

# Business School seeks accreditation

By Sunny Powell

The School of Business at UTD is not fully accredited. UTD is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, but not by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

The AACSB is composed of several deans of business schools and is considered "the" association that accredits business schools. The AACSB accredits bachelor's and master's business programs.

Several things go into receiving accreditation. The objectives of the business school are examined. Admission standards and the application of these standards are considered.

Students who enroll in the school are also scrutinized. A formula is applied to determine whether GPA and GMAT scores are high enough for accreditation.

Personnel is also examined. There must be a certain ratio of professors to students. These professors must be full-time and terminally degreed. The research output of the school is measured. The accreditation committee also examines curriculum and expects courses such Marketing, Finance, Organizational Theory, and Business Environment to be included. Other considerations are library services and financial resources.

Some of UTD's faculty feel that the business school administration is not actively pursuing accreditation. Professor Abbas Alkhafaji feels the administration is "not working

for it." This issue is a "concern of all students."

This situation, however, mainly concerns international students. Ahmed Katamen was attending UTD on a scholarship. His government made him change schools because he was not attending an accredited school.

Alkhafaji believes more full-time professors are needed. Instructors must have "reasonable time for students . . . this school could be the center of Texas if it was accredited."

Professor Rogene Buchholz was asked to do a UTD Self-Study Report in the spring of 1981. Areas that were found as problems included full-time faculty and the library. "The business school hasn't had time to build up faculty," said Bucholz. "However, the library may still be a problem."

Business School Dean Paul Gaddis believes that the "only thing that stands in the way is growth. Our quality of faculty is far above those that have been accredited," said Gaddis. Approximately two professors for Management Information Systems, two Finance professors and one Business Policy professor would be needed to achieve accreditation standards. However, with budget cuts, Gaddis seriously doubts whether anyone will be recruited this year.

Gaddis believes that the issue is "not important to the majority of faculty or student." Gaddis did point out that the administration will continue to push for the accreditation.