Huntsman School Extends Global Accreditation

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Through a peer-reviewed accountability process, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) announced that the Jon M. Huntsman School has extended its global accreditation in business and accounting. AACSB acknowledged the Huntsman School in a recent release of 40 business schools that have recently completed the accreditation process.

“AACSB congratulates each institution for their achievement,” said Stephanie M. Bryant, executive vice president and chief accreditation officer of AACSB International. “Every AACSB-accredited school has demonstrated a focus on excellence in all areas, including teaching, research, curricula development, and student learning. The intense peer-review process exemplifies their commitment to quality business education.”

For over a century, AACSB accreditation has been synonymous with the highest standards in business education, and has been earned by less than 5 percent of the world’s business schools. Achieving accreditation is a process of rigorous internal focus, engagement with an AACSB assigned mentor, and peer-reviewed evaluation. During this multi-year path, schools focus on developing and implementing a plan to align with AACSB’s accreditation standards. These standards require excellence in areas relating to strategic management and innovation; student, faculty, and staff as active participants; learning and teaching; and academic and professional engagement.

To achieve accounting accreditation, an institution must first earn AACSB Business Accreditation. Then, in addition to developing and implementing a mission-driven plan to satisfy the business accreditation quality standards, accounting accreditation requires the satisfaction of an additional set of standards specific to the discipline and profession of accounting. Once accreditation is achieved, each institution participates in a five-year continuous improvement peer-review to maintain high quality and extend its accreditation.

“This recognition from AACSB acknowledges the continued efforts of our faculty, staff, and students,” said Douglas Anderson, dean of the Huntsman School. “Accreditation is vital on our journey to become a premier business program in the intermountain west.”

Steve Magnum, dean of the Haslam College of Business at the University of Tennessee and member of the peer review team, commented to the USU Administration, “You have a real gem in the Huntsman School. As a team, we were very impressed with the school and its leadership.”