

31st & Pearl

What Would SACS Advise?

Now that the word is out about the CoB's AACSB probation, we can't help but wonder what SACS would advise the CoB to do over the next year. That's a hard one to call, but we are pretty sure what SACS would say *don't do*. That is: Do not start/implement anything *new* over the next (probationary) year. Of course, like all of the other good advice that Dean Doty routinely ignores, this would go unheeded also.

Later this spring, and under the cloud of AACSB probation, the CoB will implement a *new* faculty evaluation system wherein each faculty member is evaluated by their chair only, with consultation by Doty. Some would say these are the same hacks that brought us probation. Well, on with the show. This has to be one of the more controversial moves by the CoB over the past 10 to 15 years. You know it's controversial, and potentially bad, if only because management professors Stephen Bushardt and David Duhon are *for* it. The fact that Doty's on board doesn't soothe that concern one bit. We imagine that EFIB Chair George Carter will evaluate his long-time friend and "co-author" Edward Nissan using stringent standards. Oh yeah, we can see that happening.

What else? The CoB will likely continue the race to put everything online. That's certainly no threat to academic quality, to use the AACSB's own 6th-Year Review terminology. If you listen to Carter, online education is superior to in-class learning in front of a real professor, as long as there are a lot of students sitting in the room. With all of this new stuff going on, let's add the new corporal punishment plan to handle all of the bad classroom behavior that goes on in JGH. While we're at it, let's also "weaken" a few more degree programs in the CoB. After all, even an *unaccredited* business degree is better than a sociology degree, isn't it?