Exploring the Value of Accreditation Conference on December 11-12, 2016

American Accounting Association
Disclaimer

The views expressed today are my own and do not necessarily represent the views of the American Accounting Association.
The Journey to a Learned Profession – Can Accreditation Help?

• How do we move closer to becoming a learned profession?

• How are the ways we measure research impact changing?

• What can we do to enhance research impact?
What is a learned profession?
(Public Responsibilities of the Learned Professions, J.W. Wade, Louisiana Law Review, December 1960)

• Prolonged training and education based on “intellectual technique”, licensed through standards established by professional organizations,
• Professional organizations set up code of ethics and advance their fields,
• Members are dedicated to a spirit of public service, to their clientele, profession, and general public.
What are the Current Learned Professions?

• Medicine
• Law
• Theology

and some say
• Architecture and Engineering
Why not the Accounting Profession (broadly defined) as a Learned Profession?

**Build a learned profession for the future by purposeful integration of accounting research, education, and practice for students, accounting practitioners and educators.**
Perception

Reality

Pathways Commission Vision
Model for Accounting

http://thepathwayscommission.org
Research and Impact Emphasis

In the UK impact is used as an underlying agenda for funding of the research.

In the UK’s research assessment environment, impact is defined as an effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, public policy, the environment etc., beyond academia. It excludes the advancement of knowledge within academia – it is all about the effects, changes or benefits beyond academia. (Wim Van der Stede, 2015)
Outcomes of intellectual contributions are indicated by their impact or influence on the theory, practice, and teaching of business and management rather than just by the number of articles published or documents produced. Schools should make their expectations regarding the impact of intellectual contributions clear and publicly transparent.
The SCImago Journal & Country Rank

The SCImago Journal & Country Rank is a publicly available portal that includes the journals and country scientific indicators developed from the information contained in the Scopus® database (Elsevier B.V.). These indicators can be used to assess and analyze scientific domains. Journals can be compared or analyzed separately. Country rankings may also be compared or analyzed separately. Journals can be grouped by subject area (27 major thematic areas), subject category (313 specific subject categories) or by country. Citation data is drawn from over 21,500 titles from more than 5,000 international publishers and country performance metrics from 239 countries worldwide.

This platform takes its name from the SCImago Journal Rank (SJR) indicator (PDF), developed by SCImago from the widely known algorithm Google PageRank™. This indicator shows the visibility of the journals contained in the Scopus® database from 1996.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>SJR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ca-A Cancer Journal for Clinicians</td>
<td>37.384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Reviews of Modern Physics</td>
<td>29.826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Annual Review of Immunology</td>
<td>28.577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology</td>
<td>24.294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Nature Reviews Genetics</td>
<td>23.991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cell</td>
<td>23.588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Quarterly Journal of Economics</td>
<td>22.541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Nature Reviews Immunology</td>
<td>22.472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nature Reviews Cancer</td>
<td>21.831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Annual Review of Astronomy and Astrophysics</td>
<td>21.109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>SJR</td>
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<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Journal of Finance</td>
<td>17.138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Academy of Management Annals</td>
<td>13.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Academy of Management Review</td>
<td>11.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Review of Financial Studies</td>
<td>10.726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Academy of Management Journal</td>
<td>9.398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Organization Science</td>
<td>8.098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Journal of Marketing</td>
<td>7.332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Journal of Management</td>
<td>7.232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Journal of Operations Management</td>
<td>6.599</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Orange circles represent fields, with larger, darker circles indicating larger field size as measured by Eigenfactor® score. Blue arrows represent citation flow between fields. An arrow from field A to field B indicates citation traffic from A to B, with larger, darker arrows indicating higher citation volume.

• The map was created using our information flow method for mapping large networks. Using data from Thomson-Reuters 2004 Journal Citation Reports (JCR), we partitioned 6,128 journals connected by 6,434,916 citations into 88 modules. For visual simplicity, we show only the most important links, namely those that a random surfer traverses at least once in 5000 steps, and the modules that are connected by these links. You can make your own maps by going to mapequation.org.
This map of the social sciences was created using the same methods described above on the set of social science journals listed in the Journal Citation Reports. This figure was originally published in Rosvall and Bergstrom (2008): PNAS 105:1118-1123.
SSRN (CEO, Greg Gordon, 2013)
Almetric Attention Score

The score is derived from an automated algorithm, and represents a weighted count of the amount of attention we've picked up for a research output. Why is it weighted? To reflect the relative reach of each type of source. It's easy to imagine that the average newspaper story is more likely to bring attention to the research output than the average tweet.

This is reflected in the default weightings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>News</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blogs</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Comparison of Scores Between Disciplines


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Total Attention Score</th>
<th>Average Attention Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>19,292</td>
<td>63.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>3,704</td>
<td>13.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>2,073</td>
<td>5.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>1,742</td>
<td>8.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>2.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>0.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,822</td>
<td>27,924</td>
<td>15.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weighted count of how much attention a research article has received in online sources.
Accounting Research Impact:

So how can Accreditation help with this issue?
Accounting Research Impact: What can we do about this?

- Cite our own work more
- More cross-functional research
- More interdisciplinary research
- More replications
- Digital Object Identifier (DOI) Changes
- Faster review process, time to market
- Increase the number of high quality journals
- Increase interactions with practice
Time as a Trade Barrier
David L. Hummels and Georg Schaur
(American Economic Review, 2013)


Don’t be afraid to cite our own work!
Cross-Functional Research

Wharton Customer Analytics Initiatives (Chris Ittner)
http://wcai.wharton.upenn.edu/corporate-partnerships/partnerships-with-wcai/

(from Website)
Why Partner with WCAI? If academics are not interested in your problem, no amount of love or money will persuade them to work on it—but if they are interested, no one will pursue a solution as passionately or rigorously as a research scholar.
The Bredesen Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Graduate Education unites extensive and complementary resources at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UT) and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) to advance science, technology, engineering, and mathematics research related to energy.
Replications and Non-results
Example, BRIA

A Call for Research Notes Replications and Non-Significant Result Studies Research Notes *Behavioral Research in Accounting* will add “Research Notes” in order to publish two specific types of studies with the purpose of improving our science. We hope to inform the literature, which is often biased against publishing these types of studies, and to aid researchers working in the field of behavioral accounting.

Replication Studies Manuscripts reporting on replications should clearly identify the study or studies being replicated. The manuscript should highlight any differences from the prior work (e.g., measurements, manipulations, participants, etc.) and how these differences inform the literature (e.g., validity/robustness of construct). The purpose of such a study is to demonstrate the robustness and inferential value of prior findings by incorporating a broader use of the scientific method in our field.
Replications include a partial or comprehensive repeat of an experiment that sustains as many conditions as possible but uses a different sample. The sample employed in the replication should be at least as “strong” as the original sample. JFR also uses the term “Replication” to describe an archival empirical analysis that primarily performs the same analysis as an existing study but adds, for example, another control variable or additional sensitivity analysis, or uses a slightly different sample. Replications are expected to be short.
Nature Editorial - Go forth and replicate!
August 24, 2016

• To make replication studies more useful, researchers must make more of them, funders must encourage them and journals must publish them.

• To foster better behaviour, replication attempts must become more common. We urge researchers to open their file drawers. We urge authors to cooperate with reasonable requests for primary data, to assume good intent and to write papers — and keep records — assuming that others will want to replicate their work. We urge funders and publishers to support tools that help researchers to thread the literature together. We welcome, and will be glad to help disseminate, results that explore the validity of key publications, including our own.
KUDOS – Greater Research Impact

What is Kudos?

Kudos is a new web-based service that helps researchers and their institutions and funders to maximize the visibility and impact of their published articles. Kudos provides a platform for assembling and creating information to help search filtering, for sharing information to drive discovery, and for measuring and monitoring the effect of these activities.
GrowKudos
(Judy Luther, @Informed Strategies)

Plain language summaries
of what the work is about,
and why it is important

Electrical signature in polar night cloud base variations

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Received 17 September 2012
Accepted for publication 11 February 2013
Published 5 March 2013
Online at stacks.iop.org/ERL/8/015027

Abstract
Layer clouds are globally extensive. Their lower edges are characterized by thermal and atmospheric electricity current flowing vertically through the cloud.

When meteorological timescales are weak, an appreciable difference in the cloud base heights, detected using a laser ceilometer, can be attributed to the presence of the cloud base height with local meteorological measurements. This difference is indistinguishable between the northern and southern hemispheres.

This suggests that the global...
“Despised though they are, severance payouts to CEOs help prevent opportunistic management,” study finds....

Collaborating on the paper were Xia Chen and Qiang Chen of Singapore Management University, Alvis K. Lo of Boston College, and Xin Wang of the University of Hong Kong. *The Accounting Review* 2015
“To promote timely, widespread dissemination of ideas to the academic and practice communities, the journal is published online and is free to all interested parties. *Current Issues in Auditing* is devoted to advancing the dialogue between academics and practitioners on current issues facing the auditing practice community...”
DOI and What is Possibly Coming Next (Digital Object Identifier)

JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING RESEARCH
American Accounting Association
Vol. 12, No. 2 DOI: 10.2308/jiar-50439
2013
pp. 27–50
Classification Shifting in an International Setting: Investor Protection and Financial Analysts Monitoring
Bruce Behn, Giorgio Gotti, Don Herrmann, and Tony Kang
Faster review process, time to market

- *Nature* makes decisions about submitted papers as rapidly as possible. All manuscripts are handled electronically throughout the consideration process. Authors are usually informed within a week if the paper is not being considered. Most referees honor their prior agreement with *Nature* to deliver a report within seven days or other agreed time limit, and send their reports online.
Faster review process, time to market

Law School Model (Speed and Quality of Reviews used as Strategic Advantage)

A typical submission is sent to 50-60 law reviews,

The journal might have a 3-day review process or a 2-week review process, which can affect when offers are made and how competing offers are processed.

As authors receive decisions, they generally alert other journals they would consider (or prefer) an alternative publication offer from. These “expedited decision requests” are a form of communication between authors and journals which some journals respond to quickly, some respond to in a moderated fashion, and other journals pointedly ignore.

(Law Review Article Submissions Insights, 2016)
Faster review process, time to market

*Science Immunology* from author submission guidelines:

*Science Immunology* is committed to thorough and efficient evaluation of submitted manuscripts. Papers are assigned to a staff editor who has knowledge of the field discussed in the manuscript. Most submitted papers are rated for suitability by members of *Science Immunology*’s Advisory Board. The editors at *Science Immunology* consider this advice in selecting papers for in-depth review. Authors of papers that are not selected are notified promptly, within about 1 week.

Research papers that are selected for in-depth review are evaluated by at least two outside referees. Reviewers are contacted before being sent a paper and asked to return comments within 1 to 2 weeks for most papers. We are able to expedite the review process significantly for papers that require rapid assessment. Selected papers are edited to improve accuracy and clarity and for length. Papers cannot be resubmitted over a disagreement on novelty, interest, or priority. Resubmission is allowed only if a paper was rejected on the basis of a serious reviewer error.
Accounting Journals – getting better

Journal of Accounting Research – 2014 from website
http://research.chicagobooth.edu/arc/journal-of-accounting-research/statistics
Mean 57 days from submission to decision

The Accounting Review (2014),
http://aaapubs.org/doi/full/10.2308/accr-10410
Mean 94 days from submission to decision
Increasing the Number of High Quality Journals: Emerging Sources Citation Index
Web of Science

As a new index in the Web of Science™ Core Collection, Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) expands the citation universe and reflects the growing global body of science and scholarly activity. ESCI complements the highly selective indexes by providing earlier visibility for sources under evaluation as part of SCIE, SSCI, and AHCI’s rigorous journal selection process. Inclusion in ESCI provides greater discoverability which leads to measurable citations and more transparency in the selection process.
AAA journals just added recently

• JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING RESEARCH
• JOURNAL OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING RESEARCH
• JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN TAXATION ASSOCIATION
• BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH IN ACCOUNTING
• ISSUES IN ACCOUNTING EDUCATION
• JOURNAL OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN ACCOUNTING
• CURRENT ISSUES IN AUDITING
Increasing Interactions in Practice

• Medicine – all practitioners and academics belong to the same associations

• American Chemical Society, 157,000 members, 30,000 of which are academics, of which 50% are working in industry (from conversations with organizations CEO)
Pathways Commission Vision Model for Accounting

http://thepathwayscommission.org
Why not the Accounting Profession (broadly defined) as a Learned Profession?

**Build a learned profession** for the future by purposeful **integration** of accounting research, education, and practice for students, accounting practitioners and educators.