



August 19, 2021

Mr. Randy Rinke
Associate Dean, Walker College of Business
Walker College of Business/Business Department
Mercyhurst University
501 East 38th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16546

Dear Mr. Rinke:

At its July 2021 meeting, the IACBE Board of Commissioners considered the previous Deferral of Accreditation action on your request for the accreditation of the business programs offered by the Walker College of Business/Business Department at Mercyhurst University. I am pleased to report that the Board of Commissioners approved your request and granted specialized accreditation to the business program(s) as identified in the “Business Programs” table below, accompanied by the following note(s) and observation(s).

Notes

Notes are an indicator that while the program is in compliance with the Principles, additional monitoring is warranted. The Walker College of Business/Business Department is required to take action as specified below and respond to the IACBE by October 18, 2021 (unless another due date is indicated within the Note) using the IACBE Notes Report. The reporting form can be found on our website at: www.iacbe.org/reports-note-compliance.asp.

Principle 2.1: Outcomes Assessment

Provide a revised Outcomes Assessment Plan, including updated rubrics, surveys, and other assessment instruments. For example, the following items should be addressed along with any other areas that the school identifies as needing revision.

1. All assessment targets must be measures of individual student achievement, not an average of student scores.
2. All assessment measures must directly evaluate each ISLO it is intended to measure. For example:
 - a. it is unclear from the information provided how the Major Field Test evaluates critical thinking
 - b. in the BAM program, the assignment rubric does not indicate that management theories and applications are directly evaluated.
3. Assessment measure must be program-end evaluations, not individual course assignments from classes within the program.

4. Revise Intended Student Learning Outcomes statements to ensure each includes only criteria related to the single intended outcome. For example:
 - a. The ISLO on Ethics includes criteria unrelated to “ethics” such as grammar, delivery, and communication.

Observations

Observations are suggestions for further quality enhancements that the Board of Commissioners believes would be helpful for you in achieving excellence in business education but are not required for compliance with the IACBE’s Accreditation Principles. Action on observations is optional, and reporting is not required.

No observations were made by the Board of Commissioners.

Continued Reporting Requirement

In accordance with the Note given in the Board of Commissioners letter dated January 7, 2021, the requirement to submit an Interim Quality Assurance Report by November 1, 2022, remains in force.

Additionally, upon completion of the review the Board of Commissioners voted to not require an on-site follow-up visit.

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.

Your Approved Period of Accreditation is: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2027

In addition to the compliance reports due annually, all accredited members of the IACBE are required to submit an Interim Quality Assurance Report (IQAR) during their period of accreditation. The IQAR for the Walker College of Business/Business Department will be due by November 1, 2024. Please note that the IQAR due November 1, 2024, is in addition to the IQAR due November 1, 2022. For more information on these reports, please refer to the IACBE website under Accreditation > Compliance.

The following language must be used on the Walker College of Business/Business Department homepage, where “[status page](#)” is a hyperlink to your IACBE status page at <http://www.iacbe.org/memberpdf/MercyhurstUniversity.pdf>

The Walker College of Business/Business Department at the Mercyhurst University has received specialized accreditation for its business programs through the International Accreditation Council for Business Education (IACBE) located at 11960 Quivira Road in Overland Park, Kansas, USA. For a list of accredited programs view our IACBE member [status page](#).

If the list of accredited programs is provided in other official print publications, the following notice pertaining to your accreditation status with the IACBE must be used.

The Walker College of Business/Business Department at Mercyhurst University has received specialized accreditation for the following business programs through the International Accreditation Council for Business Education (IACBE) located at 11960 Quivira Road in Overland Park, Kansas, USA. The IACBE grants accreditation for business and accounting programs only. Locations for program offerings are at the sole discretion of the Member.

Business Programs
Bachelor of Arts in Accounting
Bachelor of Arts in Business Economics
Bachelor of Arts in Finance
Bachelor of Arts in International Business
Bachelor of Arts in Management
Bachelor of Arts in Marketing
Bachelor of Arts in Sport Business Management

The Walker College of Business/Business Department will be publicly recognized for achieving accreditation at the 2022 IACBE Annual Conference and Assembly Meeting to be held April 4-8, 2022, in Costa Mesa, California. We very much look forward to seeing you there.

We encourage the business faculty in the Walker College of Business/Business Department to be actively involved in the IACBE's professional development programs and activities, including participation in the IACBE's Annual Conference and Assembly Meetings, regional conferences, and workshops, and serving as site-visit team peer reviewers.

If you have any questions or if we can be of assistance, please feel free to contact your liaison Phyllis Okrepkie at pokrpekie@iacbe.org, or 913-631-3009.

Sincerely,



Scott Schroeder, Chair
Board of Commissioners

c: Dr. Heidi Hosey-McGurk, Interim Dean, Walker College of Business