

A Proposal for Moving Ethics Forward in Higher Education

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There is general agreement among accounting and other business faculty that ethics should be taught as part of the business education in higher education. The leading accreditation agency, AACSB, considers the teaching of ethics to be core value. However, a problem arises because many professors in academics can't agree on a definition of ethical behaviors or how ethics should be taught. An additional problem is the fact that what is considered ethical behavior differs by country and culture. This paper addresses these issues and suggests solutions to help ensure that today's accounting and other business graduates are better prepared to work in a complex business environment. The authors look at the U.S. Service Academies and Senior Military Colleges (SMCs) for guidance and make suggestions for building a stronger ethical business graduate.