

# *31<sup>st</sup> & Pearl*

## **Accounting Students Beware**

One of the highlights of the 31 August 2007 CoB faculty convocation was the attempt by Patty Munn (instructor of accounting), Gwen Pate (associate professor of accounting) and George Carter (professor of economics) to convince the rest of the CoB's faculty that they, the CoB faculty, are within their rights to deny their students the opportunity to drop a course after passing the mid-semester official drop date. That means that if, and when, a student approaches you, beyond midterm and up until the last day of class, with a WP/WF drop form, you can refuse to sign it, thereby forcing that student to remain in your class.

Did they convince the CoB? Not everyone. Management professor David Duhon didn't buy any of it. Dolly Loyd (instructor of marketing), however, didn't need convincing -- she was already convinced of it (i.e., having the right to deny a drop). Who knows what the rest of the CoB believes? One thing remains, Pate and Carter believe it, and they defended their belief vociferously. Munn was looking for a cue to support her wish to use this "faculty right," and she got it from both Carter, the Chair of the EFIB, and Pate, the CoB's Director of Undergraduate Services.

What does this mean for the CoB's accounting students? It means that two of their instructors -- Pate and Munn -- believe that students hold no drop rights after the passing of the midterm. Those rights belong to the professor on that date (midterm). Thus, at midterm a student's right to drop drops dead. Why does Munn (and perhaps Pate) want this power so badly? One can only conclude that she wishes to deny someone who holds a 64.7 class average from dropping on the last day of classes. Clearly such a student wishes to avoid having a D on his/her transcript. Sadly, it also seems clear that Munn wishes not only to ensure he/she gets that D, but perhaps also that she (Munn) gets one last chance to make it an F.