May 30, 2012 (This letter supersedes the letter dated May 11, 2012)

Mr. James J. Mergiotti  
President  
Peirce College  
1420 Pine Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102  

Dear President Mergiotti:

Congratulations! The Board of Commissioners of the Associate and Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Commission met on April 25-28, 2012, and granted reaffirmation of accreditation to Peirce College’s business programs, and initial accreditation of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting.

Conditions and notes indicate that either the Standard or Criteria is not fully met, and should be viewed as an opportunity to move your program to a higher level of excellence. Opportunities for improvement indicate that the Standard has been met, and is a suggestion to help move your processes from good to great. It would be extremely rare that a school receive accreditation without these conditions or notes given ACBSP's Core Value of Continuous Improvement and Organizational Learning, that "Business schools and programs should pursue regular cycles of planning, execution, and evaluation of every process and system. Ongoing improvement of these processes and systems leads to ever higher quality and student/stakeholder satisfaction.” The notes placed on your programs are:

**Note on Standard 5, Criterion 5.4:** The teaching load policy has allowed for full-time faculty to teach 15 credit hours per semester. The teaching loads for full-time faculty members indicate that the 12-credit-hours-per-semester have been exceeded in the Accounting and Business Administration programs. The College has initiatives for reduction of faculty teaching load. The 2014 Quality Assurance Report should include the improvements that are made to faculty load.

**Note on Standard 5, Criterion 5.3.2.b:** Eighteen percent of the credit hours in the accounting program are taught by academically qualified faculty, which is below the ACBSP guideline of 40 percent. Thirty three percent of the credit hours in the business administration program are taught by academically qualified faculty, which is below the ACBSP guideline of 40 percent. Several faculty members are enrolled in doctoral programs and three full time business faculty members are scheduled to complete their doctoral degrees by December 2012. The 2014 Quality Assurance Report should include the improvements that are made with the additions that are made to academically qualified faculty.
Notes must be reported on in future Quality Assurance Reports. You are encouraged to work with Commissioner, Dr. José Marín on the removal of the notes. Dr. Marín may be contacted by phone at: 5400330, Ext. 312 - 369 or through his e-mail address at; jmarin3.doc@ean.edu.co. Your Quality Assurance Report will be due on 2/15/2014, and every two years after that. Your ten-year reaffirmation will be due in 2022.

ACBSP will inform the public of decisions on accreditation status made by the Boards of Commissioners by posting the accreditation decisions on the ACBSP Gateway. The decisions on accreditation status can be accessed from the following link: Accreditation Decisions and will appear as the following:

**Peirce College**
Reaffirmation of Accreditation with improvement opportunities in the following standards:
Standard #5 Faculty and Staff Focus

ACBSP encourages you to publicly announce that your business programs are accredited. Next week, we will be sending you, via e-mail, a sample ACBSP Press Release and ACBSP Logo files for publicizing your accreditation. As you prepare these materials, the following is your official ACBSP statement:

The following business programs at Peirce College are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs:

- **Associate of Science Degree in Business Administration with concentrations**
- **Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with concentrations**

The following program at Peirce College achieved separate accounting accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs:

- **Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting**

Please take this opportunity to review the institution name as it will appear on your Certificate of Accreditation. If this is not correct, please notify Diana Hallerud via email at dianahallerud@acbsp.org and provide the correction by May 16, 2012.

**Name of institution as it will appear on the certificate:**

Peirce College
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Please mark your calendar to join us in Baltimore, Maryland, where we will honor you and all other schools receiving initial or reaffirmation of accreditation during the 2011-2012 membership year. You are encouraged to attend along with your Chief Academic Officer and Dean or Head of the Business School or Program. Many institutions invite many of the faculty to this prestigious celebration. Your institution will also be announced during the Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Institution meeting held on Saturday, June 16, 2012 at 3:45 p.m. There is a breakfast on Sunday morning June 17, 2012, at 7:45 a.m. for those institutions that are receiving accreditation.
The purpose of the breakfast is to more personally congratulate the institutional representatives and to outline the procedures that will be followed at the accreditation banquet. At least one institutional representative should attend the breakfast.

In addition to the breakfast, a professional photographer will be available on Sunday, June 17, 2012 to photograph all institutional representatives along with the ACBSP Director of Accreditation, Executive Liaison to the Board of Commissioners, and the Chair of the Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Board of Commissioners. **Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Institutions beginning with M – Z will be photographed from 6:10 to 6:30 p.m.** Appropriate dress for the photo session and banquet is business professional. The accreditation reception and banquet will immediately follow the photo session. The reception begins at 6:30 pm and the banquet begins at 7:00 pm.

The 2012 conference will be June 15-18 in Baltimore and our host hotel will be at the JW Marriott. Updated information is always available by going to ACBSP Gateway, www.acbsp.org. The 2012 conference theme will be, “Sustaining Excellence Through Quality Business Education.” Two Pre-Conference Workshops will be offered on June 14th and 15th. On Thursday and Friday, Dr. Gregory O’Brien and Dr. Annette Craven will present, **Setting the Table for Success**, an ACBSP Leadership Institute for new and prospective deans and program chairs. On Friday, June 15, from 8-11:30 a.m., there will be a Pre-Conference Workshop by Janice Stoudemire focusing on **Completing the Student Learning Process**.

Online registration will is available at: [http://www.acbsp.org/p/cm/ld/fid=188](http://www.acbsp.org/p/cm/ld/fid=188).

Congratulations on maintaining such a high quality business program.

Sincerely,

![Signature]

Steve Parscale
Director of Accreditation

Enclosures

c: Dr. Patricia A. Rucker, Senior Vice President, Academic Advancement & Provost