

## The early years

1912 – The year that sees the inception of a Chair in Philosophy and Political Economy, with Prof. W.A. Macfadyen in the chair, delivering the first economics lecture.

1918 – The establishment of the future Faculty of Commerce and Law.

Lectures in Accounting are introduced, with H.P. Webber as part-time lecturer. Students total 32.

1919 – An extramural section and a BCom degree course are established.

1920 – The establishment of the Faculty of Commerce and Public Administration (Commerce Faculty) headed by Dr J.E. Holloway, who becomes the first dean. The first BEcon degree is introduced.

1921 – The inception of the Department of Economics and Economic History headed by Dr. Holloway.

1922 – E.H. Brookes is appointed the first lecturer in Public Administration and Political Science.

1923 – The BEcon degree changes to BEcon (Public Administration), and a DPhil degree with MCom and MEcon as prerequisites is introduced.

1924 – The Faculty moves from Proes Street - dubbed 'the Black Hole of Calcutta' - to Vermeulen Street. S.R. Barnes is appointed first professor in Accounting.

1927 – The first MCom degree is awarded.

A separate Commerce and Business Economics department, with A. J. Norval as professor, is established.

1928 - The number of students increases to 215.

1932 – The BEcon degree is replaced by a BAdmin degree.

1936 – The Economics Department is divided into two, namely Economics and Economic History, with Dr. S.P. du T. Viljoen as head and Prof. E.H.D. Arndt as head of banking.

1939 – The Department of Statistics and Commercial Mathematics (since 1958 Statistics) is established, with Prof. B. de Loor as head.

1949 – An Institute for Management and Administration (forerunner of the Postgraduate School of Business) is established and a MCom (B&A) introduced. In 1955 the latter is changed to an MBA.

1951 – The first 27 students enroll for the course in Chartered Accountancy.

1952 – A BCom degree in Accounting Science is introduced.

1958 – The BCom (Honours) degree is introduced.

1959 – The BCom degree course is now also presented intramurally. Some courses which earlier were only offered extramurally, are now duplicated intramurally.

1960 – The Faculty boasts 7 departments: Business Economics, Commerce, Money and Banking, Commerce and Business Law, Accounting and Auditing, Political Science and Public Administration and Statistics.

1965 – The Department of Political Science and Public Administration is divided into two independent departments. The Bureau for Financial Analysis (BFA) is established.

1968 – The name is changed from Faculty of Commerce and Public Administration to Faculty of Economic and Political Sciences.

1969 – The introduction of a Chair in Marketing in the Department of Business Economics.

1970 – The BCom degree is divided into areas of speciality: Economic Sciences, Marketing, Accounting Sciences and Econometrics.

1971-1972 – The inception of the first degree course in Marketing - with 5 students in 1973. The Bureau for Economic Politics and Analysis (BEPA) is established. The Departments of Economics, and Money and Banking are consolidated. The Department of Management is established.

1973 – The first photograph is taken of Faculty members.

## **The growth years**

1982 – Prof. C.F. Nieuwoudt becomes the Faculty's first full-time Dean.

1983 – A new field of study, BCom (Commercial Computer Science), is introduced.

1985 – The Department of Personnel Management is established.

1986 – Extramural lectures are moved to the main campus. The Department of Commercial Computer Science is established (changed to Informatics in 1988).

1987 – The School for Accountants Education/Training is established.

1988 – The Faculty is renamed once again and becomes the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. Insurance is introduced as a subject and BCom Insurance becomes a field of study.

The Faculty's marketing journal, *Communiqué*, makes its debut.

Construction of the new building on the Hatfield Campus starts.

1989 – Inception of extramural tuition in Witbank. Re-introduction of Banking as subject and BCom Banking as a field of study. The number of students exceeds the 5 000-mark.

1990 – The completion of the new building of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.

1991 – The new ‘home’ of the Faculty is officially inaugurated by the former SA president, F.W. de Klerk

The first BCom degrees are awarded to students at the centre for extramural tuition at Witbank.

BCom (Statistics) and BCom (Hotel and Tourism Management) are introduced as areas of specialisation.

1992 – The inception of the School of Public Management and Administration, the Bureau for Statistical and Survey Methodology (Statomet), as well as the Centre for Economic Politics and Analysis in the Department of Economics.

1993 – English is introduced as tuition language.

1994 – Founding of the Department of Marketing and Communication Management.

Establishment of the School of Public Management and Administration – first training of returnees to form nucleus of new public service.

1995 – The Faculty undergoes fundamental restructuring and as a result a number of subjects, study areas and departments undergo name changes: the Department of Business Economics becomes the Department of Business Management; the Department of Personnel Management becomes the Department of Human Resource Management; the Department of Accounting and Auditing becomes the Department of Accounting. The Department of Tourism Management is a new addition when Hotel and Tourism Management becomes an independent department.

1996 – The marketing brochure of the Faculty makes its Internet debut.

1997 – The Unit for Leadership Development is established to contribute to the development of leadership capacity.

2000 – Opening of Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS) with its mission “to significantly enhance the competitive achievement of individuals and organisations through business education.”

Student numbers increase from 5 188 in 1993 tot 7 200 in 2000.

2001 – A number of new programmes are instituted in the Faculty to keep pace with changing market trends and client focus. These include a telematic MCom in Marketing and Communication Management and an MPhil in Entrepreneurship and International Management. The first book on applied strategic marketing in southern Africa is published, with Prof Flip du Plessis of the Department of Marketing and Communication Management as academic editor. 5089 Undergraduate and 1658 postgraduate students register in the Faculty this year.

2002 – The Faculty bestows the DAdmin (Honoris Causa) upon Ambassador Andrew Young, former United States ambassador to the United Nations and former mayor of Atlanta, Georgia. The Faculty is now among the top faculties and universities in the world to have honoured this world-renowned individual. The Faculty is also the key organizer of the conference on the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), held at the Sandton Convention Centre in April. A total of 5619 undergraduate and 1923 postgraduate students register in the Faculty during 2002.

2003 – Prof Carolina Koornhof, the first female dean in the history of the Faculty, is appointed. The Department of Marketing and Communication Management is the first in the world to fall under the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. An honorary doctorate is awarded to Prof Wiseman Nkuhlu and the Investment and Trade Policy Centre (ITPC) presents a training session in partnership with the World Trade Organisation and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. A total of 5806 undergraduate and 1966 postgraduate students register in the Faculty in 2003.

2004 – The research output of the Faculty surpasses 60 accredited units published by staff and postgraduate students, resulting in the Faculty being regarded as a leader in certain specialization areas in South Africa. The PhD (Financial Management) as well as the BCom (Financial Management), the content of which was restructured to comply with the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), are established.

2005 – The Department of Tourism Management receives a renewal of the TedQual Certification of its programmes by the World Tourism Organisation. The Logistics programmes in the Department of Business Management are recognized by the European Certification Board of Logistics. The School of Financial Sciences achieves one of the best results ever in Part 1 of the qualifying examinations towards becoming a chartered accountant with a pass rate of 95% for first-time writers. The Faculty now has 6997 undergraduate and 2121 postgraduate registered students.

2006 – Four staff members are recognized for their teaching innovation and another two receives an award of excellence for education innovation from the University.

Two journals of the Faculty receive accreditation: The Journal of Public Administration is accepted on the International Bibliography of Social Science (IBSS) and the South African Journal of Economic and Management Sciences was accepted by the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI).

A number of the Faculty programmes are accredited by national and international professional bodies such as the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors, the Institute of Cost Management Accountants (UK), the Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts, the Institute of Internal Auditors (USA) and the European Certification Board of Logistics. The Faculty launches two community service projects to provide staff and students with platforms from which to contribute and engage with society.

## **2007 and the future**

Firmly positioned as a leader in its field, the Faculty remains committed to deliver an ‘innovation generation’ of competent, creative, responsible and productive citizens, who are excellently equipped to play a key role in taking South Africa into the future.