



April 14, 2020

Dr. Raphael Onyeaghala, Dean
Department of Business Innovation and Strategy
Southwest Minnesota State University
1501 State Street
Marshall, MN 56258

Dear Dr. Onyeaghala:

The IACBE Board of Commissioners met on March 30-31, 2020 to consider the application of the Department of Business Innovation and Strategy at Southwest Minnesota State University for Candidacy status. I am pleased to report that the Board of Commissioners approved your application and granted Candidacy status effective March 30, 2020 through March 30, 2025.

Please note that candidacy status may not exceed five years. However, under extenuating circumstances and upon written petition, an extension may be approved by the Board of Commissioners. Under no circumstance is there any guarantee that the business programs of candidates for accreditation will be accredited. This determination is made by the IACBE Board of Commissioners after a self-study is prepared and a site visit is conducted.

The Board of Commissioner's would like to commend your changes to the Bachelor's in Accounting assessment in the OAP. This is set up well – we would strongly recommend using this as a model for setting up your assessment for all degrees.

The Board of Commissioners included the following item(s) for you to address in your Outcomes Assessment Plan:

1. If the core business classes are the same for the Bachelor of Science (BS) and the Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) Management/Marketing degrees, consider not separating them in the Outcomes Assessment Plan (OAP).
2. Develop a plan for implementing the student self-evaluation which is the Indirect Measure for most Bachelor's degrees. For example, will this be part of an exit survey taken by all graduating students?
3. If you choose to continue to use the Major Field Test (MFT) for the Bachelor's in Finance, Management, Marketing and BAS in Management and Marketing, ensure that you are collecting results that can be broken down by student within each discipline tested on the MFT or remove MFT

from the OAP as your other direct measures cover all of the intended student learning outcomes (ISLOs) in each degree (similar to how the OAP is set up for the Bachelors in Accounting).

4. For the Ethical/Moral Reasoning Scenario used as an assessment instrument for the Bachelor in Finance, is this part of a portfolio and measured with the larger rubric provided? If so, indicate the part of the rubric used to measure this. If not, provide a rubric as no rubric was provided to measure this scenario.
5. Only one rubric was provided that seems to measure direct measures 1-4 for the BAS/BS Management. Describe the process for collecting results. For example, will this be collected in a portfolio in one class since only one rubric is being used?
6. Remove word “associate” in Direct Measure #2 for the BAS/BS Marketing.
7. In order to simplify your assessment process, since the case study for the BAS/BS Marketing covers all ISLOs, we recommend eliminating direct measures #2 and #3 from the OAP.
8. In order to simplify your assessment process, since direct measure #2 for the Master of Business Administration (MBA) covers all ISLOs, we recommend eliminating direct measure #1 from the OAP.

The following language must be used on the Department of Business Innovation and Strategy homepage, linking to your IACBE status page at www.iacbe.org/memberpdf/SouthwestMinnesotaStateUniversity.pdf

The Department of Business Innovation and Strategy at Southwest Minnesota State University has been awarded the status of Candidate for Accreditation by the International Accreditation Council for Business Education (IACBE) located at 11374 Strang Line Road in Lenexa, Kansas, USA. For a listing of the degrees eligible for accreditation, click [here](#).” (linked to IACBE status page).

Following is the approved language for other official written publications when referencing your IACBE accreditation status:

The Department of Business Innovation and Strategy at Southwest Minnesota State University has been awarded the status of Candidate for Accreditation by the International Accreditation Council for Business Education (IACBE) located at 11374 Strang Line Road in Lenexa, Kansas, USA. In granting candidacy status, the IACBE has determined that the business programs in the following degrees are eligible for accreditation:

Business Programs
Master of Business Administration
Bachelor of Applied Science in Management
Bachelor Applied Science in Marketing
Bachelor of Science in Accounting
Bachelor of Science in Finance

Business Programs	
Bachelor of Science in Management	

The following locations will be included in the first-time accreditation review:

Locations	
Main Campus	1501 State Street, Marshall, MN 56258

All necessary materials and instructions for the preparation of your self-study are available on the IACBE website. Please contact the IACBE headquarters office to determine a timeframe for the submission of your self-study and for your site visit.

Additionally, you must have at least one representative attend the IACBE Accreditation Institute within one year of beginning the self-study. This workshop can be conducted onsite at your institution as a two-day mentoring visit at your expense, or your representative(s) may attend one of the workshops that are offered by the IACBE at various times and locations throughout the year. Contact the IACBE office if you believe you have already fulfilled this requirement.

Congratulations on taking this next step toward specialized accreditation. If you have any questions or if we can be of assistance, please feel free to contact Phyllis Okrepkie at pokrepkie@iacbe.org, or 605-390-8914. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Patrick Hafford, Chair
Board of Commissioners

Dr. Will Thomas, Chair, Department of Business Innovation and Strategy