

...a Brief Outline History

An early reference to business-related studies at Lehigh University appears in Catherine Drinker Bowen's history of the University. Following a series of student-initiated requests, she writes, "Edward T. Devine in 1894 gave a series of lectures on economic subjects, and Dr. Drown (Thomas M. Drown, Lehigh's fourth president) later added to these himself."

Four years later, in 1898, John Lamme Stewart, a University of Pennsylvania graduate who had lectured at Lehigh during the preceding year, was named professor of economics, history, and politics at the University. In the same year, a course in political economy was made part of every engineering and scientific course at Lehigh.

Business-related courses soon grew to include undergraduate studies in such subjects as economics, finance, and business law, all taught under the direction of Professor Stewart.

A graduate course in economics and history, embracing, according to a Lehigh "Register" published just after the turn of the century, "the rise and development of economic thought" and "the scope and method of political economy," was also taught.

In 1909 the first curriculum in business administration was announced in the Lehigh "Register." The new curriculum, according to the 1909-1910 "Register," was developed "to prepare young men for the commercial and administrative sides of our leading business organizations." Required studies included economics, finance, accounting, and business law, plus the basics of the mining, metals, and transportation industries.

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The College of Business Administration was formally organized and established in 1918, when Lehigh was re-organized into its present three undergraduate colleges of Arts and Science, Business Administration, and Engineering.

The announcement of the College noted that "With the application of more scientific methods in all branches of human enterprise, comes a growing need of special preparation to enter the business world.

"Formerly it was common for a young man to enter an office or financial institution," the announcement continued, "and to work his way to some directive position, but this becomes less and less possible as business becomes increasingly complicated and technical."

At the time of its establishment the College of Business Administration, headed by Professor Stewart, was housed with the College of Arts and Science in the old gymnasium, remodelled completely and renamed Coppee Hall.

In 1923 Dr. Neil Carothers was appointed to the Lehigh faculty as professor and director of the College of Business Administration. He was named the first dean of the College in 1936 when it was departmentalized and department heads were appointed.

The College moved to its present home in Drown Hall after the familiar campus landmark was remodelled in 1957.

Today, the Lehigh College of Business Administration provides undergraduates with an opportunity to concentrate in one of seven fields of study leading to the bachelor of science degree. These include accounting, economics, economic statistics, finance, foreign careers, management, and marketing.

Today, Lehigh's College of Business Administration offers an undergraduate program of study designed to provide thorough and systematic training in the fundamentals of business. Stress is placed on the building of a strong foundation, because it is the firm belief of the college that no substitute can be furnished for the training and experience provided by actual contact with the complex problems of modern business. Accordingly a student's best interests are ~~xxxxxx~~ best served by equipping him with those fundamentals and insights which will make it possible for him to profit more readily from practical experience after graduation.

No student may omit basic work in the ~~principles~~ fundamental principles and problems of economics, accounting, corporation finance, money and banking, marketing, business law, labor problems, ~~statistical~~xxxxxxx management, and statistical method, which are essential for a career in all types of business enterprise.