



ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR BUSINESS SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Bringing Together Those Dedicated to Teaching Excellence

January 15, 2016

Dr. Brian O. Hemphill
President
West Virginia State University
PO Box 1000
Institute, West Virginia 25112

Dear President Hemphill,

The Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Board of Commissioners met on November 19, 2015 and reaffirmed the business program accreditation at West Virginia State University. Congratulations!

Conditions and notes indicate that either the Standard or Criteria is not fully met, and should be viewed as an opportunity to move your program to a higher level of excellence. It would be extremely rare that a school receive accreditation without these conditions or notes given ACBSP's Core Value of Continuous Improvement and Organizational Learning, that "Business schools and programs should pursue regular cycles of planning, execution, and evaluation of every process and system. Ongoing improvement of these processes and systems leads to ever higher quality and student/stakeholder satisfaction."

The accreditation decision included the following Notes provided by the Board of Commissioners:

Note on Standard 5, Criterion 5.3: A clear process for determining faculty qualifications needs to be in place, particularly with respect to faculty members with out of field doctorates. The peer review team noted several irregularities and the institution responded with justifications and reasons as to why these faculty members are academically qualified. There are numerous ways in which faculty members may be qualified. It would be useful for the institution to identify which specific criterion (for example--#5 of the allowed options), and provide the curricular and experience basis for their decision).

Note on Standard 6, Criterion 6.2.1: There are a large number and array of student services available to students. These likely are of great value to students. However, the institutional response itself acknowledges that there is limited data as to the efficacy of the services. The QAR due in 2017 should reflect continued progress in this arena.

Progress on the Notes must be reported in future Quality Assurance Reports. You are encouraged to work with David Frantz on the removal of the Notes. Frantz may be contacted by phone at: 765-973-8337, or by e-mail at: dfrantz@iue.edu You may also contact Diana Hallerud at 913-339-9356, or by e-mail at dianahallerud@acbsp.org.

Your Quality Assurance Report will be due on September 15, 2017, and every two years after that. Your ten year reaffirmation will be due in 2025.

ACBSP will inform the public of decisions on accreditation status made by the Boards of Commissioners by posting the accreditation decisions on the ACBSP Website. The decisions on accreditation status can be accessed from www.acbsp.org/?page=decisions and will appear as the following:

West Virginia State University (Institute, WV)

Reaffirmation of Accreditation with improvement opportunities in the following criteria: Criterion 5.3 and Criterion 6.2.1

If you have any comments concerning this notification please let me know.

ACBSP encourages you to publicly announce that your business programs are accredited. In the next few weeks, we will be sending you, via e-mail, a sample ACBSP Press Release and ACBSP Logo files for publicizing your accreditation. As you prepare these materials, the following is your official ACBSP statement:

The following business programs at West Virginia State University are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs:

**Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Art in Economics**

Please take this opportunity to review the accuracy of the programs listed above as well as the institution name (below) as it will appear on your Certificate of Accreditation. If any information is not correct, please notify Diana Hallerud via e-mail at dianahallerud@acbsp.org and provide the correction by February 16, 2016.

Name of institution as it will appear on the certificate:

**West Virginia State University
Institute, West Virginia**

The 2016 ACBSP Conference will be June 17-20 in Atlanta, GA, and our host hotel will be the Atlanta Marriott Marquis. Please mark your calendar to join us in Atlanta, where we will honor you and all other schools receiving initial or reaffirmation of accreditation during the 2015-2016 membership year. You are encouraged to attend along with your Chief Academic Officer and Dean or Head of the Business School or Program. Many institutions invite faculty to this prestigious celebration. Your institution will also be announced during the Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Institution annual meeting held at the conference.

There is a breakfast on Sunday morning, June 19 for registered conference attendees from institutions receiving initial or reaffirmation of accreditation. At least one institutional representative must attend the breakfast. The purpose of the breakfast is to more personally congratulate the institutional representatives and to outline the procedures that will be followed at the accreditation gala.

In addition to the breakfast, a professional photographer will be available on Sunday, June 19 to photograph all institutional representatives along with the ACBSP Chief Accreditation Officer and the Chair of the Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Board of Commissioners. Appropriate dress for the photo session and banquet is business professional.

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For updates on the Conference, visit the ACBSP website, www.acbsp.org. On-line registration is available beginning in January.

Congratulations on maintaining such a high quality business program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Parscale".

Steve Parscale, Ph.D.
Chief Accreditation Officer

Cc: Dr. Kumara Jayasuriya, Provost & VPAA
Dr. Deborah Williams, Champion
Dr. David Bejou, Co-Champion