STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS 110 YEARS

1900
THE IDEA OF SSE IS BORN

Responding to the notion that Sweden needed a school for further education in business studies, a group of bankers, industrialists and entrepreneurs set in motion the plans that would lead to the creation of Handelshögskolan i Stockholm (The Stockholm School of Economics).

1906
HANDELSHÖGSKOLE-FÖRENINGEN

After making a considerable donation in 1903, banker Knut Agathon Wallenberg and his associates began lobbying an idea among Stockholm's successful businessmen and executives. With their help, they founded a new organization in 1906, Handelshögskoleföreningen (Stockholm School of Economics Association). These individuals had pledged an interest in seeing the organization grow and agreed to support it financially.

1912
THE FIRST FEMALE STUDENT GRADUATES

As one of very few women admitted during SSE's early years, Märta Sigrid Lövbäck broke new ground when she became the School's first female graduate. Moving on to work for Stockholm's Enskilda Bank and Inteckningsbyrån, Märta braced an industry where women had been basically non-existent.

1926
SSE MOVES TO SVEAVÄGEN 65

Realizing the risk of outgrowing the accommodations at Brunkebergs Hotel, SSE commissioned renowned architect Ivar Tengbom with the task of designing the new facilities that were inaugurated in 1926.

1939
The education was prolonged from two to three years and the name of the degree was changed to ekonomexamen and the name of the title was changed to civilekonom.

1940
SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF APPLICANTS

In the early 1940s, SSE experienced a massive growth in the number of applicants, with the number of undergraduates seeking admission jumping from around 250 annually to almost 600 in a few years.

1946
SWEDEN'S FIRST DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ECONOMICS

In the early years of SSE, there was no such thing as a Doctoral Degree in Economics. However, this did not stop students and faculty of SSE from conducting their research, and in 1946 Folke Kristensson presented SSE's first doctoral dissertation "Studier i svenska textila industriers struktur". Setting a precedent in the world of Swedish academia, other higher education institutions in Sweden would soon follow their example.

Left to right: Ivan Lindqvist, Stan Gustafson, Folke Hedeby, Per Lindberg, Persson Erlander, Bjorn Rudel and P.O. Gyllenhammar.

1968
IFL (INSITUTET FÖR FÖRETAGSLEDNING)

An institute which was partly affiliated with SSE providing executive education programs tailored to business, management and leadership. Following their success in national and international markets, IFL continued their cooperation with SSE, ultimately becoming associated solely with the School.

1977
BERTIL OHLIN RECIEVES NOBEL PRIZE

Originally an SSE alum, Bertil Ohlin returned to SSE as a professor in 1929. In 1977 he was, along with James Meade, awarded the Alfred Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, for their contribution to the theory of international trade and international capital movements.

1974
FIRST FEMALE PHD

After presenting her dissertation "Chokladarbetskvinnor i företaget och i deras miljö", Gisela Asplund became SSE's first female Doctor of Philosophy. Following her dissertation, she continued her work on identifying and combating male and female inequities within the world of organizational leadership, whilst remaining active in the fields of organizational development and strategic planning.

1909
THE SCHOOL OPENS AT BRUNKEBERGSTORG 2

Officially opening on May 27, SSE started its journey at Brunkebergs Hotel, leasing the entire third floor of the hotel. 110 students were admitted the first year. The two-year curriculum at the time consisted of economics, commerce, economic geography and a combination of political science and law.

K.A. Wallenberg Olof A. Söderberg

Joseph Schumpeter

1911
FIRST STUDENTS GRADUATE

The initial 110 students graduate from SSE, earning an ekonomisk examen, as it was called at the time.

1929
SSE'S FIRST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Founded with the mission to conduct research within the fields of economics and commerce, the Economic Research Institute was SSE's first research institute. Furthermore, it was also the first research institute in Sweden dedicated to economics. The institute remained active until 2010.

1991
SSE JOINS CEMS

The Global Alliance in Management Education (CEMS) was established in 1988 by leading European business schools. CEMS has become a symbol of excellence within the world of management education.

1982
KAMRATFÖRENINGEN

Kamratföreningen, now named the SSE Alumni Club, is a network for relationship building between alumni. The non-profit organization currently has over 3000 members and continues to foster networking between alumni of SSE.

2007
SSE IMPLEMENTS EUROPEAN PROGRAM STRUCTURE

SSE launches a new program structure according to the Bologna Process agreement. The goal is to ensure comparability in quality and standards across all of Europe. The four-year program leading to a Civilekonomexamen was replaced by a three-year bachelor program, and a new level of international two-year master programs was added. A major step towards increased internationalization of SSE.

1994
CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

A close collaboration with the business community has always been one of SSE's points of focus, and in 1994 this point was further reinforced. The Corporate Partnership Program offers companies a strong network, broad brand exposure and top recruitment opportunities, while giving students a chance to interact with top people of the industry.

1993
The education program leading to ekonomexamen was prolonged to four years and the name of the degree changed to civilekonomexamen.

1999
SSE ACCREDITED BY EQUIS

Since 1999, SSE has been accredited by the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS), which means that all activities – all programs and research – have demonstrated excellence at an international level.

2001
FIRST FEMALE PROFESSOR

Carin Holmquist is an international authority on women's business and entrepreneurship. As of 2001, she become the first female professor at SSE.

1994
SSE RIGA

Starting as a collaboration between SSE and the Latvian Government, SSE Riga has grown into an international business school of great renown, striving to promote knowledge building in the Baltic states.

1909
THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION IS FOUNDED

The purpose of the Student Association is fundamentally to care for the joint interests of the students.

1997
GUNNAR HEDLUND AWARD IN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

In 1997, the Institute of International Business (IIB) established an award in memory of Professor Gunnar Hedlund. The idea was to stimulate PhD candidates around the world in the field of International Business.

1997
SSE RUSSIA

SSE Russia, located in the heart of St Petersburg, aims at promoting the development of sustainable and responsible business in Russia. EMBA programs and executive education are offered.

2001
SSE BUSINESS LAB

SSE has long supported students with an entrepreneurial spirit, and SSE Business lab is the culmination of these efforts. The startup incubator acts as a launching pad for aspiring companies. Supported by a range of specialized professionals, companies such as Klarna, Qaviqo and Budbee all got started through SSE Business Lab.

PRESIDENTS

Carl Hallendorff	1909–1929
Martin Fehr	1929–1936
Ivar Höglund	1936–1957
Knut Rodhe	1957–1963
Gunnar Aspi	1963–1968
Knut Rodhe	1968–1970
Per-Jonas Eliasson	1970–1986
Steffen Rosenstam Linder	1986–1995
Claes-Robert Jolander	1996–2000
Leif Lindmark	2000–2003
Lars Bergman	2004–2012
Rolf Wolff	2012–2013
Karl-Olof Hammarkvist	2013–2014
Lars Strömegård	2014–

Main building then and now.

Atrium then and now.

Library then and now.

2008
MAJOR EXPANSIONS AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ATRIUM

With the increase in teaching brought about by the Bologna Process, SSE saw a need for major expansion. Thanks to generous donations from primarily the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation, additional lecture halls and seminar rooms were constructed. In addition, the courtyard was transformed into the glassed-in Atrium.

2009
100TH ANNIVERSARY FOR SSE

A year of celebrating an accomplished past and a promising future, 2009 marked a milestone in the history of SSE. In conjunction with the anniversary, the Ragnar Söderberg Foundation made a generous donation to enable further advancements and projects at the School.

2008
BACHELOR PROGRAM IN RETAIL MANAGEMENT

SSE took over the management of a program in retailing from Nordiska Detaljhandelsfögskolan in Norrmälje. The program renamed at Campus Norrmälje and was renamed the BSc Program in Retail Management. The Program is entirely funded by retail companies and companies selling to the retail industry, which makes this program unique in the Swedish and probably also the European academic landscape.

2010
SSE INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH (SIR)

Taking over operations from the 1929 Economic Research Institute, the goal of SSE Institute for Research is to contribute to the advancement of the economic sciences. Often acting as a node for project collaborations between Swedish universities or companies, SIR aims to create strong and viable research groups within the SSE sphere.

2011
SWEDISH HOUSE OF FINANCE

The Swedish House of Finance is Sweden's national research center in financial economics. A joint venture between SSE and the Institute for Financial Research (SIFR), with the goal to strengthen financial research in Sweden and share the beneficial results with the country's private, public and academic sectors.

2015
IFL BECOMES SSE EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

As of 2015, IFL changes its name to SSE Executive Education, and moves into the main building to be better integrated with the School.

2015
BSC IN RETAIL MANAGEMENT MOVES FROM NORRTÄLJE TO STOCKHOLM

In 2015, BSc in Retail Management left their campus in Norrtälje to join the main SSE campus in Stockholm.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY AT SSE

Here at SSE we work with equal opportunities, diversity and equal treatment in accordance with the Discrimination Act and our own policies. Our goal is that students and employees feel encouraged and welcome to come to SSE to study or work regardless of their gender, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, social background, disability, sexual orientation, age, religion or other beliefs.

2015
MISUM (MISTRA CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE MARKETS)

Misum is a cross-disciplinary research and education center, focused on understanding and creating research-based and business-relevant solutions for sustainable markets. Collaborating both nationally and internationally, Misum's research is largely supported by Mistra, the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research. The center is constantly seeking to educate and prepare students for managing some of our times most pressing challenges.

2015
SSE ART INITIATIVE

By exploring the provoking and inspiring aspects, art helps us improve our critical thinking and helps convey a deeper understanding of ourselves. The Art Initiative acknowledges art as a valid knowledge base in its own right, and by actively integrating art and humanities into the academic context of SSE and the public debate, aims at making SSE and society richer in knowledge.

2015
GLOBAL CHALLENGES TRACK

The Global Challenges track represents the School's effort to incorporate a sustainability mindset into its traditional curriculum. The goal is to educate students about the urgent and large-scale problems of modern times, such as climate change, accelerating environmental damages and the risks related to political instabilities. The track is funded by the Global Challenges foundation.

2016
FIRST FEMALE PROFESSOR IN ECONOMICS

Anna Dreber Almenberg became SSE's first female professor in economics in 2016. A member of the Young Academy of Sweden as well as a Wallenberg Academy Fellow, her research features frequently in international scientific publications.

2018
SSE LITERARY AGENDA

The SSE literary agenda is a voluntary, three-year initiative that arranges lectures, book-circles and author's talks around the school. The SSE literary agenda is supported by the Natur & Kultur foundation.

2018
NEW EDUCATIONAL MISSION – FREE

A successful decision maker of the future will approach the world with curiosity and confidence and, as the philosopher Ingemar Hedenius said, "a free and alive in relation to the unknown". The core competence of humans is to be human. A successful decision maker in the future will maximize the potential of being human. Hence, SSE has formulated its overarching educational mission through the acronym FREE:

- Post and science-based mindset
- Reflective and self-aware
- Empathetic and culturally literate
- Entrepreneurial and responsible

2018
RETAIL MANAGEMENT BECOMES FIRST BSC IN ENGLISH

A large step was taken toward greater internationalization, with the BSc Program in Retail Management now being taught fully in English. The goal is to achieve the same for the BSc Program in Business and Economics.

2018
HOUSE OF INNOVATION (HOI)

The House of Innovation is an inter-disciplinary research and education environment focused on innovation, digitalization and entrepreneurship. Interacting with international scholars as well as corporate and institutional funders, HOI strives to create a research environment that values innovation, entrepreneurialism and pushing boundaries.

From left to right: Martin Dölitzl, head of Science Research Center; Julia Gehn, Interim CEO SSE Business Lab; Magnus Mählberg, Director Financial Research Institute; Anna Dreber Almenberg, Vice President Research Center; Rasmus Rahm, CEO Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship (SSE).

2016
RAPID ACCELERATION PROGRAM (RAMP)

RAMP is a management program geared towards accelerating integration of university graduates who have recently arrived in Sweden. Consisting of ten weeks of management training combined with a seven-month internship at a Sweden-based company, the program is designed to provide a fast track into the Swedish job market.

2016
SSE HOSTS THE 28TH CEMS ANNUAL EVENT

In November 2016, SSE had the honor to host the 28th CEMS Annual Event here in Stockholm. The event gathered students, academics, alumni and partners for five days of inspiration, networking and the CEMS MIM graduation ceremony. Surpassing the previous CEMS record, the graduation ceremony held at the Ericsson Globe Arena celebrated 1281 graduates from 65 different countries.

2019
110TH ANNIVERSARY FOR SSE

1909 – 2019

110

STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS