

31st & Pearl

Is There a Whole Series from Bushardt?

Another day, another major oil spill in USM's College of Business. If you're like us, you're only now regaining your balance after reading management professor Stephen Bushardt's little opus, *Managing the Boss*. Try not to think about the following too much, but here goes: that essay likely passed for scholarship, and thus a raise for Bushardt, at the time. Knowing Bushardt – "Life is good, no?" – like we all do, it's hard to imagine that this essay is not part of a whole series of *Managing* essays from the master "manipulator" himself.

Can't you see it? *Managing the Wife*. *Managing the In-Laws*. *Managing the Pastor*. *Managing the IRS*. *Managing the Landlord*. *Managing the University Admissions Officer*. *Managing the AACSB Peer Review Team*. *Managing the Dean of Students*. *Managing the Bill Collector*. *Managing the Highway Patrol Officer*. *Managing the Suspension Committee Chair*. It's clear. It's sort of like Bushardt's own *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series, but with bad intentions. There's something in it for everyone, from those down on their luck financially, to others having difficulties at school. To borrow a phrase from the usmpride.com report itself, it's "classic Bushardt, classic CoB."

Yes – another day, another stain on the CoB. How long will this continue? Who knows? With the current cast of characters in charge, "world class" will always be "no class" – any way you want to interpret the latter. Note to CoB PR Director Jan May: Print out 100 copies and have Bushardt host a signing event over at the Barnes & Noble inside the Thad Cochran Center. After all, the CoB should be proud of what it stands for, and lately this is the type of stuff the CoB seems to be doing better than anyone else around.

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