Accounting Programs: Strengths

– The faculty’s commitment to their students and programs and their hands-on approach to advising and career development.
– The new department chair is committed to the long-term success of the programs and students.
– The support for the Department from College and University leadership.
Accounting Programs: Strengths

– The Department’s involvement in the SAP Partnership prepares students for real world applications.

– The unique Financial Accounting Research in the MAcc that involves public accounting partners in the delivery of the course exposes students to issues faced by practitioners and processes used to address those issues.
Accounting: Areas for Improvement

– While the Assurance of Learning (AOL) program is well established and the accounting faculty are actively involved in the process, the program should be used more effectively in the management of the curriculum.

– The Department’s policy on maintaining academic qualifications (AQ status) and promotion and tenure expectations should be strengthened to increase the incentives for faculty to engage in that research.
Accounting: Areas for Improvement

• The department could take better advantage of the expertise and commitment of its Advisory Council by involving them earlier. Student input could be solicited perhaps by including student members on the Advisory Council, building on the College’s Ambassadors program.

• The Department’s mission statement should identify whether each program is intended to meet CPA exam requirements.
Business Program Strengths

- High level of collegiality among the faculty
- Embedded culture of student-centeredness among the faculty and college administration, including willingness to engage in career and life skills advising and student placement.
- Culture of outreach to the business community and concern with economic development in the state.
Business Program Strengths, cont’d

• Strong culture of shared governance, including ongoing faculty participation in the strategic management process

• High level of confidence on the part of the faculty in the deans’ leadership and in the college’s executive committee in general
Business: Areas for Improvement

• Include management-specific learning outcomes in its assurance of learning program for the BBA and the MBA.

• Eliminate duplicate learning outcomes at the undergraduate and master’s level. Learning outcomes at the different levels should reflect different levels of learning expectations.
• Strengthen its AQ criteria for all faculty members. Currently a faculty member could be AQ without having published a peer-reviewed article in the past five years.

• Include the Advisory Council earlier in the strategic planning process so that external stakeholders and students have a greater opportunity for impact.
Business: Opportunities for Continuous Improvement

• Recommendation that the college’s faculty continue to strengthen the overall quality of its intellectual contributions and publish more frequently in quality, peer-reviewed journals.

• Recommendation that the college include bolder, more aspirational and transformative goals in its strategic plan – in keeping with its vision of being a premier College of Business.
Business Continuous Improvement

• Recommendation that the college continue to make a high priority and to pursue aggressively tuition waiver scholarships for doctoral students to enhance competitiveness of doctoral programs and contribute to the college’s vision.