

Dear USMNEWS.NET,

I recently read the Breaking News story “Strain of AACSB Accreditation Woes Showing,” and I must say that if Alvin Williams is starting to admit problems, the accreditation situation must be dire.

As noted on the pages of USMNEWS.NET, the modus operandi for the CoB’s long time team players is to deny, deny, deny the truth and/or to keep repeating the same lie until folks believe the lie is true. So, if Williams is beginning to openly discuss accreditation problems, it means he is abandoning the “deny, deny. Deny” portion of the program and may be moving on to the “repeat the lie” portion.

It’s been rumored that AACSB consultant Ted Cummings – the same Ted Cummings that chaired the CoB’s AACSB visit team back in February 2007 – handed Williams a softball “issue” to help add an item to the CoB’s accomplishment list. That might solve one small problem. If, however, the big problems identified by AACSB – faculty qualifications being the largest issue – are not fixed, will the softball be enough to carry the day?

Those 10 faculty who have left the CoB since April were all academically qualified either by terminal degree date or by publications. From what I see, their replacements aren’t anywhere close to being real replacements in the AQ sense. If that’s true, the CoB’s AQ problems have gotten worse, and there’ll be no way to fix that problem before the coming 6<sup>th</sup> Year Review visit in February 2008.

It will be interesting to watch just how Alvin Williams and his team of loyalists stretch, spin, slant, and spread the “truth” about the CoB’s accreditation problems. They’re in a bad place right now, and there’s no easy way out of it. I hope USMNEWS.NET keeps the CoB administrators’ feet to the fire.

<Name Withheld>