

31st & Pearl

Black Knew Then What We Know Now

So many CBA faculty thought it completely silly that, during the Ty Black administration of the college, faculty had to submit actual copies of their scholarship at annual review time. The running joke was that it was bush league, that reputable schools don't operate in that way. Well, Black knows people, at least CoB (then CBA) people, as good as or better than most. Black knew then that co-authors would mix up the citations of their work, as we saw in last year's Sedona records for Stephen Bushardt, David Duhon and Francis Daniel. Black knew then that the accountants could appear to be shifty in reporting their accomplishments.

Fast forward 10 to 15 years and look where we are – Roderick Posey is claiming to have “more than 100” publications, Steven Jackson waited until *after* annual evaluations to clean up his Sedona file (which contained a double count), and usmnews.net reporters are still searching for James Henderson's recent publication in *College Teaching*. Oh, and let's not forget that Gwen Pate reported a *Journal of Education for Business* as a *Journal of Business and Economic Perspectives*. I wonder if Black knew then that EFIB Chair George Carter had once served Mississippi as its Commissioner of Higher Education?

Black knew then that *the faculty member's own standard of accuracy* (in reporting accomplishments), to put in George Carter's familiar terms, was just what it sounds like. Black knew it. But then, so did we. And, now we really know it. It's in our faces like never before, thanks to usmnews.net. What's more, Black sits at home (in retirement) vindicated. The behavior of so many CoB faculty is, now what he knew it was then – bush league.

31st & Pearl is a series housed at usmnews.net that features commentary on aspects of life in the CoB from a variety of columnists.