31st & Pearl

Dear John

Lambert, congratulations on being elevated from the status of visiting assistant professor of international business to a tenure-track position. We understand that you may have read stories about "what was said" at the EFIB meeting wherein your "promotion" was discussed and voted on, and we want to reassure you of your future in the CoB. Former Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand spoke about the EFIB's future opportunities to throw a negative vote at you. He mentioned the third year review and the tenure decision, which he ominously referred to as a sixth year review.

Well, John, nobody was moved. In fact, EFIB Chair George Carter made the opposite case. Carter said your two acceptances and your two revise and resubmit opportunities represent "legitimate by [CoB] standards" examples of scholarly productivity. That's four (4) "legitimate" examples, if you're counting. Two or three more, over the next five years, and you're golden. Of course, there will be even more than that, we're sure. As for teaching, Carter said you are the best "I" the "EFIB" has seen. To recount, when it comes to teaching Carter said "Linghui [Tang] is no John Lambert," and Tang was thought to be a pretty good teacher. What about service? No brainer – IB students are already getting bigtime apprenticeships.

You're in, John. Don't let Niroomand scare you, it's only a show. Carter made the case, and the junior profs who will be around to adjudicate your dossier did not refute Carter. In case they all get spasmodic and forget, the "minutes" of the meeting are a matter of record. Just check with usmnews.net should you ever need to refresh their memories. In the meantime, go ahead and join PERS. One day you'll get 13 checks, and thank us for it.

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