

Annual Report Form

a. Program Name – **Master of Science in Accounting**

b. Report prepared by – **P.N. Saksena**

c. Who is the current assessment contact for your program? **Associate Dean Asghar Sabbaghi**

d. Should assessment information be sent to anyone else in your department? **Dean Rob Ducoffe, Associate Dean Asghar Sabbaghi, Chair, SBE Planning and Assessment Committee**

1. What are the program’s educational goals? (Please take goals directly from your program’s assessment plan, and highlight any changes made this year.)

Students who complete the MSA program at IU South Bend will demonstrate knowledge and skills in accounting and in:

	Learning Goals: [Approved by the accounting faculty on 3/04/09]	Curricular Assessment	Exit Interviews	Alumni Survey	Employer Survey
1.	Using information technologies and understanding their impacts on organization and its management	DM	IM	IM	IM
2.	Identifying the accounting information needs of management for decision making	DM	IM	IM	IM
3.	Applying financial and managerial accounting theories, and tax strategies, to analyze domestic and global economic environments of the organizations	DM	IM	IM	IM
4.	Using reflective thinking, analytical reasoning, and statistical analysis to support decision making	DM	IM	IM	IM
5.	Understanding one’s ethical responsibilities to society, and recognizing, analyzing, and resolving ethical problems that occur in accounting and auditing	DM	IM	IM	IM
6.	Identifying, interpreting, and evaluating the impacts that legal, social, global, and diversity matters, have on accounting and business decisions	DM	IM	IM	IM
7.	Engaging in teamwork and leadership as reflected by the ability to work with, influence, inspire, and motivate individuals of diverse backgrounds to achieve team and organizational goals	DM	IM	IM	IM
8.	Adapting and creating knowledge to solve accounting and managerial problems in new and unfamiliar circumstances, to cope with unforeseen events, and to manage in	DM	IM	IM	IM

	unpredictable environments				
9.	Identifying and researching problems and opportunities in accounting, recognizing and applying proper tools to generate alternative solutions, and comparing and contrasting alternatives to reach a final solution	DM	IM	IM	IM
10.	Communicating effectively, both orally and in writing, in a professional environment	DM	IM	IM	IM

DM: Direct assessment of learning goals

IM: Indirect assessment of learning goals

2. What assessment techniques did the program use? (Please take assessment techniques directly from your program's assessment plan and highlight any changes made this year.)

1. Exit interview as an indirect measure:

At the present time we are using exit interviews as an indirect measure of assessment of our MSA program. Every graduating student comes in for an exit interview where they are asked a series of questions. The accounting faculty has developed these questions and student responses help us assess our program and make changes.

2. Curricular assessment as a direct measure:

The accounting faculty revisited MSA program goals and developed related learning objectives. These objectives will be measured directly, through rubrics, in the different courses that MSA students will take over the course of their program of study. Results from these assessments will be used to make changes and improve our program.

3. Employer survey as an indirect measure:

SBE conducted an employer survey during summer 2008. The Planning and Assessment Committee analyzed the results of this survey and major findings were shared with SBE faculty.

3. What has your program done with assessment information this year? (i.e. communicated results to faculty, staff, alumni and students, made changes in the curriculum, made changes in the budget, added new courses. . .)

- The accounting faculty discussed themes that emerged from MSA exit interviews. A few changes have been made as a result of these themes: We offer students two tax courses as well as a course in forensic accounting; the Professional Communication Skills course was redesigned.
- The accounting faculty finalized a schedule for our MSA classes. The goal is to provide enough lead-time to help students plan their course of study.

4. After reflecting on assessment activities in your unit, as a result of assessment what are two issues you would like to address?

1. We are working on rubrics that will be used in our required MSA classes, to directly assess learning objectives.
2. We will revisit our goals and objectives with an eye on simplifying them.