Overview

Institution Name
The University of Akron - Department of Business and Information Technology

Address
Polsky M181, Akron, OH 44325-6002

Year Accredited
1992

Year Reaffirmed
2016

Years Covered by this Report
2018 - 2018

Date Submitted
02/15/2020

Completed By
Damson, Enoch

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Email
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ACBSP Champion
Damson, Enoch

ACBSP Co-Champion

I - Institutional Information

To complete this section, first click on the Edit/Checkout button. Then copy and paste the headings into the Institutional Response box below and enter your information.

Note: When you enter information about new administrators/faculty in this system, it does not update the databases at the ACBSP office.

Please contact swilliams@acbsp.org to make updates to personnel such as Champions, Deans, etc.

O 4. List all accredited programs (as they appear in your catalog).

Note: Listing new programs here does not confer accreditation. New degree programs, majors or emphases must be in effect for at least two years and have graduates and follow the guidance in the process book before accreditation will be granted.

O 5. List all programs that are in your business unit that are not accredited by ACBSP and how you distinguish accurately to the public between programs that have achieved accredited status and those that have not.

O 6. List all campuses where a student can earn a business degree from your institution.

O 7 Person completing report:

Person completing report Name:
Phone:
E-mail address:

ACBSP Champion name:

ACBSP Co-Champion name:

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
Enoch Damson

Institution Response

O 4. List all accredited programs (as they appear in your catalog).

The following BIT department programs are currently **active and accredited by ACBSP**.

- AAB Computer Information Systems, Cisco Networking option
- AAB Computer Information Systems, Programming option
- BS Computer Information Systems, Networking option
- BS Computer Information Systems, Programming option
- BS Organizational Supervision

O 5. List all programs that are in your business unit that are not accredited by ACBSP and how you distinguish accurately to the public between programs that have achieved accredited status and those that have not.

The following BIT department programs are currently **active but not accredited by ACBSP**.

- BS Computer Information Systems, Cybersecurity option
- BS Computer Information Systems, Digital Forensics option

The following BIT department programs are **ACBSP-accredited but currently inactive** due to an unpopular campus-wide program terminations effective Fall 2018.

- AAB Business Management Technology, General Business option
- AAB Business Management Technology, Accounting option
- AAB Business Management Technology, Small Business option
- AAB Computer Information Systems, Microsoft Networking option
- AAB Computer Information Systems, Web Development option
- BS Computer Information Systems, Web Development option
- AAB Hospitality Management, Culinary Arts option
- AAB Hospitality Management, Hotel/Lodging option
- AAB Marketing & Sales Technology, Advertising & Sales option
- AAB Marketing & Sales Technology, Retail Fashion option

BIT department clearly indicates ACBSP-accredited programs to the public through its website (https://www.uakron.edu/bit). Specific information about assessments and accreditation are list on the department's accreditation website (https://www.uakron.edu/bit/accreditation).

O 6. List all campuses where a student can earn a business degree from your institution.

- Main campus
- Wayne College
- Lorain County Community College - University Partnership

O 7 Person completing report:

Person completing report Name: Enoch Damson
Phone: (330) 972-7162
E-mail address: damson@uakron.edu

ACBSP Champion name: Enoch Damson

ACBSP Co-Champion name: None

Sources

There are no sources.

II - Status Report on Conditions and Notes

O 8. Conditions or Notes to be addressed: You do not need to address Opportunity for Improvement (OFI).

Please explain and provide the necessary documentation/evidence for addressing each condition or note since your last report.

Are you requesting the Board of Commissioners to remove notes or conditions? (If the justification for removal is lengthy consider attaching an appendix to QA report).

If you need a table that is not in the evidence file for the following report on removing notes or conditions please contact the office.

Remove Note:

Remove Condition:

If you are not removing a note or condition, please list the note(s) or condition(s) below and explain the progress made in removing same.

Do Not Remove Note or Condition:

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
Enoch Damson

Institution Response

O 8. Conditions or Notes to be addressed:

Remove Note:

Remove Condition:

- Remove the Condition on Standard 4, Criterion 4.2: 2018 Standard 4 and Standard 4. Mistakes made on the previously reported measurements have been rectified. Course grades are not being used as the basis for comparative evaluation. However, scores on specific measurement instruments with rubric are used for evaluation. See the *Standard-4* evidence file attached to the Standard 4 Measurement and Analysis of Student Learning and Performance section.

Do Not Remove Note or Condition:

- Maintain the **Note** on Standard 5, Criterion 5.3: Per Figure 5.3. BIT department hoped to fill two new full-time tenure track faculty positions. Unfortunately, both ended up being failed searches. However, there are two ongoing current searches for non-tenure track faculty positions, which the department hopes to be successful to help make progress towards the ACBSP threshold for academically qualified faculty in the department.

- Maintain the **Condition** on Standard 5, Criterion 5.5. Progress being made on this condition stalled with previous college leadership. It is hoped that the issues raised by this condition be resolved with new college

leadership starting in Fall 2020. Further, there are ongoing campus-wide discussions on faculty workload policy.

Sources

There are no sources.

III - Public Information

Item III in the QA report applies to Overview Item 5g in the Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Standards and Criteria book.

Accredited business programs must routinely provide reliable information to the public on their performance, including student achievement.

1.   Provide evidence on the main business page website, or on business program websites, that demonstrate accredited programs provide information to the public on business student achievement. For example, evidence of business student achievement may include aggregate data by accredited programs regarding some of the following business student achievement measures:

·   Attrition and retention

·   Graduation

·   Licensure pass rates

·   Job placement rates (as appropriate)

·   Employment advancement (as appropriate)

·   Acceptance into graduate programs

·   Successful transfer of credit

·   Other

Note: Website links submitted to document the implementation of this requirement must be on the business landing page, clearly identified, and lead directly to information regarding business student achievement. Provide the link in Section III of the online reporting portal.

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
Enoch Damson

Institution Response

BIT department provides reliable information through its main website (https://www.uakron.edu/bit), the accreditation website (https://www.uakron.edu/bit/accreditation), and the job placement website (https://www.uakron.edu/bit/placement). The information includes the following.

- Enrollment
- Graduation (Degrees Awarded)

- Graduation Exit Surveys (indicating student satisfaction and job placement)
- Job Placement Rates and Employers
- Accreditation information

Sources

There are no sources.

1 - Standard 1 Leadership

Organization

    a. List any organizational or administrative personnel changes within the business unit since your last report.

    b. List all new sites where students can earn an accredited business degree (international campus, off-campus on-campus, online) that have been added since your last report.

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
Enoch Damson

Institution Response

a. List any organizational or administrative personnel changes within the business unit since your last report.

There has been some new organizational and administrative personnel changes since the last QA report. They include the following:

- The department currently has two discipline areas (**Business Management Technology** and **Computer Information Systems** program areas) instead of the previous four. Programs in the other two inactive program areas were terminated by the university upper administration effective Fall 2018.
- Due to the program terminations by upper administration, there are no program directors in the two inactive program areas (*Hospitality Management* and *Marketing & Sales Technology* discipline areas).
- The currently reduced leadership in BIT department include the following:
  - Department Chair - change from Enoch Damson to **Mr. Stanley Smith** (acting for Spring 2020 semester)
  - Administrative Assistant (Christen Rinehart) - no change
  - AAB/BS CIS - Networking Program Director (Mrs. Janet Kropff) - no change
  - AAB/BS CIS - Programming Co-Program Directors (Dr. Zarreen Farooqi and Enoch Damson) - no change
  - BS Organizational Supervision Program Director (Enoch Damson) - no change

Since the last QA report, there has also been new administrative personnel changes at both college and university-wide levels. They include the following:

- The University of Akron President changed from Mr. Matthew Wilson, JD to Dr. John Green and subsequently to **Dr. Gary L. Miller** (since October 2019).
- The University of Akron Provost has changed from Dr. Rex Ramsier to Dr. Chand Midha and subsequently to **Dr. Joseph Urgo** (interim since Fall 2019). Search for a new Provost is underway.
- The Dean of the College of Applied Science and Technology has changed from Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy to **Dr. Michael Johanyak** (acting for the Spring 2020 semester). Search for a new Dean of the college is underway.

b. List all new sites where students can earn an accredited business degree (international campus, off-campus on-campus, online) that have been added since your last report.

No new sites where students can earn an accredited business degree from BIT department have been added since the last report.

Sources

There are no sources.

2 - Standard 2 Strategic Planning

This is an example of tables that you might use below in your institutional response.

Identify any major changes to the key strategic goals/objectives during this QA reporting period:

Key Strategic Goals/Objectives	Any Major Changes

2. Report the top 3-5 short/long term strategic goals/objectives, summarize the key measures used and progress toward achieving each objective during the current QA reporting period.

Strategic Objectives	Key Measures	Progress Toward Achievement

3. If there have been any significant changes to your strategic planning process (for example, new stakeholders, new process steps, etc.) during the QA reporting period, please report them in a table similar to this.

Strategic Planning Process Changes Summary

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
Enoch Damson

Institution Response

See the *Standard-2* file for the *Standard 2 Strategic Planning* table of information.

Sources

- Standard-2

3 - Standard 3 Student and Stakeholder Focus

Complete the Standard 3 - Student- and Stakeholder-Focus Results table, found under the Evidence File tab (Excel file is located in the ACBSP documents folder) above.

Provide three or four examples, reporting what you consider to be the most important data. It is not necessary to provide results for every process.

Student- and stakeholder-focused results examine how well your organization satisfies students and stakeholders key needs and expectations.

Performance measures may include: satisfaction and dissatisfaction of current and past students and key stakeholders, perceived value, loyalty, persistence, or other aspects of relationship building, end of course surveys, alumni surveys, Internship feedback, etc.

Measurement instrument or processes may include end of course surveys, alumni surveys, Internship feedback, etc.

Each academic unit must demonstrate linkages to business practitioners and organizations, which are current and significant, including an advisory board.

Periodic surveys should be made of graduates, transfer institutions, and/or employers of graduates to obtain data on the success of business programs in preparing students to compete successfully for entry-level positions.

Performance Measure: What is your goal? The goal should be measurable.	What is your measurement instrument or process? (indicate length of cycle)	Current Results: What are your current results?	Analysis of Results: What did you learn from your results?	Action Taken or Improvement made: What did you improve or what is your next step?	Provide a graph or table of resulting trends (3-5 data points preferred)
(Example) Alumni Satisfaction for business programs will be at or above 80%	Annual alumni survey	Three years of positive trend data exceeding goal	Overall satisfaction exceeded the goal, but students requested additional internships & job placement assistance.	Increased the opportunities for internships and assistance with job placement.	Alumni Satisfaction: 2009 - 2013

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
Enoch Damson

Institution Response

See the *Standard-3* file for the *Student and Stakeholder Focus* information. BIT department degree completion surveys of past students are conducted each semester to gauge student satisfaction on advising, instructional resources, and other factors including student full-time employment in the northeast Ohio (Akron/Canton/Cleveland/Youngstown) region. The results of these surveys are captured in the Standard-3 evidence file attached.

Sources

- Standard-3

4 - Standard 4 Measurement and Analysis of Student Learning and Performance

a. **Program Outcomes.**

List outcomes by accredited programs. Many of the program outcomes should be used as part of a student learning assessment plan and be measurable.

State the learning objectives for each program (MBA, Ph.D., BBA, AA, etc.) accredited. A program is defined as follows: a plan of study is considered a program when it requires a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework beyond the CPC and/or is recorded on a student's transcript (ex. Business Administration: major/concentration/option/specialization in Accounting, Finance, Marketing, etc.)

b. **Performance Results.**

Complete Table Standard 4 - Student Learning Results found under the Evidence File tab above. One example from each accredited program must be provided. If only one or two programs are accredited, provide three examples, reporting what you consider to be the most important data. It is not necessary to provide results for every process.

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
Enoch Damson

Institution Response

a. Program Outcomes.

Below are the program learning outcomes for each ACBSP-accredited program in BIT department.

Program Learning Outcomes for Bachelor of Organizational Supervision

1. Develop supervisory skills to become an effective leader.
2. Understand organizations, their processes, and their interactions.
3. Apply information technology and other analytical skills to analyze and solve business problems.
4. Implement legal and ethical decision-making practices to support the organization and its stakeholders.
5. Develop skills to better lead and engage employees within culturally diverse environments.
6. Demonstrate knowledge and skills for effective strategic decision making within an organization by completing a capstone course.

Program Learning Outcomes for AAB/BS Computer Information Systems - Networking

1. Apply logical thinking and problem solving skills to effectively solve business problems using information technology.
2. Understand the basic terms, models and protocols applicable to any network.
3. Understand, implement and secure networking devices in a small to medium-sized network topology.
4. Demonstrate interpersonal skills by working as an effective team member to solve business problems.

5. Implement legal and ethical decision-making practices in information technology.
6. Demonstrate comprehensive skill proficiency by researching, documenting and implementing current and advanced topics on networking.

Program Learning Outcomes for AAB/BS Computer Information Systems - Programming

1. Apply logical thinking and problem solving skills to effectively solve business problems using information technology.
2. Write, test and maintain computer programs using at least two programming languages.
3. Effectively utilize database and database management systems to organize, store and retrieve data for use by application software and websites.
4. Analyze information technology needs to design, develop, test and maintain computer application software or systems.
5. Demonstrate interpersonal skills by working as an effective team member to solve business problems.

b. Performance Results.

Program learning outcomes are measured annually. See the attached *Standard-4* file for the measurement and analysis of program outcomes and performance results for the following ACBSP-accredited degrees.

- Bachelor of Organizational Supervision
- BS Computer Information Systems, Networking option
- BS Computer Information Systems, Programming option

Sources

- Standard-4

5 - Standard 5 Faculty and Staff Focus

a. **Faculty and Staff Focus**

Complete Table 5.1 Standard 5 - **Faculty- and Staff-Focused Results** found under the Evidence File above

b. **Faculty Qualifications**

Complete Table 5.2 Standard 5 - **New Full-Time and Part-Time Faculty Qualifications** and Table 5.3 Standard 5, Criterion 5.8 - **Scholarly and Professional Activities**, found under the Evidence File tab above, for **new** full-time and part-time faculty members hired since last self-study or QA report. Do not include faculty members previously reported.

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
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Institution Response

a. Faculty and Staff Focus

See Table 5.1 in the *Standard-5* file for the faculty- and staff-focused evaluations. The indicators involve students evaluation of faculty and graduation students satisfaction on instruction of business core and major courses from BIT department.

b. Faculty Qualifications

There are no new full-time and part-time faculty to report since the last QA report. All current faculty are previously reported. Unfortunately, the department has experienced two failed searches for two full-time tenure track faculty positions. Two current searches are ongoing for non-tenure faculty positions.

Sources

- Standard-5

6 - Standard 6 Educational and Business Process Management

a. Curriculum
List any existing accredited degree programs/curricula that have been substantially revised since your last report and, for each program, attach a Table - Standard 6, Criterion 6.1.3 - Undergraduate CPC Coverage, found under the Evidence File tab above.

List any new degree programs that have been developed and, for each new program since your last report, attach a Table - Standard 6, Criterion 6.1.3 - Undergraduate CPC Coverage found under the Evidence File tab above.

If a program has met the requirements of having graduates and being in existence for at least two years, please contact ACBSP accreditation staff and request that the "Adding New Programs to ACBSP Accreditation" Project be added for your business programs.

Note: If you have a new degree at a level currently accredited by ACBSP, then report information on: student enrollment, program objectives, instructional resources, facilities and equipment, admissions requirements, graduation statistics, core professional components (CPCs), and the outcomes assessment process to ACBSP. If the new degree is at a higher level than what is currently accredited, the school must complete a self-study to add the degree.

If the new degree is at a higher level then what is currently accredited, the school must complete a self-study to add the degree. New degree programs, majors or emphases must be in effect for at least two years and have graduates before accreditation will be granted.

If the new program is determined to be substantially different from other programs offered by the institution, ACBSP, at its discretion, may direct a new visit to be conducted. If, as a result of a new program visit, ACBSP determines that the overall quality of an institution is being diminished, the institution may be scheduled for a complete reevaluation.

b. List any accredited programs that have been terminated since your last report.

c. Provide three or four examples of organizational performance results. Report what you consider to be the most important data, using Table 6.1 Standard 6 - Organizational Performance Results, found under the Evidence File tab above. It is not necessary to provide results for every process.

QA Report

Status: Ready For Review | **Due Date:** 2/15/2020

Assigned To
Enoch Damson

Institution Response

a. Curriculum
There has been no substantial revisions to the existing accredited degree programs/curricula since the last QA report. However, minimal updates are in the process of being made to the existing accredited degree programs. See *Table - Standard 6* attached.

- **Bachelor of Organizational Supervision**
- **BS CIS - Computer Networking** option (degree title change from BS CIS - Networking option)
- **BS CIS - Software Development** option (degree title change from BS CIS - Programming option)

No new degree programs have been developed since the last QA report.

b. List any accredited programs that have been terminated since your last report.

The following accredited program options have been terminated since the last QA report.

- **AAB Business Management Technology, General Business option**
- **AAB Business Management Technology, Accounting option**
- **AAB Business Management Technology, Small Business option**
- **AAB Computer Information Systems, Microsoft Networking track**
- **AAB Computer Information Systems, Web Development option**
- **AAB Hospitality Management, Culinary option**
- **AAB Hospitality Management, Hotel/Lodging option**
- **AAB Marketing & Sales Technology, Advertising & Sales option**
- **AAB Marketing & Sales Technology, Retail Fashion option**

c. Provide three or four examples of organizational performance results.

See *Table - Standard 6* attached for BIT department's organizational results on the expenditure, student enrollment, degrees awarded, and job placement.

Sources

- Standard-6