

THE WISCONSIN  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

» Celebrating  
more than  
**100**  
years  
of leadership  
and innovation

TOGETHER FORWARD



**1900**

The University of Wisconsin Board of Regents unanimously approves establishing the School of Commerce, developed as a response to the need for specific business training that could not be obtained through other courses at the university. At the time, it was one of only five programs nationwide to focus on business. The School originated as part of the College of Letters and Science. Within four years, the School became part of the Department of Economics and was renamed the Course in Commerce.

**1900**

William A. Scott is named the first director of the School. He was a pioneer in establishing partnerships with the community, working with local businesses to find teachers and textbooks.



**1900**

All classes are held in North Hall, the first building on the University of Wisconsin campus.

**1907**

The first Beta Gamma Sigma chapter in history is founded at the University of Wisconsin. Beta Sigma Gamma is now one of the world's leading business honor societies, with more than 500 collegiate chapters in all 50 U.S. states, as well as 22 countries and territories.



**1911**

The Commerce Alumni Association is founded by Ray M. Stroud (Class of 1908) and 25 fellow alumni before the Homecoming football game against Minnesota. Alumni were able to receive the School's monthly magazine, *Commerce: Brains with Business*, for 75 cents per year.

**1916**

The School's enrollment now includes students from 34 states and nine countries.



**1917**

Class President Mary McNulty is the first woman to graduate from the Course in Commerce.

"They advised me it wasn't worth my while, because I would never be involved in accounting, being a woman," McNulty remembered. "I ended up in charge of accounting for Wisconsin Power & Light Company, one of the biggest firms in the state." A native of Spring Green, Wis., McNulty worked for almost 40 years at Wisconsin Power & Light before retiring as comptroller in 1956.

EXIT



**1955** The School is founded as the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Business Administration.

**1956** The School is renamed the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Business.

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**2013** The School establishes The Compass Program™, one of the first programs in the nation designed to offer undergraduate students structured opportunities for leadership, personal growth, and career readiness by building a portfolio of skills that employers need. Wisconsin MBA students have The Compass Program ready to succeed as well-rounded and inclusive business leaders.

**2013-2015** Twenty-six faculty members join the School to increase the research and teaching capacity of all programs.

**2014** The Global Mindset Leaders Program is launched, thanks to a gift from Ernst & Young LLP, now known in the market as EY. The program is designed to introduce students to cultural and social diversity in business.

**2015** The School is among the top business schools in the nation to commit to best practices established by the White House Council on Women and Girls and the Council on Economic Advisers, designed to help women succeed in business school and throughout their careers.