AACSB Guidelines for Participating and Supporting Faculty

AACSB Standard 9: The school maintains a faculty sufficient to provide stability and ongoing quality improvement for the instructional programs offered. The deployment of faculty resources reflects the mission and programs. Students in all programs, disciplines, and locations have the opportunity to receive instruction from appropriately qualified faculty.

AACSB distinguishes between participating and supporting faculty members. This distinction categorizes faculty members into those who do or do not participate in the life of the school beyond direct teaching involvement. AACSB requires that participating faculty provide at least 75% of the school’s annual credit hours, and at least 60% of teaching within each program or at each location.

A participating faculty member actively engages in the activities of the school in matters beyond direct teaching responsibilities. Such matters might include governance decisions, curriculum development, faculty committee membership, student academic and/or career advising, research related to the faculty member’s appointment, professional development funded by the school, and school service commitments. The designation of participating faculty is determined by each school regardless of whether or not the appointment is full-time or part-time, regardless of whether the position with the school is considered the faculty member’s principal employment, and regardless of whether or not the school has tenure policies.

A supporting faculty member does not, as a rule, participate in the intellectual or operational life of the school beyond direct teaching assignments. Supporting faculty members are not involved in governance issues, do not serve on faculty committees, and do not provide service outside their assigned teaching and office hours. The school considers supporting faculty members to have semester-to-semester responsibilities as directed by the school.

Qualification Criteria of Participating Faculty

The College of Management designates a faculty member as a participating faculty member if:

1. They have a full-time appointment or have served the College for one academic year;
2. They regularly attend faculty meetings, particularly those related to curriculum and assurance of learning; and
3. They participate in at least one of the following activities:
   a. serving as an academic advisor
   b. serving as an advisor to a student organization
   c. serving on a college or university committee
   d. engaging in scholarship associated with their College appointment
   e. participating in other activities approved by the Program Director or Dean that advance the mission of the College

A faculty member not meeting these criteria is designated as a supporting faculty member.