



Date: February 21, 2020

To: John Stalvey, Interim Provost

From: Karen Markel, Dean, College of Business and Public Policy (CBPP)

Cc: Dr. Gokhan Karahan, Chair, Accounting & Finance Department
Dr. E. Lance Howe, Chair, Economics Department
Dr. Bogdan Hoanca, Chair, Information Systems & Decision Sciences Department
Dr. Helena Wisniewski, Chair, Management & Marketing Department
Dr. Nalinaksha Bhattacharyya, Professor of Finance, UAA
Dr. Kori Callison, Associate Professor of Management, UAA
Dr. Yong Cao Professor, UAA
Dr. Ajit Dayanandan, Professor of Finance, UAA
Dr. Ed Forrest Professor, UAA
Dr. Bogdan Hoanca, Chair, Information Systems & Decision Sciences Department, UAA
Dr. Lance Howe, Assoc. Prof. & Committee Chair, UAA
Dr. Alex James, Associate Professor, UAA
Dr. Paul Johnson, Professor, UAA
Dr. Sumeet Jhamb, Assistant Professor of Management, UAA
Dr. Gökhan Karahan, Chair and Professor of Accounting and Finance, UAA
Dr. DJ Kilpatrick, Associate Professor of Accounting, UAA
Dr. James Murphy, Professor, UAA
Dr. John Nofsinger, Professor of Finance, UAA
Soren Orley, Associate Professor of Accounting, UAA
Dr. Darren Prokop, Professor of Logistics, UAA
Dr. Teresa Stephenson, Professor of Accounting, UAA

Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review Findings

Program/s in this review:

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree with major in Accounting, Economics, Finance, Logistics, Management Information Systems, Management (Management with Property Management and Real Estate Concentration), or Marketing

Specialized accrediting agency (if applicable):

Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)

Campuses where the program is delivered:

University of Alaska Anchorage

Members of the program review committees:

- Dr. Nalinaksha Bhattacharyya, Professor of Finance, UAA
- Dr. Kori Callison, Associate Professor of Management, UAA
- Dr. Yong Cao Professor, UAA
- Dr. Ajit Dayanandan, Professor of Finance, UAA
- Dr. Ed Forrest Professor, UAA
- Dr. Bogdan Hoanca, Chair, Information Systems & Decision Sciences Department, UAA
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1. Centrality of Program Mission and Supporting Role

The BBA degree program with majors in Accounting, Economics, Finance, Logistics, Management Information Systems, Management (Management with Property Management and Real Estate Concentration), and Marketing is core to the CBPP to deliver an accredited undergraduate degree program in business. The CBPP serves the local Anchorage business community by meeting workforce demands and providing opportunities for high impact practices (i.e., community engagement) in and outside the classroom. This program is central to the CBPP business majors as it delivers the most courses for undergraduate students for the College. The BBA degree program also holds specialized accreditation through AACSB.

2. Program Demand (including service to other programs), Efficiency, and Productivity

The BBA core curriculum requires courses in all the functional areas of business, including addressing soft communication skills necessary in business fields. The BBA program efficiency could be improved through standardizing course caps as well as coordinating course schedules in the majors and as a whole in the CBPP. Program efficiency has been improved during the 2019-2020 AY with a more streamlined course schedule to maximize enrollment and better utilize full-time resources. The College holds strong with a fairly high student to faculty ratio. This could continue to be improved through ongoing course schedule coordination.

3. Program Quality, Improvement and Student Success

BBA degree program students often obtain professional employment that utilizes their undergraduate BBA degrees in the major fields or go onto graduate school for continuing education. The CBPP continues to hold a relative share of overall enrollment relative to the total number of UAA students overall. While enrollment has declined in the past few years, there is a consistent trend in the proportion of students who are enrolled in BBA programs.

4. Program Duplication / Distinctiveness

There is only one concentration through the BBA degree program in Property Management and Real Estate. This concentration is externally funded and is designed so that it can be easily completed and students to major in management. The BBA programs in Economics, Management Information Systems, Logistics, Finance and Marketing are the only bachelor programs of that type currently offered in the UA system.

5. Commendations and Recommendations

The recommendation for the BBA degree program is for each major to review current and consider future modes of delivery (i.e., face-to-face, online, hybrid). It is also recommended that a coordinated schedule be developed and implemented to provide a more efficient pathway for student success. Additionally, each major program should review current major courses to determine the currency with industry best practices.

6. Decisions

BBA in Accounting – **Enhancement:** Program should be enhanced with additional resources. Areas for enhancement include online program delivery and specialized accreditation to overall faculty quality/sufficiency. There is unmet demand for students with this major pursuing careers in public accounting in Alaska which forces these firms to recruit out of state workers. This area has had several faculty leave during the past few years which will limit its ability to meet AACSB sufficiency standards and opportunities for growth. Public accounting employers in the region also show continued support for program expansion through continued funding and program engagement.

BBA Economics – **Continuation:** Program is successfully serving its students and meeting its mission and goals. No immediate changes necessary, other than regular, ongoing program improvements. The program runs efficiently and faculty provide opportunities for student research and pathways to graduate education.

BBA Finance – **Continuation:** Program is successfully serving its students and meeting its mission and goals. No immediate changes necessary, other than regular, ongoing program improvements. The program runs efficiently and students in this major are increasing in demand as Alaska strives to bring more financial expertise into state operations and investment management.

BBA Logistics – **Continued Review:** Program is required to address specific issue with regards to faculty resources and program sustainability, and to undergo another review within the next two academic years. With Anchorage being the main logistics hub for the state and gateway for U.S. and Asia trade this should be a program in high demand. However, this program has a relatively small number of majors that may not warrant its continuation in the future.

BBA in Management Information System (MIS) – **Suspension:** While decisions relative to the program are made, admissions to the program are suspended. The reason for suspension recommendation is due to insufficient faculty resources, enrollment, as well as meeting specialized accreditation criteria faculty qualifications. Although this is the only program of its kind in the state, there are insufficient resources to continue to serve both the BBA MIS core courses required for all BBA majors and the BBA MIS major as currently designed. As noted by the program review, students often get hired before program completion

which may be an indication that this degree may not be necessary for career success in the field. Students interested in this field can also have the option to complete the AAS BCIS and obtain another BBA degree option. The current structure of the program forces course offerings with very few students and this cannot be supported given current staffing and resources available in the college. Because this is an area of high workforce demand in the state, the program may want to consider offering a concentration as part of a General Management degree for BBA students. This could provide students the area of emphasis without straining College resources.

BBA in Management – **Continuation:** Program is successfully serving its students and meeting its mission and goals. No immediate changes necessary, other than regular, ongoing program improvements. The concentration on Property Management and Real Estate is a thriving, unique offering supported through base and ongoing external philanthropy.

BBA in Marketing – **Continuation:** Program is successfully serving its students and meeting its mission and goals. No immediate changes necessary, other than regular, ongoing program improvements.