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Program Review Program ReportBARTON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY ACCOUNTANCY 153

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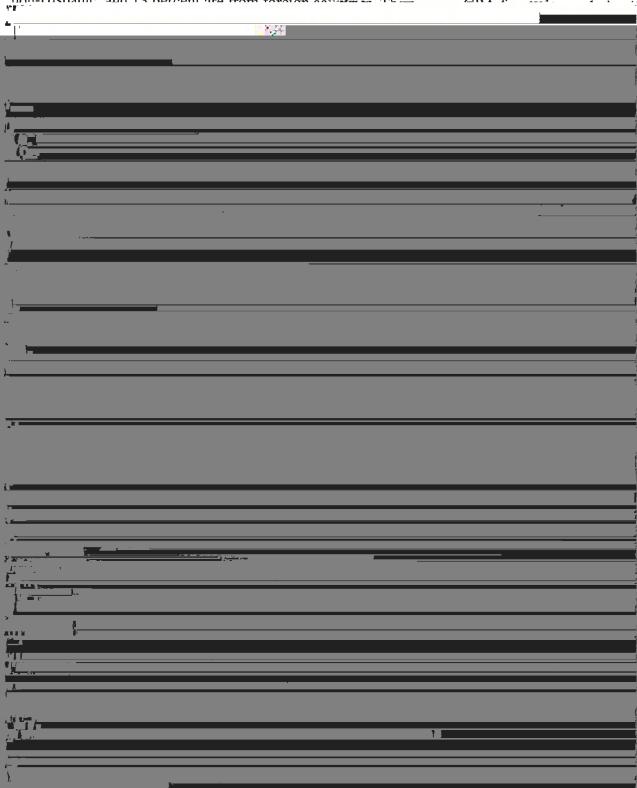
Wichita State University GRADUATE SCHOOL KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS 2009 PROGRAM REVIEW

Master of Accountancy

Review process: The Associate Dean of the Graduate School and members of the WSU Graduate Council reviewed the Self-Study Report, provided by the School Of Accountancy of W. Frank Barton School of Business.

hours necessary to qualify them to take the CPA exam. After reaching this objective, they may be slow to return to class work. In some cases, these students never complete the program.

Students in the program come from a fairly diverse background. Based upon those who earn degrees, approximately 60 percent are female and 40 percent male. About 70 percent are white non-Hispanic and 13 percent are from foreign assertion.



SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY W. FRANK BARTON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY



a. Centrality of the program to fulfilling the mission and role of WSU.

Mission of WSU: Wichita State University is committed to providing comprehensive educational opportunities in an urban setting. Through teaching, scholarship, and public service, the University seeks to equip both students and the larger community with the educational and cultural tools they need to thrive in a complex world, and to achieve both individual responsibility in their own lives and effective citizenship in the local, national, and global community.

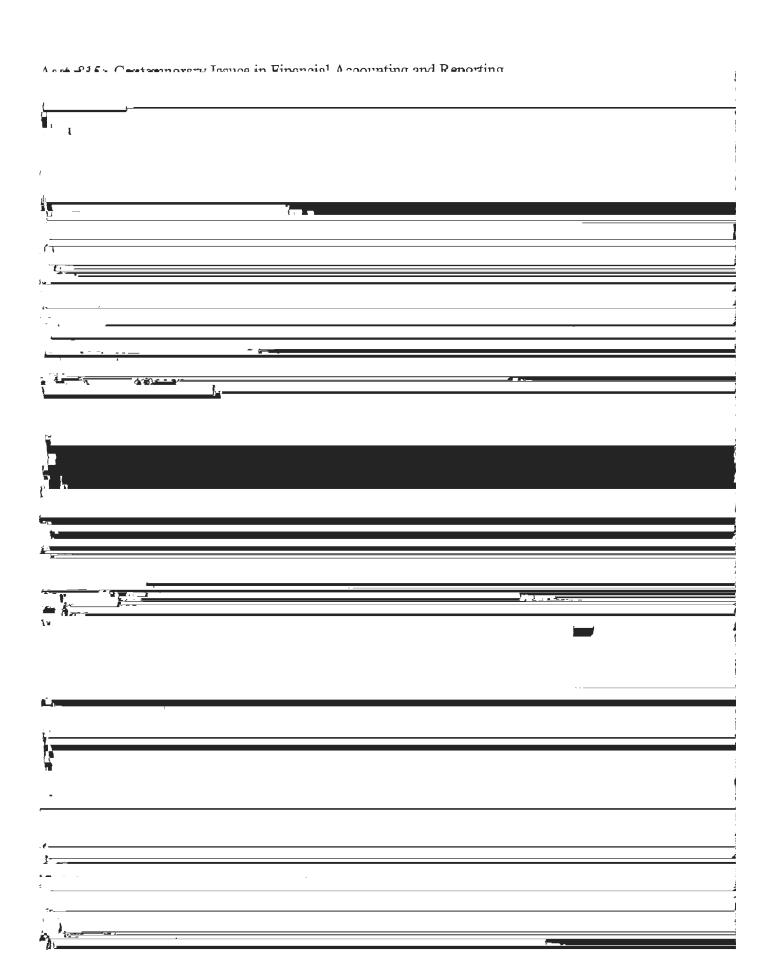
Mission of the Barton School of Business: The Barton School of Business advances the knowledge and practice of business, reaches out to constituents, and prepares students to successfully compete in the global entrepreneurial marketplace.

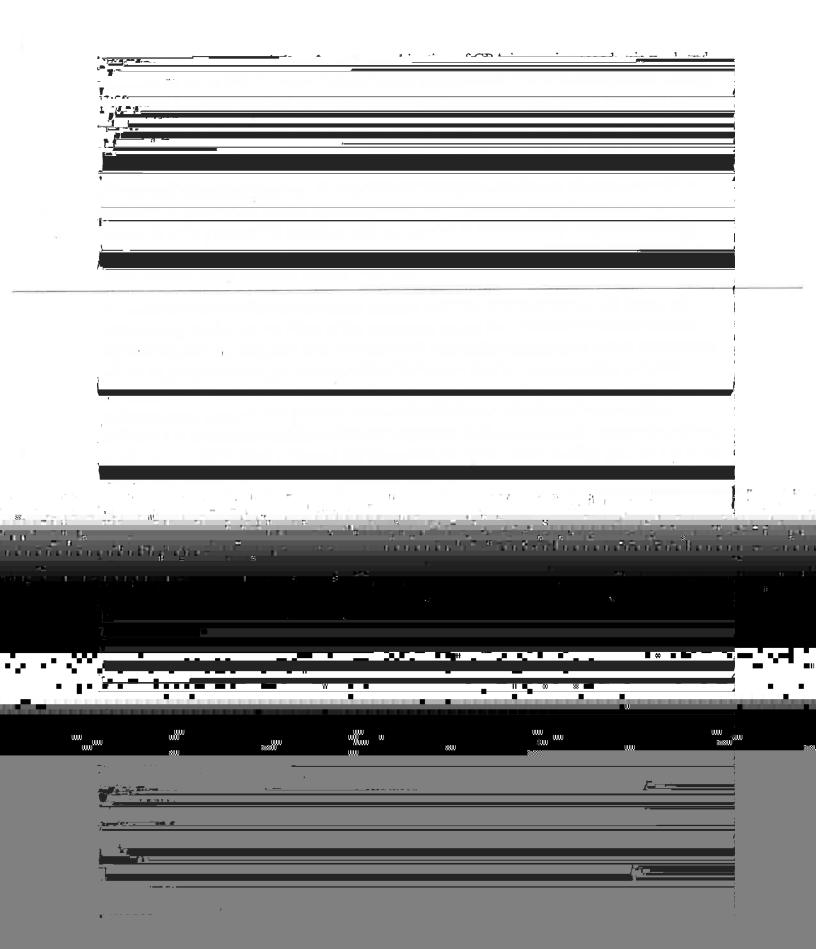
entrepreneurial metropolitan setting, the School of Accountancy advances the knowledge and practice of accounting, reaches out to constituents, and prepares students to compete in a dynamic marketplace.

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rofessional boo	oks that require significant annual revision. Of particular note, three recent
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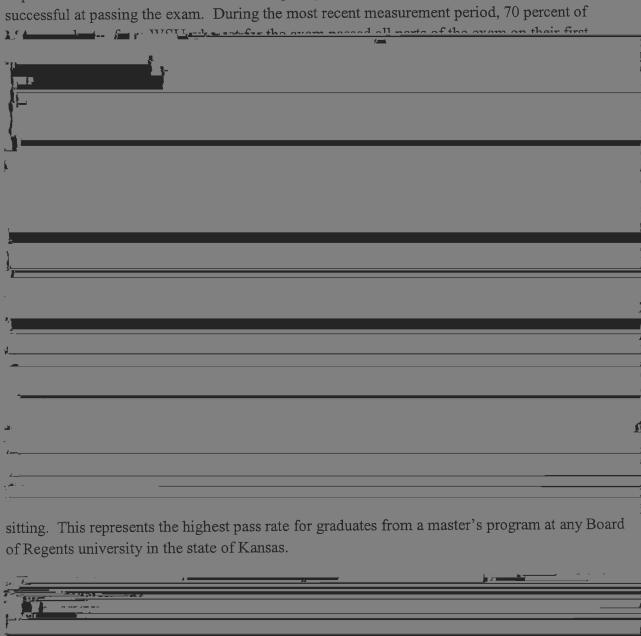




3. In terms of continuous improvement, what steps should be taken to improve student understanding as it pertains to each learning objective?
The School of Accountancy conducts annual faculty retreats at which assessment results are reviewed and input from the faculty is considered. The review is comprehensive. Learning goals and objectives are examined and changes are often proposed. Student outcomes with respect to each objective are taken into consideration. Results and proposed changes are also
Goal 1. Students shall demonstrate skills in effective communication and team work. These
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Four learning goals are presently used in the MAcc program. The goals and related assessment methods are as follows.
skills are assessed in Acct. 815, Acct. 825, Acct. 835 and Acct. 840 via group projects,



ideal to prepare students for the new CPA exam format and for careers in the challenging public accounting environment. In addition, for students who completed less than 150 hours while enrolled in an undergraduate program, the MAcc provides students the opportunity to earn the requisite number of course credit hours to qualify for taking the exam. MAcc graduates are very successful at passing the exam. During the most recent measurement period, 70 percent of





Overwhelmingly, the most common response was "very satisfactory". We believe this response accurately portrays student satisfaction with the program.

A survey was administered to local employers in 2007. Generally, employers have favorable impressions of the skills possessed by MAcc graduates. Average responses indicate that employers believe graduates are properly prepared with thirteen described skill sets. The lowest average responses from employers concerned leadership skills and research skills of graduates.



example, as summer courses), M.B.A. students have enrolled in and successfully completed them on occasion.



rates, devoting 8 percent of faculty time to 5.7 percent of SCH places the net cost / benefit of 4-1- 4-11- cmounts do not represent the primary justification for maintaining a graduate

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Mission of the School of Accountancy: Capitalizing on opportunities of our diverse

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are actively involved with textbooks and professional books that require significant annual revision. Of particular note, three recent refereed articles published by our faculty appear in "elite" journals. These journals conduct an especially rigorous review process and have very low acceptance rates. They are recognized as the most prestigious among the highest quality outlets and typically only manuscripts from scholars at PhD granting institutions are accepted for publication. An accomplishment of this magnitude for the scholarly work of our faculty from a

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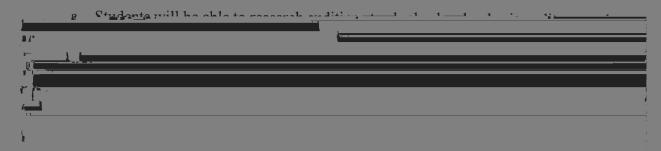
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An assessme	ent committee was	organized wit	hin the School	of Accountancy.	. All School of	
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Exam". Further learning objectives apply to the remaining accounting courses, which are predominantly taken by accounting majors. Except in the case of analytical thinking ability, the School of Accountancy has assumed responsibility for measuring compliance with these objectives, as described below. The learning goals currently utilized for the BBA in Accounting and related assessment methods are as follows:

Acquire knowledge of current accounting principles, theories, and applications.



- 4. Understand ethical decision-making. Assessed in ACCT 320 and ACCT 640 using ethics modules containing accounting-based case studies.
- Develop active collaborative skills and the ability to work as part of a team. Assessed in ACCT 620 using Barton School of Business methods.

Assessment of student learning has been a high priority for the previous three years. Nevertheless, this process is still in a state of development and fluctuation. Where obvious corrective action is appropriate, the procedure for making adjustment is set in motion as soon as possible. However, we believe it is premature to set firm targets for levels of acceptable and unacceptable performance at this juncture. Further, the faculty believes that meaningful longitudinal analysis will require more semesters of data. With these recognized limitations, results to date are promising. Adjustments have been instituted in several courses, but the School is encouraged by the level of learning exhibited by students to this point.

Numerous discussions have been held with representatives from AACSB, our accrediting organization, concerning the School's assurance of learning procedures. Because we have sported closed with AACSB to etrusture the process as they appear to be have a second to be a second to

exam. Pass rates of WSU students with the BBA degree are average among other graduates from Kansas universities.

Many local CPA firms and other employers seeking profes	ssional accountants do much of their
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enrollment in an internship is not a requirement for graduation from the program, many students take this opportunity. Local employers work closely with the School of Accountancy to recruit high quality students for intern positions.

The School of Accountancy only recently began a formal effort to monitor and track employment statistics of graduates. During the past academic year, we were able to verify that approximately 70 percent of graduates had employment upon graduation. Others were planning to pursue further education, had not secured employment, or provided no response to our inquiry.

Average Response

Quality of faculty & instruction	5.85
Faculty responsiveness	5.31
Overall program effectiveness	5.24

We believe these responses accurately portray student satisfaction with the program

A survey was administered to local employers in 2007. Generally, employers have favorable impressions of the skills possessed by School of Accountancy graduates. Average responses indicate that employers believe graduates are properly prepared with thirteen described skill sets. The lowest average responses from employers concerned leadership skills and research skills of graduates. In both cases, employers' average response was 3.7 (5 = students are very prepared; 1 = students are unprepared). We are working with the School of Accountancy Board of Advisers to brainstorm for ideas to improve students'-abilities in these areas. Overall application



Other programs. The School of Accountancy offers three courses that are part of the core business college curriculum required of all business majors. These courses are Principles of Financial Accounting (Acct. 210), Principles of Managerial Accounting (Acct. 220) and Introduction to Information Processing Systems (Acct. 260). These courses provide business students with an understanding of financial reporting and management systems that is invaluable for students regardless of their major. Upon completing this core, all students are eligible to purely in the result of the course of t

etructure also imposes accidents, ability to upper illusticate angles when they have completed several toward they classes. However, we make this option available for all interested students. Havener, we strive to other courses at times that are most convenient for working students. All accounting ourses, and available at high, at the proof during the year and many are a variable during the started of several and available at high, at the sum of the sum of the several and available at high, at the sum of the sum

responsibility to serve the university community in various ways. Our faculty has served on the Graduate Council, the university academic affairs committee, SPTE advisory committee, and the graduate student awards committee. Professors from our faculty have chaired the university tenure and promotion committee and the university faculty support committee. School of Accountancy faculty have served in many capacities and are ready and willing to continue such service in the future.

Metropolitan area and Kansas. Several faculty members regularly lend their support to organizations that are involved with the community. A high profile contribution includes membership on the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Another involves consulting with the

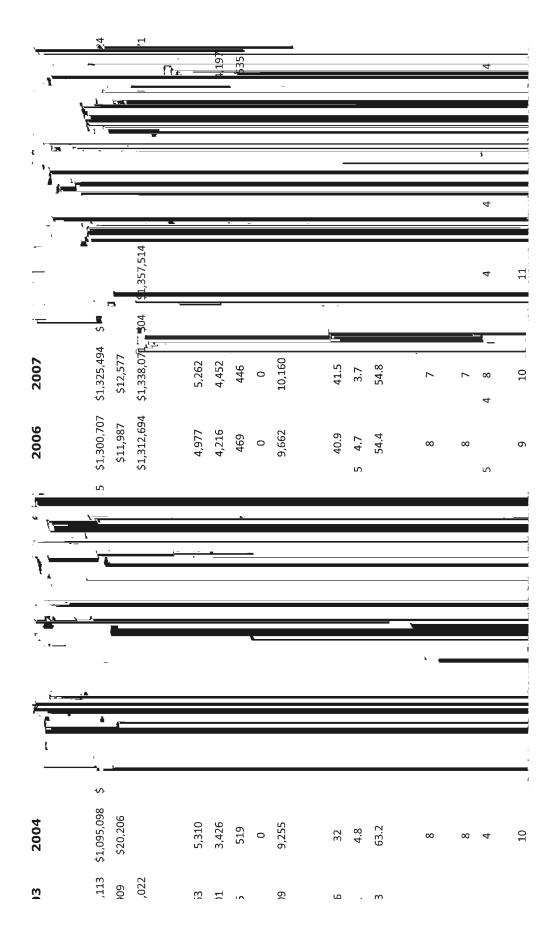
f) The program's cost effectiveness

Annually, we offer two or more sections of each of the twelve 3-credit hour courses required in the undergraduate accounting program. The majority of these sections are taught by full time faculty. However, several are taught by adjunct instructors. Given a total salaries and benefits cost of \$1,289,000 and total student credit hour production of 10,261 for the past year, the cost per student credit hour reduces to approximately \$125 per credit hour.

Ultimately, dollar amounts do not represent the primary justification for maintaining an accounting program. All reputable business colleges offer an accounting degree. Even so, most accounting programs in the U.S. are not separately accredited by AACSB in addition to the business college as a whole. Only an elite minority have this distinction. The School of Accountancy at WSU is one of the few accounting schools with such a distinction. As a result, we are able to attract better faculty and better students, along with maintaining our reputation as one of the top programs in the region.

Statistical Overview

The data below for 2002-2008 was prepared by the Office of Institutional Research at WSU



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