

Final Assessment Report

Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) Review
Commerce Undergraduate Programs

Date of Review: April 5 - 6, 2012

Review Team Members: Dr. David Dimick, York University
Dr. Joanne Leck, University of Ottawa
Dr. Alex Sevigny, McMaster University

Summary:

The Review Team identified numerous strengths and positive elements of the program, including the continued interest from prospective students applying to the program, which usually exceeds recruitment targets, the preparedness of graduates to enter the workforce and the highly motivated and energetic faculty and staff. The Reviewers noted that when these attributes are combined with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation and renewal, it is clear that the existing program is of sound quality.

The Review Team noted that the program does, however, face some challenges, including the pace of changes to the program over time, and opportunity costs attached to continuing with the current curricular design. The Review Team provided a number of suggestions for actions that could be taken to enhance the program and the student experience.

Although the School agreed with the reviewers' recommendations, the Acting Dean noted that most of the recommendations will require significant data gathering and benchmarking against other universities before moving to implementation. He also noted that The DeGroot School of Business is introducing a new administrative structure beginning July 1, 2012 and the incoming dean will assume the responsibility for implementing major long-term changes to the program.

The Quality Assurance Committee completed its review of the IQAP Reviewers Report, the Chair's response and the Dean's response for the Bachelor of Commerce programs at the DeGroot School of Business. The responses of the Program Director and Acting Dean are in agreement with the reviewer's comments and all parties recognize the need for substantial change to both the organization and curriculum of the Bachelor of Commerce programs. Given these substantial changes to the administrative unit, there are many opportunities for the review, discussion, and implementation of the recommendations made by the review team. In light of the magnitude of the potential changes to the B. Commerce programs the Quality Assurance Council recommends that an additional IQAP review of this program is conducted within four years.

Recommendation	Implementation Plan
Possible move to a single degree	Move to one degree with categories based on CA.

	This work can begin now for implementation in the 2013/14 academic year
Developing joint majors with other Faculties	Concentrate efforts on establishing one or two new partnerships for double-majors within the next 18 months
Use of course evaluation data for diagnostic purposes	Starting next year, we will use course evaluations for program-wide diagnostic purposes
Revision of the 1PAO course	IPAO course will be reviewed. It is a good candidate for going fully on-line