

Final Assessment Report

Name of Program

Honors Business Administration, Ivey Business School

Degrees Offered

HBA

External Consultants

Professor Richard Blackburn, Associate Dean - Kenan-Flager Business School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Professor Ryan Nelson, Associate Dean - McIntire School of Commerce, University of Virginia.

Internal Reviewers

Professor Joan Finegan, Associate Dean - Faculty of Social Science, Western
Yeshith Rai, third-year student - Medical Science, Western

Date of Site Visit

March 24, 2016

Evaluation

Good Quality

Approved by SUPR-U

May 18, 2016

Approved by SCAPA

May 25, 2016

Executive Summary

The External Consultants' Report for the Ivey Business School was quite positive. The reviewers found the program to be consistent with the strategic priorities of the University, the material covered in class state of the art, and that significant effort was spent continuously improving the program. They recognized the high caliber of their students and believed that students were well serviced by high-quality faculty. They noted that Ivey's case-based approach is relatively unique amongst business schools, and that this approach is working well, producing graduates who have gone on to be successful in their chosen occupations. The reviewers were impressed with the extremely low attrition rates in the program and with the number of students who are combining their Ivey degree with another degree.

Students raised the concern that they did not have access to mental health counsellors. The reviewers suggested that more such professionals be hired, but in their follow-up response, Ivey pointed out that this is a university-wide issue and these resources should be administered centrally.

The reviewers commented on the fact that only a small portion of Ivey students (less than 5%) were international. However, Ivey countered by noting that this number isn't surprising since they do not recruit internationally, and in fact, their student body is more diverse than their immigration status suggests since 30% of their students are born outside of Canada. A related concern was that only 25% of the students engaged in international experiences. Ivey has introduced two short-term international service learning courses to help address this issue.

Significant Strengths of Program

- case-based approach
- strong students who benefit from being able to move through HBA1 with their section cohort
- excellent library resources, outstanding information technology support
- dedicated faculty

Suggestions for improvement & Enhancement

- develop a stronger connection between the HBA program and known ecosystems for technological innovations
- create a "Centre for Business Learning" to promote the use of technology both inside and outside the classroom
- analyze the class contribution data with the aim of improving student performance
- re-examine the "Learning through Action" course

Recommendations required for Program sustainability:

Recommendation	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline
Create a "Centre for Business Learning" to promote the use of technology both inside and outside the classroom	Ivey Business School	Provided by the Dean's office	A senior faculty member has already been appointed as Chair of this Centre. The project is ongoing