



April 24, 2003

Richard Pegnetter, Dean
College of Business
Florida Gulf Coast University
10501 FGCU Boulevard South
Fort Myers, Florida 33965-6565

Dear Dean Pegnetter:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the peer review team's recommendation for initial accreditation of the undergraduate and master's degree programs in business offered by Florida Gulf Coast University has been concurred with by the Business Accreditation Committee and ratified by the Board of Directors. Congratulations to you, President Merwin, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Bartel, the faculty, the students, the staff, and all supporters of the business programs. On behalf of the Accreditation Council, I welcome Florida Gulf Coast University as a new member.

One purpose of the peer review process is to stimulate further continuous improvement of quality business programs. Consequently, the team report includes areas of strength and opportunities for improvement. As noted in the Team Visit Report, Florida Gulf Coast University, College of Business, is commended on its (1) contagious and pervasive entrepreneurial spirit, (2) strong faculty "buy-in" and enthusiasm for activities associated with the College mission, (3) impressive community support, (4) Center for Leadership and Innovation and the outstanding role it has played in the development of partnerships with the regional business community, (5) outstanding student career development advising system, and (6) visionary plans for integrating the Center for Leadership and Innovation, Executive MBA Program, and the Small Business Development Center to create synergy in the economic development of the Southwest Florida region.

Prior to the next review, Florida Gulf Coast University is expected to address the issues and recommendations detailed in the Team Visit Report. Continued efforts are encouraged to focus on mission and to further enhance the integration of mission-linked outcomes and processes for continuous improvement.

At this time, two reports are requested. Please submit the reports electronically to the Accreditation Committee Chair (bac@aacsb.edu). If the report cannot be sent electronically, please mail four copies of each report to the Accreditation Committee Chair in care of the AACSB International office.

As detailed in the Team Visit Report, an update report is due by January 15, 2006. Please provide the following (applicable, though not all inclusive, accreditation standards are specified within parenthesis):

Richard Peggnetter, Dean
April 24, 2003
Page 2

1. Comparative data and narrative for the 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, and 2005-06 academic years on University enrollment (both headcount and FTE), College enrollment (both headcount and FTE), University budget, College operating budget, and the number of College faculty that demonstrate maintenance of the resources that support the projected growth of the University and College (M.5, FD.1).
2. Update on the proposed new engineering program/school/college and any business programs added or deleted, along with the impact of these changes on the current College offerings (M.5).

By January 15, 2008, please provide an interim report to demonstrate sustained and further enhancement of mission-linked outcomes and processes, including development, implementation, and the impact of improved procedures for the items listed below (applicable, though not all inclusive, accreditation standards are specified within parenthesis) in addition to an update on the above items:

1. Additional professional personnel for student advising in the College (S.2, IN.1).
2. Establishment of a dedicated business facility given the leadership of the College in developing a presence of the University in the region (IN.1, M.2, M.5).

Again, congratulations from the Accreditation Council and AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Thank you for participating in this peer review process.

Sincerely,

Jerry E. Trapnell
Chair of the Board

c: William C. Merwin, President
Brad Bartel, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Peer Review Team:
Kenneth Stanley, Chair
Otis Baskin
Michael Hopp

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