

# 31<sup>st</sup> & Pearl

## Waxing Semantic

If the CoB administration's reaction to the thoughts of the AACSB Peer Review team is any indication, then it's game over. CoB administrators are now falling back on semantics, saying that the CoB can't be on probation because the term "probation" does not appear in the AACSB guidelines and documents. To reference *A Few Good Men*, that's like saying that there's no such thing as a "Code Red" in the Marine Corps because that term doesn't appear in the MC manuals. Of course, Tom Cruise's character showed that claim was bogus with the old mess hall routine.

It's hard to imagine a great dean *not* saying that there's no such thing as a "moral victory." If that standard of greatness applied to the CoB, then Harold Doty would score a perfect zero on the greatness scale. Instead of coming out and saying "I know the AACSB doesn't use the term 'probation' anymore, but I'm going to because I am extremely disappointed in myself and my administrative team for allowing this to happen, especially given the fact that we had 10 years to get this done," Doty seems to be opting for the "There's no such thing as probation, they are just coming back for a social visit in a year" approach. The sad thing is, nobody expected anything else.

The reported reaction of Doty and his administrative team to the fact that AACSB will be coming around again next year does not bode well for the future. By falling back on semantics, Doty et al. are telling the world that they either can't learn, or don't want to. Thus, it appears as though the future holds more of the same, that we will continue on the current path. Let's all hold on to that thought over the next few weeks -- it will be interesting to see how much money in the merit raises pot goes to those administrators and sycophants whose Sedona files are covered up in semantics games.