967: The Ph.D. in Economics is established.
1967: The first computer time-sharing unit is used in teaching is installed.
1968: Sixteen South Carolina business leaders form the University of South Carolina Business Partnership Foundation as a 501(c)(3) organization.
1969: The Center for Economics Education is organized.
1970: The MBA-ETV (now the Professional MBA) is launched using a closed-circuit television network (one of the first programs of its kind in the nation).

1971: Construction on a new building begins for a growing student body of 2,875 undergraduate and 420 graduate students.

1971: The Friends of Accounting Department (FAD) is founded.

1973: The first business administration tower (H. William Close Building) is completed.

1973: The Management Center is reorganized as the Charles E. Daniel Center for Management Education (now the Daniel-Mickel Center for Executive Development).

1974: The Master of International Business Studies (MIBS) is established.

1976: The College of Business Administration attains "Professional School" status within the university infrastructure.

1978: The Bureau of Business and Economic Research is reorganized as the Division of Research; the Graduate Division is decentralized.

1979: The Foundation Fellowship program is established; the School of Business Administration is comprised of 3,649 undergraduate students, 873 graduate students and 157 faculty members.

1979: The Frank L. Roddey Small Business Development Center of South Carolina opens.

1980: The first Economic Outlook Conference is held.

1982: The Riegle-Emory Human Resources Research Center opens.

1982: The first Master of Personnel and Employee Relations (MPER) degree (now the Master of Human Resources) is awarded.

1983: The second business administration tower (Francis M. Hipp Building) is completed.

1984: The Division of Research begins the South Carolina Economic Forecasting Service.

1984: The Division of Information Services is established to revamp computer operations, and new facilities are dedicated for the James C. Self Computer Center (1985), including approximately 120 PCs and terminals for student and faculty use.

1986: The twin structures of the College of Business Administration are dedicated as the H. William Close Building (1973) and the Francis M. Hipp Building (1983).

1986: The Master of Taxation is established; after 15 years, the taxation program rejoined the Master of Accountancy.

1987: The College of Business Administration numbers 3,256 undergraduate students, 1,040 graduate students, and 148 faculty members.

1990: The School of Accounting is created.

1990: The Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) opens.


1994: David Shrock is appointed dean in October, serving until June 1999.


1997: The Faber Center for Entrepreneurship opens.

1998: Darla Moore donates $25 million to the business school in her honor, the school is renamed the Darla Moore School of Business, also called the Moore School.


2000: Joel Smith III is appointed dean in October, serving until September 2007.

2000: The International Master of Business Administration (IMBA) program launches.

2004: The first Bachelor of Science in International Business is awarded.

2004: Darla Moore donates $45 million to the Darla Moore School of Business and asks the university to match the donation.

2006: The Center for Global Supply Chain and Process Management (CSCPM) (now the Operations and Supply Chain Center) is established.

2006: The first student graduates from the Executive International Master of Business Administration (EIMBA) program.

2007: Hilde Tegenz is appointed dean in September, serving until June 2013.

2009: The first International Business and Chinese Enterprise (IBCE) cohort, the flagship cohort program in the international business major, begins.

2010: The first Master of International Business (MIB) degree is awarded.
2011 Ground is broken on the corner of Assembly and Greene streets for the new Darla Moore School of Business building.

2012 The Center for the Advancement of Accounting opens.

2013 The Center for Marketing Solutions opens.

2013 The Risk and Uncertainty Management Center opens.

2013 John McDermott serves as interim dean until January 2014.

2014 Peter Brews is appointed dean in January; he currently holds that office.

2014 The new Moore School building is completed in the summer; opens its doors in September and continues to house the School of Business.

2014 The Center for Executive Succession opens; by fall, the school numbers more than 5,100 undergraduate and 850 graduate students with a full-time faculty of 148 and a full-time staff of 84.

2015 The Moore School houses the largest student count in its history, with more than 6,400 students: 5,521 undergraduate students, 887 graduate students, 150 full-time faculty and 91 full-time staff; deliberate steps are taken to cap student enrollment and hire more faculty to improve student/teacher ratios.

2015 The Center for Applied Business Analytics opens.

2015 The Folks Center for International Business opens.

2016 The undergraduate program moves from a two-year to a four-year business curriculum to increase academic rigor, deepen the majors, strengthen analytics coursework and experience, and improve opportunities for internships; progression requirements to advance to the sophomore year increase from a 2.9 to a 3.0 GPA.

2016 The SmartState Center for Innovation and Commercialization opens.

2017 A graduate program review is conducted; the International MBA program is restructured and enhanced.

2017 The Center for Sales Success opens.

2017 The Moore School becomes the third-largest risk management and insurance school in the United States, according to Business Insurance.

2017 The school is named one of the top 20 Global Centers of Insurance Excellence by the International Insurance Society.

2017 The school is ranked in the top 50 worldwide for research productivity by Financial Times.

2017 The school is ranked as the No. 1 MBA program in the world for international course experience by Financial Times.

2018 The school reaches 20 years as the Darla Moore School of Business.

2018 The undergraduate international business program is ranked No. 1 in the United States, according to U.S. News & World Report.

2018 The school is ranked in the top 15 undergraduate and in the top 25 graduate operations and supply chain programs in the United States, according to Gartner.

2018 Five of seven academic departments are ranked in the top 25 worldwide for faculty research productivity in their respective areas of specialty.

2018 According to Google Scholar, the Moore School has the University of South Carolina's most cited scholarly outputs, followed by a second faculty member at No. 2 and a third at No. 1; comprising less than 12 percent of UofSC's full-time faculty, Moore School research faculty substantially contribute to the university's Carnegie Foundation R1 highest research ranking.

2019 The Moore School launches new mission, purpose and values statements. The school's purpose becomes "Changing lives through education." The core values include excellence, integrity, teamwork and resilience.

2019 The school is ranked as one of the top three graduate international business programs in the United States for 30 consecutive years by U.S. News and World Report.

2019 The University of South Carolina Business Partnership Foundation turns 50 years old.

2019 The Darla Moore School of Business turns 100 years old and begins its centennial celebration.