I have reviewed the Program Review Committee’s Final Report for the Department of Accounting & MIS and the Department’s response to this report. The Program Review Committee has provided recommendations that will be helpful to the continuous improvement of the Department. Some recommendations can be implemented by department action while others cannot be done, as the department has indicated, without college action because of broader implications. My additional responses are as follows:

1. Planning for faculty replacements.

While it is true that the allocation of replacement or new faculty positions to AMIS cannot be decided independent of other college needs, AMIS should assume the responsibility of careful planning for its faculty position requests. As recommended by the Program Review Committee, the Department should base its planning and prioritization of faculty positions on a revised mission statement. Any allocation for positions will depend upon department efforts in developing and implementing its plan and the allocation of new resources to the College. In the event of faculty turnover, each replacement must make a significant improvement, measurable in terms of scholarship in and out of the classroom, and achievement of College and University goals.

Although the new limits for endowed chairs and professorships and current economic times make it more difficult to obtain funding for endowed positions, AMIS is in a more promising position than many departments because its graduates, especially in accounting, have been successful and supportive. Furthermore, AMIS has made it a priority to maintain good relationships with firms. These factors provide a strong foundation for obtaining funding for at least one endowed chair or professorship.

2. Workload policy.

While it is true that the general workload policy is determined at the college level, it is also true that Departments are permitted to make variations to meet special needs. Consequently, revisions to the workload policy recommended by the PRC are appropriate. The dean must approve release time, considering departmental recommendations and College goals. The Department will present its workload policy to the appropriate College committee by December 31 to review and consider changes.

3. Faculty research productivity.

It is important that AMIS has a culture that values and encourages scholarship. This is even more critical now that the MAcc program has become a major emphasis of the department. New faculty members have added to the research output. The chair and other faculty must provide the leadership needed to sustain the increase in productivity, particularly in accounting.

The Chair will develop a scholarship plan for the Department, based on individual faculty scholarship plans. The Associate Dean for undergraduate studies will provide guidance by identifying faculty under the AACSB standards as academically qualified by November 31, 2003. Plans need to be filed with the Dean no later than December 1, 2003, and indicators of successful completion by each faculty member need to be filed with the Dean no later than March 31, 2004. By December 31, 2004, all faculty should have made reasonable progress toward becoming qualified under AACSB standards or the Department should have taken substantive actions to cause them to address this area.
4. I support the limitation of assignment of administrative duties to faculty, as described in the PRC’s report.


All units should have processes to assess student achievement of learning outcomes in their specializations and to implement change as identified from the assessment. It may be that all that is missing is documentation of the results of these processes; however, more substantial assessment activities may be necessary in order to demonstrate progress to NCA. The department should assess the value of having three tracks in the MAcc program and consider the alternative of having a program without multiple tracks.

6. Diversity

The College is open to any leadership that AMIS can provide. However, as pointed out in the AMIS response, the department’s successful plan for recruiting graduate students might not be an effective plan for recruiting undergraduate students because of the difference in markets.


There appears to be agreement between the PRC and AMIS on these two recommendations. No additional comments are necessary.

8. Stipends for Master of Accountancy students.

I believe that two things that you are trying to accomplish are to find a source of revenue (return of extra fee) to support the MAcc and to send a message that university support should not be used (is not available) for growth beyond the present size - at least with respect to sections offered. These are reasonable.

However, I disagree that university supported assistantships should be replaced “one by one” with externally funded assistantships. There would be no incentive for AMIS to seek external funds with this policy. In addition, the University has encouraged graduate enrollment growth and has indicated that, in general, successful growth would be rewarded with additional resources.

If, because of their success in securing external funds, the assistantship allocation to the MAcc is reduced, I believe that it is safe to assume that the replaced assistantships would be allocated to other programs that have not been required to seek or obtain external funding. Furthermore, the MAcc assistantship support would become more susceptible to economic fluctuations than programs that had assistantships solely funded by BGSU because the external organizations would likely reduce support in difficult economic times.

Submitted by ________________________________

Date ________________________________

Reviewed by the Provost/VPAA ________________________________
Date

____concur ______do not concur for the following reason(s)____________________