

Discover

ACBSP



**The Quality Standard
for Business Education
Around the World**

ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGIATE BUSINESS SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Discover *What is Special About ACBSP*



Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius presented an award to ACBSP on behalf of the Kansas Center for Performance Excellence in recognition of the progress in pursuit of the Kansas Quality Award.

Encompasses All Degree Programs

ACBSP is the only organization offering accreditation to all levels of collegiate business programs from associate to baccalaureate to graduate degree institutions. A **Board of Commissioners** governs accreditation decisions for associate degree institutions, and a separate board governs decisions for all baccalaureate/graduate degree institutions. Both boards have benefited by sharing experiences from their perspective, as have members in meetings, conferences, committees, and presentations at the **Annual Conference**. Being inclusive is a longstanding and important value for ACBSP.

An Emphasis on Quality

The emphasis on quality is part of the culture of ACBSP. Quality is recognition of what has been

A Focus on Teaching Excellence

The **Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs** was founded in 1988 to create an organization and an accreditation process designed to fit the needs of business programs focused on teaching and learning. This emphasis is carried out in other ways, such as including faculty as individual members and making teaching excellence a focus of educational sessions at national and regional meetings.

achieved as well as the potential for achievement.

The accreditation process is a continuous improvement process with opportunities for improvement frequently given to schools upon accreditation. This continues during accreditation through quality assurance and periodic reports filed on a biennial basis.

ACBSP practices the qualities and standards it expects from members pursuing accreditation by participating in the Kansas Center for Performance Excellence State Baldrige Program. Staff evaluations of the Annual Conference with regard to “things we did well” and “things we could improve upon” is one example of how ACBSP identifies opportunities for improvement.



CHEA® Recognition

In 2001, ACBSP became the first accrediting body for business schools to be recognized by the **Council on Higher Education Accreditation**. The CHEA-recognized scope of accreditation encompasses degree programs in business and business-related fields at the associate, baccalaureate, and graduate levels.

www.chea.org

Global Growth and Involvement



ACBSP actively recruits international members in order to build a global education network. The International Council of Business Schools constitutes **Region 8** of ACBSP, which is comprised of business schools from areas other than the United States and Canada. This growing global membership forms an educational network that provides access to research partnerships, exchange programs, and cultural enrichment for schools of all sizes. ACBSP works with leading international educational bodies such as **Latin America Council on Management Education (CLADEA)**, and the **European Council on Business Education (ECBE)**, and was a Worldwide Association Partner at the Global Forum 2005 in Santiago, Chile.

Discover *What is Special About ACBSP*

Accreditation

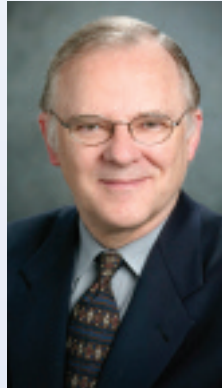
Accreditation Based on Baldrige Criteria

ACBSP accreditation standards are modeled on the **Baldrige National Quality Program and its Criteria for Educational Performance Excellence**. The Baldrige Criteria provide a systems perspective for understanding performance management; they reflect validated, leading-edge management practices upon which an institution can measure itself and engage in a process of continuous improvement. The **Baldrige National Quality Program** is widely recognized by business and government, two important constituents of business schools.

An Accreditation Process That Supports Your Success

Accreditation is a collegial process supported by ACBSP and other accredited members. ACBSP provides several key ways to support members during candidacy through the following:

- A mentor program provides assistance from an individual familiar with the institution and the ACBSP accreditation process.
- ACBSP furnishes examples of successful self-studies which provide guidance in the preparation of the self-study.
- ACBSP accreditation builds on accreditation processes practiced by the regional accrediting bodies as well as the data collected.



“Reaffirmation of accreditation came due during my second year as dean. The systematic self-study process was extremely valuable, as it helped me discover early on many aspects of our school and its programs that might otherwise have remained out of sight.”

– Paul Browne, Dean
Sidhu School of Business and Leadership
Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

- ACBSP’s Gateway (www.acbsp.org) provides a private community where schools working toward accreditation share ideas, suggestions, and answers to questions.
- Schools that hold accreditation status with other accrediting

bodies such as AACSB, ECBE, and IACBE may be eligible for an accelerated accreditation process at a far lower cost and in a shorter timeframe to obtain the prestige and marketing advantage of being accredited by more than one accrediting body.



Wheeling Jesuit University was recognized at the 2007 Annual Conference in Orlando for achieving accredited status.

Discover *Member Benefits*

When a business school or program joins ACBSP,

everyone involved in the delivery of business education – president, chief academic officer, head of businesses unit, and all faculty – is granted individual membership. No additional fees or dues are required to obtain these benefits.

ACBSP Gateway

Individual members and those responsible for the business unit have access to the ACBSP Gateway, a private site with a wide variety of information and services at www.acbsp.org.

Membership Directory

All member institutions and individual members have profiles on ACBSP Gateway, instantly creating a global network of contacts.

Teaching Excellence Award

Faculty members may apply for this award of recognition given to the school and the individual. Sixteen awards are given each year, two in each of the eight ACBSP regions – one at the associate degree and one at the baccalaureate/graduate degree level. At the Annual Conference, one of the regional winners is recognized as the International Teaching Excellence award recipient from all associate degree institutions and one as the recipient from all baccalaureate/graduate degree institutions.

Professional Opportunities

ACBSP posts openings for faculty and administrative positions in



Honorary Societies for Your Business Students

Honor society membership for academic excellence in a business discipline is one of the most cherished tributes that a graduate can receive from his/her institution. ACBSP recognizes and works closely with three outstanding honor societies. Accredited institutions are encouraged to affiliate with **Delta Mu Delta** (for baccalaureate/graduate degree schools) and **Kappa Beta Delta** (for associate degree schools) in order to recognize student academic excellence. **Sigma Beta Delta** is the affiliated honorary society for baccalaureate/graduate degree institutions that are not accredited or are in candidacy for accreditation. All three honor societies provide lifetime memberships and financial scholarships to outstanding members and allow institutions to honor exceptional alumni and individuals who have contributed to the local business community.

business schools and programs on ACBSP Gateway (www.acbsp.org) and in two publications, *Business Education Week* and *ACBSP Update*.

Peer Review Service

This service includes feedback on the processes and systems already in place, concepts necessary to achieve distinction, key opportunities for improvement, and mentoring for the accreditation process. Peer review is especially valuable to new deans and directors who want advice from an expert group of peers on how best to prepare for accreditation candidacy or how

to improve quality standards in specific disciplines.

Benchmarking Service

Launching in 2008, this service provides survey data in two parts. A demographic survey provides information on salaries, teaching loads, budget ratios, and other demographics. An assessment survey provides a common case study for use by individuals and schools for comparison with other institutions. Members share information and collaborate on academic and teaching quality improvements.

Discover

Member Benefits

Two-year and Four-year Schools Working Together

The opportunity for all degree levels to work together to compare best practices, implement articulation agreements, and demonstrate how business units can cooperate are hallmarks of the sharing and collaborating process. Online communities and association meetings are just some of the ways this happens.

Academic Communities

Public and private communities are being created to share knowledge, best practices, and information. Public communities are open to any member wanting to share topics of special interest such as outcomes assessment and global activities. Private communities are restricted to persons within a targeted group.

Assistance in Meeting External Requirements

Member institutions offer a breadth and depth of assistance on issues such as assessment, diversity, faculty exchanges, and advisory groups. Membership supplies a global network and programming to see what has been successful and how it can help your business program.

Regional Councils

ACBSP is divided geographically into eight regions. Staff from the national office and the leadership in each region arrange and present workshops and seminars on issues relevant to the field of business education during regional meetings. Each region has its own home page on the ACBSP Gateway at www.acbsp.org.

Business Education Week

This one-page weekly newsletter summarizes highlights from the business education world during the past week. It is issued online every Friday and contains links to additional information.

ACBSP Update

Update includes information about ACBSP programs, features about members, and a listing of professional opportunities. The current issue is posted at www.acbsp.org.

ACBSP Annual Conference

ACBSP's Annual Conference is a great opportunity to present and learn, to network, and to be inspired!

Papers are presented based on a specific theme and suggested practices for teaching excellence for the benefit of attendees and their institutions.

Speakers at recent conferences have included authors of best-selling classics such as Sir Harold Evans (*They Made America*) and Jim Collins (*Good to Great*); leaders in business including Steve Marriott of Marriott International and Kevin Turner of Microsoft (pictured below); and distinguished persons such as Cynthia Cooper, formerly with WorldCom, and Harry Hertz from the Baldrige National Quality Program.

Accreditation workshops offer practical and hands-on information on the accreditation process and benefits of accreditation.



Discover *Benefits of Accreditation*

For Institutions

Self-Study Process

The process of preparing a self-study presents the business school or program an opportunity to examine its mission and how it is being achieved. The self-study provides a directed, quality-based set of core values and concepts about what a business school or program should be. Through this exercise, member schools have found both reaffirmation and redirection of their mission. Perhaps the most important aspect of a self-study is the renewal of purpose in faculty, students, and administrators. While accreditation is the primary goal, the journey can be the greater achievement.

Support of Regional Accreditation

Recognition of the business unit through ACBSP accreditation contributes to a more positive review by regional accrediting bodies, since specialized accreditation confirms quality programming in specific divisions.

Increased Donor Support

Institutions have reported increased contributions and gifts from the corporate sector as a result of the prestige and credibility derived from accreditation.

Student Recruitment Tool

Students can use accreditation as an external benchmark to evaluate the quality and value of their educational experience. Some employers will only provide financial support to employees studying for advanced degrees at accredited schools.

For Faculty

Peer Support

Faculty who hold high personal standards for their teaching and research are assured they are being recruited to join an institution that maintains and supports quality education. When a program has been validated by peers from across the nation, accreditation creates a sense of pride among the business faculty.

Professional Development

Faculty members at accredited institutions are encouraged to become evaluators and participate in site visits, sharing ideas on curriculum development, exposing faculty to a global network of business education specialists, and providing opportunities for schools to stay current in quality procedures such as Baldrige training.

For Students

Transfer of Credits

Students completing a two-year accredited program benefit from broader acceptance of earned credits when transferring to four-year institutions for their baccalaureate degree. In pursuing advanced degrees, courses and credits from an accredited school are often more frequently accepted by other institutions.

Credibility

Businesses are familiar with and actively engage in activities related to use of the **Baldrige National Quality Program and its Criteria for Performance Excellence**, continuous improvement processes, **Total Quality Improvement**, and **ISO 9000 standards**. The Baldrige Program reassures the business community that the institution will be a reliable source of knowledgeable employees and a

trustworthy destination for charitable contributions.

Recognition by Regulatory Bodies

Accreditation is achieving greater prominence as a valued tool in the work of certain regulatory agencies. Employers, licensing bodies, and regulatory agencies are reassured by the quality standards embodied in ACBSP accreditation standards.

Discover *New Products and Services*

ACBSP Student Leadership Award

The first ACBSP student leadership award will be presented in spring 2008 on campuses that wish to participate. The award honors individual business students who serve in a leadership position with a student organization or honorary society. Each campus purchases a plaque for display at the business school listing the name of the recipient for that year. The winning student is presented a plaque. Every school determines its own criteria and number of awards.

Accreditation of Business-Related Degree Programs

ACBSP currently offers accreditation for associate and baccalaureate/graduate degrees. Some institutions offer programs that do not meet these criteria, yet have a business component deserving of accreditation. There is a proposal currently being advanced by a taskforce to offer a third type of accreditation for these business-related degrees. Specific actions for implementing the recommendations are anticipated during the June 2008 Annual Conference.

Resource Kit Focusing on Articulation

The first of several resource kits will be released in late 2007. It will focus on articulation. Contents include sample articulation agreements, sample Web content, and papers presented at conferences.

Major Field Test for Business Associate Degree Programs

Launching in 2008, this valuable tool for outcomes assessment will be the first associate degree field test developed by ETS. It will provide associate degree schools with the same type of tool used by baccalaureate and MBA degree programs. The test is being

developed and marketed by Educational Testing Service. ACBSP partnered with ETS in its development. ACBSP members are eligible for a discount with purchase.

Accounting Accreditation

In 2008, ACBSP will be pilot testing a process to provide a separate accreditation for the accounting unit at schools that have an accredited business program.



2008 ACBSP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NEW ORLEANS
June 20-23, 2008
Marriott on Canal Street

The Conference theme will be "Growth and Regrowth" as we focus on the recovery of this great American city and celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the founding of ACBSP. Educational tracks will feature ways individual business



2009 ACBSP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SAN ANTONIO
June 26-29, 2009
Marriott Rivercenter



WHO WE ARE

ACBSP is an organization of business degree-granting educational institutions and select corporate members dedicated to pursuing the highest quality standards in business education around the world.

WHAT WE DO

ACBSP is the global leader enhancing the quality of business schools and programs focused on teaching excellence.

WHY WE EXIST

ACBSP develops, promotes, and recognizes best practices that contribute to continuous improvement of business education and accredits qualified business programs.

Join Now

Membership is available for any institution offering an associate degree in some area of business, baccalaureate major in business, and/or graduate degree in business. The institution must be accredited by one of the six U.S. regional accrediting bodies. Institutions located outside the United States that do not have U.S.-based regional accreditation must present a certified translation of an official document from an appropriate government organization in their country stating recognition, accreditation, and/or their right to grant degrees.

Upon joining, each institution is asked to complete a [Member Enrollment Form](#).

The ACBSP membership year is July 1 - June 30. Dues are prorated based on the length of membership year remaining after application materials are received. Dues for membership by institutions that are not accredited are as follows:

July 1 - June 30.....\$1,250.00

October 1 - June 30\$937.50

January 1 - June 30\$625.00

Membership is required before beginning the accreditation process. The above membership rate is effective until accreditation is achieved. Annual dues for accredited schools are \$1,850.00.

How To Contact ACBSP

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