



# Organization Management Journal: Special Issue

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**Association for the Advancement of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)**

## **International Accreditation Current Issues**

This special issue of *Organization Management Journal* will focus on current issues in Association for the Advancement of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International accreditation. The AACSB Accreditation Standards challenge post-secondary educators to pursue excellence and continuous improvement throughout their business programs. AACSB International Accreditation is known, worldwide, as the longest standing, most recognized form of specialized/professional accreditation an educational institution and its business programs can earn.

This special issue represents an opportunity for affirmative dialog about the role of accreditation in management education and in the development of a new generation of leaders capable of managing the complex challenges faced by business schools and their stakeholders in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The issue's focus is especially salient given the ongoing debates about the influence and relevance of business education in delivering a quality education to prepare students for productive jobs and careers. We believe it is important for the community of faculty and administrators to (1) understand the 2013 AACSB International standards and their relationship to quality business education programs; (2) share knowledge about curriculum, policies, practices, and experiences employed in acquiring or maintaining AACSB International accreditation; (3) share best practices and experiences that have resulted in successful accreditation journeys; and (4) critically appraise the opportunities and challenges associated with AACSB International accreditation.

Integrating AACSB into the administration of business and management curriculum requires distributing emerging knowledge and best practices which in turn can promote collective inquiry and reflection into associated philosophical, conceptual, empirical and pragmatic issues. Key topics may include but are not limited to:

- **2013 AACSB International Business Standards including Business Standards 2018 Update**
- **Assurance of Learning (AoL)**
- **Enhancing and Measuring Impact - AACSB Accreditation Standards**
- **The Future of Accreditation and Management Education**

These key issues might be addressed at the following levels of analysis:

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- *Course Level.* What are course designs that successfully integrate AACSB standards? Which experiential exercises promote student learning with respect to the AACSB standards? What professional development activities support instructional capacity to deliver AACSB standards to students?
  - *Institution Level.* What curriculum configurations support AACSB standards? What political and/or intellectual challenges were faced in advocating for AACSB standards adoption and how were these overcome? Is there a distinction among AACSB standards that can or should be taught at the undergraduate, master's, and continuing executive education levels? What challenges and contradictions exist when answering to the requirements of multiple accreditors and how have these been addressed and overcome?
  - *Discipline Level.* Are there teaching, learning, and assessment strategies better suited for various content areas? How does AACSB accreditation provide options to integrate intellectual content within and across disciplines? How do changes in cultural or nation state environments influence AACSB accreditation? What current educational assumptions or practices does AACSB accreditation force educators to question and challenge?

Conceptual, empirical, and practice-focused papers are welcome. Authors are encouraged to contact the guest co-editors regarding paper development sessions at various 2019 professional conferences.

The deadline for submissions of submissions is April 1, 2020. Information on submissions formatting and submission can be found at <https://www.emeraldgroupublishing.com/services/publishing/omj/authors.htm> Submissions should be original, not published in any other source, and no more than 25 pages long, including references, figures, tables, appendices, etc. Submit electronic submissions, Word or RTF files only, to <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/omj>. Under submission type, select Special Issue: AACSB. Prospective authors as well as potential reviewers are encouraged to contact one of the guest co-editors.

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