

Recommendations To Improve Quality of Faculty Publications School of Accountancy, University of Southern Mississippi

Future success of publishing research in quality journals is predicted by the quality of faculty presentations and the quality of the academic meetings faculty attend. Previous reports reviewed Director Skip Hughes' and School of Accountancy's continuing failure to do quality research. The failure can be traced to a habit of publishing in poor quality journals and attending poor quality academic meetings where little rigor is expected of the faculty. This report offers a suggestion to begin the accounting faculty along a path to quality research.

Director Hughes and SoA accounting faculty might choose to keep better company than the low level journals and presentation venues that have been their habit for decades. In a fundamental change in perspective, Director Hughes might consider having the College of Business and School of Accountancy join the Social Science Research Network. It is the home of [significantly better schools](#) than they now associate with through Jackson's favorite, the Academy of Accounting, Finance and Economics, or Jordan's favorite, Allied Academies International Conference, or Hughes' favorite, AAA Southeast Regional Meeting, the **lowest level venues and associations available to academic accountants**. For a list of a the schools the SoA would be associating with at SSRN see, http://www.ssrn.com/update/arn/arn_site-licenses.html. Even Dr. Hughes' former employer is included on the list. For example, consider the quality of the company the SoA faculty could choose to keep in the SSRN's *FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING eJOURNAL*.

To give Dr. Hughes some notion of the potential value of SSRN, the following are excerpts from SSRN website:

SSRN has again been named the Number 1 Open Access Repository in the World (for January, 2011) by the Ranking Web of World Repositories. Our thanks to all of the SSRN community who helped make this happen.

The Accounting Research Network (ARN) is directed by Ross Watts. Watts is a Professor at the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor Watts is also Editor of one of the most important print journals in accounting - **The Journal of Accounting and Economics**.

Research Paper Series: Accounting Research Network Research Paper Series offer your institution a way to showcase and distribute the research of your faculty and staff. Creating a Research Paper Series (RPS) for your institution will give you the most exposure for your faculty's work and is an excellent way to create awareness and disseminate your research. Please contact RPS@ssrn.com for more information.

SSRN might be a constructive venue to start the accounting faculty along a path toward improving their research. It would provide them an opportunity to have their research

compete for interest with faculty that SoA aspires to emulate—or at least say they aspire to emulate. And, given the upcoming AACSB reaccreditation, the accounting faculty could actually do what they proposed in past documents submitted to the AACSB. Instead of merely pledging that they will improve their research, they would actually follow through on their pledge.



tomorrow's research today

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"Adopting a Label: Heterogeneity in the Economic Consequences around Voluntary IAS Adoptions" 

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The SoA faculty could get a read on the quality and competitiveness of their ideas and research because SSRN provides *a* measure that may signal the interest and quality of the research before taking it to a meeting (presumably to higher quality meetings than is SoA's habit to date). Perhaps the interaction and input from fellow researchers outside a small circle of low level meetings would lead to publishing in quality journals—just as Director Hughes promised in his “things-are-going-to-change-around-here” declaration to the editor of usmnews.net