

April 21, 2014

Dr. Anthony J. Catanese, President Florida Institute of Technology 150 W. University Blvd. Melbourne, FL 32901

Dear Dr. Catanese:

The IACBE Board of Commissioners met on April 7-8, 2014 to consider the request for accreditation of the business programs offered by the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business at the Florida Institute of Technology. I am pleased to report that the Board of Commissioners approved the request and granted accreditation to the business programs subject to the notes and observations identified below.

Inasmuch as the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a specialization in Leadership and Social Responsibility is a new program and has produced no graduates, the Board of Commissioners has excluded this program from the accreditation review.

#### <u>Notes</u>

Notes represent areas in which the institution is not in full compliance with the IACBE's Accreditation Principles. The Nathan M. Bisk College of Business is required to take action on the notes as specified by the IACBE Board of Commissioners, and until the deficiencies identified in the notes have been eliminated, the progress made in ameliorating the deficiencies must be addressed each year in the annual report to the IACBE. Unless otherwise indicated herein, the institution has three years to eliminate the deficiencies identified in the notes.

Principle 1.1: Outcomes Assessment – Degree of Compliance: Substantially Compliant

In its annual reports to the IACBE, the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business must report assessment results for all programs that are accredited by the IACBE, including those programs for which no assessment data were available for the self-study year.

In its annual reports to the IACBE, the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business must report on "closing the loop" in the assessment of its business programs and operations, i.e., it must report on (i) the ways in which it is using assessment results to make changes and improvements, (ii) the development of action

plans to make those changes and improvements, and (iii) the extent to which the action plans resulted in desired outcomes.

In the Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with a specialization in Healthcare Management and the Master of Business Administration with a specialization in Healthcare Management, an overall course/project grade or percentage cannot be used as a direct measure of student learning. The Nathan M. Bisk College of Business will need to develop appropriate evaluation rubrics for these tools that contain criteria that are directly tied back or mapped to the intended student learning outcomes for these programs. The performance targets for these measures will then need to be expressed in terms of the outcomes-specific rubric evaluation criteria. The college's outcomes assessment plan will need to be revised accordingly. A copy of the revised outcomes assessment plan must be provided in the college's annual report, which is due by November 1, 2014.

### Principle 3.2: Common Professional Component – Degree of Compliance: Substantially Compliant

The Nathan M. Bisk College of Business must provide Abbreviated Course Syllabi for CS 1501 and CS 1502 inasmuch as these courses are required in the relevant program and appear in the relevant CPC table. These syllabi must be provided in the college's annual report, which is due by November 1, 2014.

# **Observations**

Observations are suggestions for improvement by the IACBE Board of Commissioners that it believes would be helpful to the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business in achieving excellence in business education. Action on observations is highly recommended, but is not required.

# Principle 1.1: Outcomes Assessment – Degree of Compliance: Substantially Compliant

The Board of Commissioners recommends that the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business consider simplifying its outcomes assessment plan. In particular, the IACBE requires only two direct and two indirect measures of student learning for each program overall.

In addition, the commissioners recommend that the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business consider having a representative (or representatives) attend an IACBE workshop on "Developing a Comprehensive Outcomes Assessment Plan" in order to become familiar with current IACBE expectations and requirements pertaining to outcomes assessment.

### Principle 3.2: Common Professional Component — Degree of Compliance: Substantially Compliant

The CPC coverage of human resource management appears to be low in the following programs:

- Bachelor of Arts in Accounting
- Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with a specialization in Accounting
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a specialization in Global Management and Finance
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a specialization in Information Technology Management
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a specialization in Marketing

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a specialization in Sport Management
- Bachelor of Science in Business and Environmental Studies

The commissioners recommend that the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business consider ways to enhance the coverage of human resource management in these programs.

#### **Commendations**

- The policy and procedures documents are thorough and provide an effective structure for sustaining the assessment activities of the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business. Very well-established links between the university strategic planning process and the college's assessment activities and processes are evident.
- The Statement of Alternative Qualifications (SOAQ) is still in draft form, but it is an excellent document and a good model.
- The support of the business incubator from business and industry is a very strong positive characteristic of the college.
- The Florida Institute of Technology is on the cutting edge of innovation and technology in its curricula and student business incubator.
- The new programs, both those described in the self-study and those newly started, are indicative of a very progressive and forward-looking faculty and are very impressive.
- Students and faculty are very pleased with the growth and quality of the programs offered by the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business, and the advisory board is exceptionally active and engaged with the college.

Accreditation represents a continuing relationship between an institution and its accrediting organization. Specialized program accreditation by the IACBE is dependent upon your institution remaining (i) in good standing with your institutional accrediting body and (ii) in compliance with the IACBE's Accreditation Principles and policies as set forth in the *IACBE Bylaws, Accreditation Process Manual,* and *Self-Study Manual.* Your accreditation is valid for a maximum of seven years, through December 31, 2021.

The following notice pertaining to your accreditation status with the IACBE must be used in your official publications, including your institutional website:

The Florida Institute of Technology has received specialized accreditation for its business programs through the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE) located at 11374 Strang Line Road in Lenexa, Kansas, USA. The business programs in the following degrees are accredited by the IACBE:

- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Business Administration with specializations in:
  - Accounting
  - Accounting and Finance
  - o Finance
  - Health Care Management

- Information Technology Management
- International Business
- Internet Marketing
- Management
- Marketing
- Project Management
- Bachelor of Arts in Accounting
- Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with specializations in:
  - Accounting
  - Computer Information Systems
  - Healthcare Management
  - Management
  - Marketing
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with specializations in:
  - Accounting
  - Business Administration
  - Global Management and Finance
  - Information Technology Management
  - Marketing
  - Sport Management
- Bachelor of Science in Business and Environmental Studies
- Bachelor of Science in Information Systems

The Florida Institute of Technology will be publicly recognized for achieving accreditation at the 2015 IACBE Annual Conference and Assembly Meeting on April 14-17, 2015 in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. We very much look forward to seeing you there.

We encourage the business faculty at the Florida Institute of Technology to be actively involved in the IACBE's professional development programs and activities, including participation in the Assembly's annual conference, regional meetings, and workshops, and serving as site-visit team peer reviewers.

Should you have any questions or if I can be of assistance to you, please contact me through the IACBE's headquarters office.

Sincerely,

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Ms. Katalin Kovacs, Chair Board of Commissioners

cc: Dr. T. Dwayne McCay, Executive Vice President and Chief Operational Officer Dr. S. Ann Becker, Dean, Nathan M. Bisk College of Business Mr. John Allen, Manager of Assessments