MANAGING ASSURANCE OF LEARNING PROCESS UNDER THE 2013 AACSB STANDARDS

[1]F. ZHU, [2]R. FLEMING

Rohrer College of Business Rowan University Glassboro, New Jersey, USA
E-mail: zhu@rowan.edu

Abstract- The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International (AACSB) adopted its business accreditation standards in 2013 (the 2013 Standards). These standards represent major revisions from the prior 2003 accreditation standards. These changes necessitated that business schools, either pursuing initial accreditation or re-accreditation, fully understand the differences between the two sets of standards so as to work more effectively towards compliance with the new standards, including the related documentation requirements. This study focuses on one of the major revised components in the 2013 Standards: assurance of learning (AOL). AOL has an important role in the AACSB accreditation process, and it may not be uncommon in the future that the reaccreditation of some business schools will be deferred for a "sixth year" for not assessing and documenting student learning achievements successfully. The study presents a three-stage AOL model implemented at the business school of a middle-sized public university in New Jersey, USA for its AACSB reaccreditation. Some implementation issues and lessons learned are discussed.

Key words- Business Education, Assurance of Learning, Assessment, 2013 AACSB Accreditation Standards

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