

May 20, 2016

John A. Elliott PhD Dean University of Connecticut School of Business 2100 Hillside Road, U-1041 Storrs CT 06269-1041 United States

Via email: John.Elliott@business.uconn.edu

#### Dear Dean Elliott:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the peer review team recommendation to extend accreditation for the undergraduate, master's, and doctorate degree programs in business offered by the University of Connecticut is concurred with by the Continuous Improvement Review Committee and ratified by the Board of Directors. Congratulations to you, the faculty, the students, the staff, and all supporters of the School of Business.

One purpose of peer review is to stimulate further continuous improvement of quality programs. As noted in the team report, University of Connecticut is to be commended on the following strengths, innovations, unique features and effective practices:

 The current dean is highly respected and effective. The leadership of the school is more stable than it has been in many years. Despite declining state support the School has increased its financial resources by developing innovative fee-based programs. The School has greatly improved its policies for faculty management (e.g., promotion and tenure; faculty teaching loads). Faculty, including junior faculty, understand promotion and tenure expectations and indicate they find them appropriate and fair.

Additionally, in the interest of continuous improvement, the school should begin to address the following items and be prepared to update the Committee on progress made in the Continuous Improvement Review Application that is discussed below:

- 1. The University of Connecticut recently adopted a strategic plan and as part of this effort, the School of Business finalized its strategic plan. The School of Business should finalize performance metrics for its strategic plan and periodically assess its progress. [Standard 1: Mission, Impact, and Innovation, and Standard 3: Financial Strategies and Allocation of Resources]
- 2. The School must further improve its assurance of learning procedures. For example, we encourage the school to revisit its use of student surveys in its assessment and incorporate pre- and post-self-assessment questions that focus on specific learning goals. The School should also ensure that its assessment process captures a representative number of students and investigate ways to centralize the assessment process (e.g., under the supervision of an assessment coordinator for the School). [Standard 8: Curricula Management and Assurance of Learning]

AACSB World Headquarters 777 South Harbour Island Boulevard Suite 750 Tampa, Florida 33602 USA +1 813 769 6500 Asia Pacific Headquarters 331 North Bridge Road #10-04/05 Odeon Towers Singapore, 188720 +65 6592 5210 aacsb.edu Europe, Middle East, and Africa Headquarters UP Building Piet Heinkade 55 1019 GM Amsterdam, the Netherlands +31 20 509 1070 The University of Connecticut has achieved accreditation for five additional years. The next on-site continuous improvement review occurs in the fifth year, 2020-2021. A timeline specific to the school's visit year is attached.

Please note that the Continuous Improvement Review Application is due on July 1<sup>st</sup>, two years prior to the review year. This application initiates the continuous improvement review process. In this application, please provide an update on progress in addressing the concerns stated above in addition to other relevant information for initiation of the next continuous improvement review.

Please refer to the <u>Continuous Improvement Review Handbook</u> for more information regarding the processes for continuous improvement reviews. The handbook is evolving and will be updated frequently to provide the latest revisions to the CIR process. Continue to monitor the website for the most current version of the handbook.

Again, congratulations from the Accreditation Council and AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Thank you for participating in the continuous improvement review process and for providing valuable feedback that is essential to a meaningful and beneficial review.

Sincerely,

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William H. Glick, Chair Board of Directors

cc: Peer Review Team Robert T. Sumichrast, Chair Benjamin C. Ayers, Team Member

### SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION Continuous Improvement Review April, 2016

Name of Institution: University of Connecticut

### Name of Business Academic Unit: School of Business

#### List of Degree Programs Reviewed:

Undergraduate:

- Bachelor of Science (BS)
- BS, Management and Engineering for Manufacturing (joint with School of Engineering)

Masters:

- Master of Business Administration (MBA) Full-time
- MBA Part-time (Hartford, Waterbury, Stamford)
- Master of Science (MS) in Business Analytics and Project Management
- Master of Science (MS) in Accounting (on-line)
- Master of Science (MS) in Financial Risk Management (Hartford, Stamford)
- Executive MBA

Doctoral:

• Ph.D. in Business

# **CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT REVIEW TIMELINE**

## 2020-2021 Visit Year

The Continuous Improvement Review Process is displayed below as a timeline. This five-year review cycle remains constant throughout the cycle of consecutive review for a school, irrespective of whether a continuous improvement review 2 is required. Therefore, Year 1 represents the academic year immediately following an on-site review, regardless of whether or not an accreditation decision has been made. The next visit will occur in Year 5. The Continuous Improvement Review Committee is responsible for oversight of the Continuous Improvement Review process for review.

Year 1 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)	Year 2 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)	Year 3 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)	Year 4 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)	Year 5 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)
Review and Refine Strategic Management Plan	<ul> <li>Review and Refine Strategic Management Plan</li> </ul>	Review and Refine Strategic Management Plan	Review and Refine Strategic Management Plan	Review and Refine Strategic Management Plan
Complete Key Data and Accreditation Data Sections of the <i>Business School</i> <i>Questionnaire</i> for prior academic year	Complete Key Data and Accreditation Data Sections of the <i>Business School</i> <i>Questionnaire</i> for prior academic year	Complete Key Data and Accreditation Data Sections of the Business School Questionnaire for prior academic year	Complete Key Data and Accreditation Data Sections of the Business School Questionnaire for prior academic year	Complete Key Data and Accreditation Data Sections of the Business School Questionnaire for prior academic year
		<ul> <li>July 1, 2018 - Submit Continuous Improvement Review Application(s)</li> </ul>	Peer Review Team and visit date confirmed. See <u>Accreditation</u> <u>Policies &amp;</u> <u>Procedures</u> for Volunteer Deployment and Selection	<ul> <li>Distribute Completed Continuous Improvement review Report(s) 60 Days Prior to Visit</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>CIRC or AAC rules on exclusions and the scope of the accreditation visit</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Begin communications with the Peer Review Team</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Accreditation Statistical Reports will be distributed to applicant and team members by AACSB at least 60 days prior to visit date upon request only</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Date and Peer Review Team Nomination Request sent to school (February 2019)</li> </ul>		Work with Peer Review Team Chair to finalize the Visit Schedule
		Return Date and Peer Review Team Nominations form to AACSB (March 2019)		Peer Review Team     Visit