

Accreditation

Welcome to the accreditation site. This site has been created to keep you updated with the progress of the Business School's bid for **AACSB accreditation**. You'll find information about where we are in the process, as well as details of how accreditation may impact on you.

What is AACSB?

AACSB stands for the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business – a membership organisation for Business Schools across the globe. AACSB provides internationally recognised, specialised accreditation for business and accounting programs at undergraduate, master's, and doctoral level. The AACSB Accreditation Standards challenge post-secondary educators to pursue excellence and continuous improvement throughout their business programmes. AACSB Accreditation is known, worldwide, as the longest standing, most recognised form of specialised/professional accreditation an institution and its business programmes can earn (source: AACSB website 2012).

The Accreditation Team

The AACSB accreditation bid is being headed by John Ensor, Head of the School of Marketing, Tourism and Languages. He is being supported by Stewart Falconer (Head of the School of Accounting, Financial Services and Law), Grant MacKerron (Head of the School of Management), and Anne Munro (Director of Research).

Our AACSB accreditation project is managed by the Business School Accreditation Project Officer, Sara Brown (s.brown2@napier.ac.uk).

Our Progress

AACSB accreditation begins with the submission and approval of an Eligibility Application. The Business School **Eligibility Application** was accepted by the AACSB Initial Accreditation Committee on 25 October 2013.

Our AACSB assigned Mentor is Linda Garceau, Dean (Emerita) of the **East Tennessee State University College of Business and Technology**. Linda is an experienced AACSB Mentor and Mentored Newcastle University on their successful AACSB accreditation, and was a reviewer for Northumbria University, Newcastle School of Business, when they achieved AACSB accreditation in 2014. Linda's first visit took place in June 2014 and we look forward to working with her over the coming months to get started on our AACSB **Standards Alignment Plan**.

For full details of the process, see the Process pages of the AACSB website: <http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/process.asp>

Updates

Mentor Visit

Our AACSB Mentor, Dean (Emerita) Linda Garceau of the East Tennessee State University College of Business and Technology, was here in June for her first visit to meet with staff and the Accreditation Team.

A number of staff were invited to meet Linda, and attended group discussions about various topics: Linda commented on how organised and well-informed our staff were, and noted that all parties were supportive of the pursuit of AACSB accreditation. She also emphasised that we are in a good position to go forward with our application, thanks to the groundwork that has already taken place in the Faculty. This is the situation we hoped we would be in after her visit and it is down to the support and engagement of our staff that we are set off on such a positive footing. Thank you to everyone who took part in the visit, for your time and contributions – as the process moves forward, it is intended that more and more staff will have the opportunity to get involved.

Next Steps

The AACSB Accreditation Team is currently working on our AACSB **Standards Alignment Plan**, a strategic management plan for the Business School showing how we will close existing gaps to meet AACSB Standards requirements.