



RASMUSSEN
UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

A MESSAGE FROM PROVOST DR. CARRIE DANINHIRSCH

Honoring Our Students. Building a Legacy.



TO CELEBRATE RASMUSSEN UNIVERSITY'S 125TH

anniversary, I'm honored to thank those who have truly defined our legacy: our students, and the faculty and staff who dedicate their lives to supporting them.

As an academic leader who has proudly served Rasmussen since 2006, I've witnessed how education can ignite lasting change, from accomplishing long-held dreams to opening doors for students' children and communities.

Our faculty—some of whom are Rasmussen graduates themselves—are mentors, coaches and champions who go beyond the classroom to shape students' confidence, skillsets and futures.

In a world shaped by rapid technological change and evolving workforce needs, we remain committed to meaningful, student-centered learning.

Thank you to our faculty, our staff and, most of all, our students. Your legacy is unfolding with courage and persistence—and the next 125 years will be defined by the dreams you dare to pursue.

“We prepare our students for careers that matter, and for lives filled with purpose.”

Dr. Carrie Daninhirsch
Provost, Rasmussen University

A Legacy of Opportunity

1945–1960



Opening Doors for the Post-War Generation

The motto “Open the door to new opportunities” became a guiding principle for the Rasmussen Practical Business School after instructor Walter Nemitz was appointed as Walter Rasmussen’s successor in 1945.

1990–2001



Embracing Transformation

With the rise of the internet and breakthroughs in digital technology, Rasmussen swiftly integrated computers into the learning environment. In 1994, to reflect the broadening scope of its academic programs, the institution officially changed its name to Rasmussen College.

2014–2020



Innovating to Make Career Success Accessible

Rasmussen addressed shifts in U.S. student demographics and rising college debt by focusing on affordability, flexibility and accelerated learning.

Rasmussen University was started in Minnesota in 1900.

1900–1944



Answering the Call

On September 1, 1900, the Rasmussen Practical School of Business opened in St. Paul, Minnesota, to meet the needs of a booming “commercial age.”

1961–1989



Giving Direction to a Society on the Move

As U.S. families left cities for the suburbs, Walter Nemitz’s sons, Wilbur and Robert, assumed leadership and expanded opportunities for career education in outstate communities across Minnesota.

2002–2013



Expanding Our Reach to Change Lives

As the U.S. was reshaped by global events and economic changes, Rasmussen College established new campuses and expanded educational opportunities across six states.

2021- Present



Writing the Next Chapter in Our Legacy Story

Rasmussen enters a new era. What was once a practical business school is now a university with more than half our students enrolled in Nursing and Healthcare programs throughout our network of campuses.

Teen Mom Inspired to Pursue Nursing Career

It’s not every day you meet the person who will inspire your future career—it’s even less common when that person also saves the life of your newborn son.

When Cherish Adams gave birth at 15 years old to her premature son, Allen, she was overwhelmed and without hope.

Cherish and Allen’s saving grace was Nurse Jeannie, who showed immense compassion to Cherish. Recognizing that Cherish was young, scared and questioning her future, Nurse Jeannie encouraged Cherish to finish school and create a better life for her and Allen.

“If Jeannie was here today, I’d want to tell her thank you for making such a huge difference in my life.”

Flash forward 20 years, Cherish is now the first in her family to graduate high school and college, and the first nurse in her family.



Cherish Adams
Associate’s Degree in Nursing, 2025

Legacy in Action: Join Our Rasmussen Alumni Network

AS RASMUSSEN UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES

125 years, we’re reimagining our alumni network where graduates can explore new ways to stay connected, share their stories and take pride in being part of our community.

The spirit of starting something new is exactly what drives alum Tonie Roby. Encouraged by a former Rasmussen professor, Tonie started her own business this year to bring HR professionals together in support of one another’s success.



“Legacy is not just what you want to leave behind, it’s what you want to start.”

Tonie Roby
B.S. Business Management, 2016

Tonie recently helped usher in new traditions like the alumni pinning ceremony and delivering the official alumni welcome message during the Illinois Commencement.

Tonie reflects the vision behind Rasmussen’s evolving alumni efforts—this isn’t just about honoring the past, it’s about beginning a new chapter, together.

Attend regional alumni events, share your story and show your alumni pride.

Visit rasmussen.edu/alumni or email alumni@rasmussen.edu to get involved.

Featured Employees

“Being part of an institution that values lifelong learning and continuous improvement has inspired me to stay for over four decades. It’s not just where I work—it’s a place where I make a difference.”



Virginia Knox
Assistant Professor
General Education

First Course Taught in 1981:
Gregg Shorthand and Business Communications

“Over the years, we have continuously adapted—keeping up with technology, updating our courses and offering relevant majors that benefit both our students and the communities we serve.”



Sherry Kamrowski
Assistant Professor
General Education

First Course Taught in 1987:
Typing, Calculators, and Machine Transcription

“I love working here because we help people achieve their goals. We truly have the opportunity to make a difference. I also get to work with an amazing team that truly cares about our students and our community.”



Kathy Sanger
Campus Executive
Director – Mankato

Started in 1995 as an Evening Admissions Representative



RASMUSSEN UNIVERSITY

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES:

One Student at a Time

SINCE 1900, WHEN WALTER RASMUSSEN FOUNDED THE FIRST

Rasmussen school in St. Paul, Minnesota, this institution has offered programs that line up with what jobs are needed and remained committed to one powerful idea: education creates opportunity.

From our very first students to the graduates crossing the stage this year, Rasmussen's legacy has always been shaped by people—those bold enough to pursue their goals, and those committed to helping them get there.

Over the last 125 years, we've prepared students for careers that matter in healthcare, business, public service and beyond. But the real story is what our graduates do with that education.

They heal. They protect.

They lead. They teach.

***They build stronger communities—one career,
one family and one life at a time.***

To everyone who has been part of this journey: thank you.
Your legacy is our legacy.



Mark Arnold
President, Rasmussen University