

Special Report

Dakhlia & Co. Rank Pedagogical Journals An Investigative Series on CoB Faculty Research Credentials

The work of *untenured assistant professor* of economics, Sami Dakhlia, the *chair* of the CoB's *journal ranking committee*, and company is now complete. Having passed the CoB's new journal rankings weeks ago, the CoB's journal ranking committee has yet to post the new rankings to the CoB's web pages, even though doing so was said by Dakhlia to be an essential part of the process. According to Dakhlia, posting the lists to the Internet would give them the credibility needed to move forward in using them in the CoB's merit raise and T&P processes.

Though Dakhlia's committee has yet to move on that front, reporters at USMNEWS.NET have put together some new reports on these rankings. This report takes a look at how Dakhlia & Co. classified the various pedagogical journals across the CoB's disciplines. This issue has dogged the business school at USM for decades. The journal ranking committee that was convened under former dean Tyrone Black sought to treat each unit's pedagogical journals similarly. Did that practice carry over into the 2007-08 process chaired by Dakhlia? That remains to be seen.

Let's begin with accounting. Reporters at USMNEWS.NET quickly found a A-level pedagogical journal in accounting -- *Issues in Accounting Education*.

Contemporary Accounting Research	Accounting		A	A
Issues in Accounting Education	Accounting		A	A

As far as B-level pedagogical journals in accounting go, the CoB now has the *International Journal of Accounting Education and Research* and the *Journal of Accounting Education*.

International Journal of Accounting Education and Research (P)	Accounting		B	B
Journal of Accounting Education (P)	Accounting		B	B

In the CoB's C-level category are the *Accounting Educators' Journal* and *Advances in Accounting Education*.

Accounting Educators' Journal (P)	Accounting		C	C
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Advances in Accounting Education* (B)	Accounting		C	C
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Whether through accounting professor Charles Jordan's diligence in influencing the CoB's journal ranking process or Dakhli's laziness in his gatekeeping responsibility, the CoB's accounting faculty made out rather well. With five pedagogical journals, they were dealt 1 A, 2 Bs and 2 Cs. As such, the CoB's accountants can get stellar raises, promotions, tenure and professorships without having to do any *basic* research. All of these accomplishments, and others, can be had through pedagogical research only.

Next, we turn to economics, which no longer has any A-level outlets in economics pedagogy.

Journal of Economic Education	Economics	Econ Ed	A	B
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What once was an A -- the *Journal of Economic Education* -- is now a B. After that, the next best outlet in economics pedagogy is the *Journal of Economics & Finance Education*, which rates only a C.

Journal of Economic Research	Economics	General		C
Journal of Economics and Finance Education	Economics	Econ Ed		C

The remaining pedagogical journal in economics is virtually worthless.

Computers in Higher Education Economics Review	Economics	Econ Ed		U
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Pedagogical journals in fashion merchandising fared even worse than those in economics. Of the two journals, only the *International Journal of Art and Design Education* rates higher than "Other." And, it received only a C-level rating from the 2007-08 CoB journal ranking committee.

International Journal of Art and Design Education	Fashion Merch.			C
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Journal of Consumer Education	Fashion Merch.			U
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Like economics, finance has three pedagogical journals. Unlike economics, all of the pedagogical journals in finance are rated as C-level journals.

Financial Practice and Education	Finance			C
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Journal of Financial Education	Finance			C
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Journal of Real Estate Practice and Education	Finance			C
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As the inserts below show, all three of the CoB's general business pedagogical journals are rated as Cs, including the *Journal of Education for Business*, which is quite popular among the CoB's accountants. As such, the CoB's accountants essentially have six pedagogical journals.

Journal of College Teaching and Learning (P)	General		C	C
Journal of Education for Business	General			C

Journal of the Academy of Business Education	General			C
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As far as management goes, not even the *Academy of Management Learning & Education* is rated higher than a B, a result that surprised sources.

Academy of Management Learning & Education	Management			B
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Journal of Management Education	Management			B
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Management faculty do, however, have two B-level pedagogical journals (see above). This result is seen only in accounting. Publishing in management pedagogical journals outside of these is essentially worthless.

International Journal of Business and Management Education	Management			D
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The inserts below indicate that marketing has two pedagogical journals, and one of these -- the *Journal of Marketing Education* -- is rated as a B.

Journal of Marketing Education	Marketing		B	B
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Marketing Education Review	Marketing		C	C
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As the inserts below show, the CoB's MIS department is "pedagogical journal central." No fewer than 5 pedagogical journals grace the MIS journal rankings, and two of these are A-level outlets. One of these is even a *premier* (A+) journal. The other A is the *Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education*, a [journal](#) that has been the [subject](#) of past reports here at USMNEWS.NET.

The Journal of Business Education	MIS		A	A+
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Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education (MIS Articles)	MIS		A	A
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Journal of Information Systems Education	MIS		B	B
Journal of Education for Management Information Systems	MIS			C
Journal of Information Technology Education	MIS			C

Like the accountants, MIS faculty can abandon *basic* research and not face real consequences for doing so. There are enough highly-rated pedagogical outlets in MIS to gain tenure, promotion, large merit raises and endowed professorships without having to engage in *basic* research.

Finally, with B- and C-level pedagogical outlets, the CoB's tourism management faculty face a set of options similar to that faced by CoB economics and marketing faculty.

Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Education	Tourism Mngmt	Hospitality	B	B
Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sports & Tourism Education	Tourism Mngmt	Hospitality		C

Clearly, the CoB's accounting and information systems faculty were the big winners in the pedagogical journals portion of what some of calling the CoB's 2007-08 Journal Ranking Sweepstakes. Each of these units can focus solely on pedagogy and potentially sit atop the CoB in terms of research accolades. Because both reside in the same department (the SAIS), Dakhli's journal ranking committee has essentially provided an avenue for at least one-fourth of the CoB to abandon *basic* research. Whether or not this causes an AACSB accreditation problem for new CoB Dean Lance Nail will be known in two to three years.