

Dear www.eaglepost.net readers,

I'm pleased to see you visiting www.usmnews.net. I'm also pleased to offer you the opportunity to review some of my current research at the Social Science Research Network. http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=397169.

If you have children in college or about to go to college, the following might be of interest to you:

***IS ACCREDITATION A RELIABLE
AUTHORITY ON ACADEMIC QUALITY?***

Testing Social Reality

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ABSTRACT

During preparations for reaccreditation, a colleague noticed that the College Accreditation Committee represented other Colleges' documents as their own. He consulted several faculty including this researcher. We advised the Dean and Committee that the documents were without attribution. The events were immediately identified as an opportunity to test social reality—the reliability—of institutions' and leaders' behavior vis-à-vis the institution's representations. (See, DePree, "A General Theory to Test Social Reality.") The Dean and Committee members ignored requests to discuss the copied documents. Subsequently, the Dean submitted the questionable materials to the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) during reaccreditation. After internal efforts, both informal and formal, to discuss the documents failed, faculty informed the AACSB that the documents were copied "without proper citation"—a term used by faculty who copied other school's documents. The actions of the AACSB inform their constituency and public of a neglected dimension of accreditation: What does the AACSB do when challenged with evidence of alleged violations of its standards? In other words, is the AACSB a reliable authority on academic quality?

Faculty and administrators had choices of well-known university and accreditation principles and rules to follow or refuse to follow as the events unfolded. The choices and evidence in this report support the conclusion that accreditation is not a reliable authority on academic quality.

I am currently a full professor, paid my full salary at the School of Accountancy, College of Business, University of Southern Mississippi.

It's easy to fabricate slurs when you post anonymously. It takes courage to sign your name when you gratuitously attack someone, particularly when you don't bother to check the facts.

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