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UD School of Business Administration Awarded Prestigious AACSB Accreditation

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DAYTON, Ohio, April 12, 1988--The University of Dayton's School of Business Administration has received accreditation for its graduate program and re-accreditation of its undergraduate program from the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

Only two other private universities in the state, Case Western Reserve University and John Carroll University, are accredited by AACSB. AACSB is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the sole accrediting agency for baccalaureate and master degree programs in business administration and accounting.

Sam Gould, dean of the School of Business Administration, called the accreditation "a milestone in UD's efforts to position itself as one of the premiere private business schools in the Midwest."

The AACSB unanimously approved UD's accreditation during its annual meeting in Dallas. According to AACSB officials, of the approximately 1,200 universities nationwide that offer undergraduate business degrees, fewer than 265 have been awarded accreditation. Of the 650 offering Master's in Business Administration (MBA) degrees, approximately 240 have met the accreditation standards.

It's an important recognition, according to Gould, because employers and graduate schools often consider accreditation in their selection process.

"Accreditation also signifies that the school, long recognized for outstanding teaching and successful graduates, has achieved recognition for its
faculty's accomplishment in scholarship," Gould said.

UD's recent five-year $43 million capital campaign has been instrumental in helping the School of Business Administration establish a faculty scholar program, endow a chair in retailing and a professorship in management information systems, develop a Center for Business and Economic Research, and, just this month, open a state-of-the-art Information Systems Research Laboratory in the new William S. Anderson Center.

The AACSB accreditation team, which visited UD in February, judges whether a business school seeking accreditation meets a set of academic standards, which include:

-- a distinguished faculty with a major portion holding Ph.D. degrees (Since 1985, the number of full-time faculty has increased from 45 to 58; the number of faculty holding Ph.D. degrees has increased from 44 percent to 84 percent.);

-- a high-quality student body measured by academic records and standardized test results;

-- a comprehensive curriculum (At the MBA level, UD has added three survey courses for students entering the program without a business undergraduate degree, increased the number of required hours in the core program from 30 to 36 and added three new course requirements: Operation Management, Management Information Systems and Organizational Behavior.);

-- a strong record of faculty research (UD created a Distinguished Professor of Management Information Systems position and has an endowed Arthur Beerman chair in retailing to provide leadership in business research. A generous gift in 1986 from the Hobart Corp. permits a faculty member each year to devote the majority of his or her time to research projects. The Ernst and Whinney Faculty Scholar Program, established just last November, provides support for research in the field of accounting. A faculty research grant program has been established to support additional research.); and

-- adequate support resources, including library holdings, computers and financing. (Computing has been fully integrated into the graduate and undergraduate curriculum. An NCR Tower computer laboratory and two microcomputers have been established for student use.)

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AACSB, which accredited UD's undergraduate program in 1983, is a not-for-profit corporation of educational institutions, corporations and other organizations devoted to the promotion and improvement of higher education in business administration and management.

Approximately 1,500 undergraduate and 700 graduate students are enrolled in UD's School of Business Administration, which offers undergraduate degrees in accounting, management information systems, economics, finance, management and marketing as well as the MBA degree on the graduate level. UD is Ohio's largest private university and the nation's ninth largest Catholic institution of higher learning.

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