

Status of Information Systems Majors and Courses at AACSB Member Schools

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Purpose of Study

Determine the current status of information systems majors and courses at AACSB accredited schools.

Research Questions

1. How many AACSB accredited schools offer degree programs in information systems or information technology within the business unit?
2. What is/are the title of the information systems or information technology degree program(s)?

Research Questions (2)

3. At what level is/are information systems or information technology degree programs offered? (associate, bachelors, masters, doctoral)
4. How many information systems or information technology degree programs follow the OEIS curriculum model developed by the Organizational Systems Research Association or other curriculum model?

Research Questions (3)

5. Is/are the information systems or information technology degree program(s) a part of AACSB accreditation?
6. Do AACSB accredited schools who offer information systems or information technology degree programs require that the faculty who teach in these programs be academically or professionally qualified?

Research Questions (4)

7. How many AACSB member schools require courses in information systems or information technology within the business unit?
8. What is/are the title(s) of the information systems or information technology course(s) that is/are required?

Review of Literature

- O'Hara, Margaret T. and Stephens, Charlotte S. (2001). The Core Information Technology Course at AACSB-Accredited Schools: Consistency or Chaos? Journal of Education for Business. Vol. 76 Issue 4, p181.
 - Surveyed AACSB-accredited schools to ascertain the information systems topics that are considered important.

Review of Literature (2)

- Gill, T. Grandon and Hu Qing (1999). The Evolving Undergraduate Information Systems Education: A Survey of U.S. Institutions. *Journal of Education for Business*. Vol. 74 Issue 5, p289.
 - Surveyed 240 faculty members in undergraduate programs representing 193 higher education institutions in the U. S. to assess the status of IT and IS.

Review of Literature (3)

- Gambill, Stan and Maier, J. Lee (1996). CIS/MIS Curriculums in AACSB-Accredited Colleges of Business. *Journal of Education for Business*. Vol. 71 Issue 6, p329.
 - Surveyed AACSB-accredited schools to determine what courses are typically included in a management and computer information systems curriculum.

Population

- 84 schools participated in the study (out of 476 = 17.6% return)
- 81 schools are located in the United States
- 2 schools are located in the United Kingdom
- 1 school is located in Germany

Findings (1)

- Number of AACSB accredited schools offering programs in information systems or information technology within the business unit:
 - 30 schools offer one program (54.5%)
 - 16 schools offer two programs (29.1%)
 - 5 schools offer three programs (9.1%)
 - 2 schools offer four programs (3.6%)
 - 2 schools offer more than four programs (3.6%)(Total number of programs = 95)

Findings (2)

- Titles of information systems or information technology degree programs:
 - 37 - Management Information Systems (67.3%)
 - 11 - Computer Information Systems (20.0%)
 - 6 - Business Information Systems (10.9%)

Findings (3)

- Other degree titles:
 - Information Systems
 - Information Technology
 - Information Systems & Management
 - Management Computer Systems
 - Technology & Innovation Management
 - Computer & Information Technology
 - Business & IT
 - Electronic Commerce Systems
 - Information Technology Infrastructure
 - Internet Technology
 - Accounting & MIS (Ph.D.)
 - Telecommunications Management
 - Information Assurance
 - Management Sciences

Findings (4)

- Level of degrees:
 - 55 – Bachelors Level (100%)
 - 24 – Masters Level (43.6%)
 - 4 – Doctoral Level (7.3%)
 - 2 – Associates Level (3.6%)

Findings (5)

- Curriculum model followed:
 - No model - 44 (80%)
 - 16 - IS 2002 (29.1%)
 - 9 - OEIS (16.4%)
 - 2 - ABET (3.6%)
 - Other models:
 - MSIS
 - ACM
 - IS 2006
 - Combination IS 2002/others
 - Combination IS 2002/2007
 - Hybrid
- ITERA
- Self-developed

Findings (6)

- Are IS/IT programs a part of AACSB accreditation?
 - Yes - 30 (31.5%) out of 95 programs
 - No - 63 (66.3%) out of 95 programs

Findings (7)

- IS/IT faculty required to be academically or professionally qualified?
 - Yes - 90 (94.7%) out of 95 programs
 - No - 2 (2.1%) out of 95 programs

Findings (8)

- Require courses in IS or IT within business unit?
 - Yes - 73 (88.0%)
 - No - 5 (6.0%)

Findings (9)

- Number of IS/IT courses required within business unit?
 - One course required – 51 (69.9%)
 - Two courses required – 22 (30.1%)

Findings (10)

- Course titles of IS/IT courses required in the business core (1st Course):
 - Management Information Systems - 18 (35.3%)
 - Introduction to Information Systems - 13 (25.5%)
 - Introduction to Information Technology - 4 (7.8%)

Findings (11)

- Course titles of IS/IT courses required in the business core (2nd Course):
 - Management Information Systems - 13 (59.1%)
 - Introduction to Information Systems - 1 (4.5%)
 - Introduction to Information Technology - 1 (4.5%)
 - Information Systems Theory & Practice – 1 (4.5%)

Findings (12)

- Other course titles:
 - Advanced Business Applications
 - Business Information Systems
 - Business Microcomputer Use
 - Business Microcomputer Use
 - Computer Analysis
 - Computer Concepts & Applications in Business
 - Computer-based Information Systems
 - Desktop Support Technologies
 - Effective Personal Computer Use
 - Essentials of IS or IT
 - Foundations of eBusiness
 - Fundamentals of E-Business
 - Information Analysis and Design
 - Information Systems Management
 - Introduction to Computers
 - Introduction to MIS
 - Information to Business Computing
 - Introduction to BIS

Findings (13)

- Other course titles:
 - Introduction to Computers & Information Systems
 - Introduction to Software Packages
 - Principles of MIS
 - Software Tools for Personal Productivity
 - Spreadsheet/Database/Communication Applications
 - Technological Applications in Business Decision Making
 - Database Management for Business
 - Technology and Process Management

Conclusions

1. A majority of AACSB accredited schools offer at least one information systems or information technology program with the business unit.
2. The most commonly used titles for information systems or information technology programs are MIS, CIS, and BIS.

Conclusions (2)

3. Most information systems and information technology programs are offered at the bachelor's level.
4. Most schools who offer information and information technology programs do not use a curriculum model.
5. Most information system or information technology degree programs are not a part of AACSB accreditation.

Conclusions (3)

6. Most information systems or information technology faculty are required by their schools to be academically or professionally qualified.
7. A majority of AACSB accredited schools require at least one information systems or information technology course within the business unit.

Conclusions (4)

8. Most AACSB accredited schools who require information systems or information technology courses, require one course.
9. The most common titles of courses required by AACSB accredited schools are Management Information Systems and Introduction to Information Systems.

Questions?

