

31st & Pearl

Beer Summit CoB

The recent USMNEWS.net editorial entitled [Carter Nailed It](#) really showed the irony in George Carter's behavior, mostly as a CoB administrator (EFIB chairman), over the past several years. Carter worked overtime to derail CoB dean Lance Nail's efforts to move the CoB forward. Before that it was all about supporting former CoB dean Harold Doty's ill-advised agenda, which meant pitting faculty against one-another in a way that divided the CoB so that Doty could maneuver his program through. CoBer Farooq Malik was a part of Carter's designs then, and he was later rewarded by Carter with a move to FIN from ECO – one that garnered Malik a \$20,000 raise with one stroke of the pen.

Fast-forward to now. Recent speculation that has ECO being terminated by USM in order for the CoB to reach a \$2 million cut line has the CoB achieving a gross savings of about \$1.2 million. That gross figure nets out to about \$1 million after Nail hires a couple of ECO faculty to service the economics principles courses for the CoB's other academic programs. The process of servicing these ECO courses potentially yields some hidden costs, however this seems so only at first blush. You see, the CoB already has a few faculty in units other than ECO who own doctorate degrees in economics. Malik is at the top of this list, having relatively recently picked up an economics PhD from Texas Tech University. This means that Malik can easily lead the transition by covering some sections of principles of economics until Nail decides on a more permanent solution.

Wouldn't that be the cherry on top of all ironies, for Malik to assist Nail in sweeping Carter out of USM's b-school? And if he (Malik) somehow manages a little financial bonus out of it, or perhaps a future course release for services rendered – all figured out over a beer of course – then congrats to him (Malik). The service he'll be doing for Nail will be worth as much, if not more. Let's hope that if this comes to fruition, and speculation says as much, they'll keep it on the hush-hush and leave others to marvel at the genius of it all. After piling up a number of losses, Nail could use one in the win column about now.