31st & Pearl

EFIB Political Waters Safe Again for Klinedinst

To hear some EFIB faculty tell it, when it came to faculty governance votes economics professor Mark Klinedinst historically cast the lone vote for a committee governance structure. The rest of the department historically cast ballots for the "chair only" option. Then came the fall of 2006 EFIB faculty meeting, wherein the committee governance option passed for the first time in quite some time. It is believed that Klinedinst cast his vote for committee governance once again, only this time he got what he had always wanted, or at least *acted as if* he had always wanted. Most regular readers of usmnews.net know the rest of the story. Fearing a loss of control and power, EFIB Chair George Carter resigned from the governance committee, and cited the opinion of University counsel that his (Carter's) resignation set aside the department's earlier governance vote.

Thus, on what usmnews.net has referred to as "Black Tuesday," the EFIB met once again to determine its faculty governance option. This time Carter had the necessary votes, albeit only enough to produce a slim margin. This time, in true former administrator fashion, Klinedinst spoke out against the committee option by calling for a re-vote, something sources told usmnews.net that others were protesting. There is little doubt how Klinedinst voted on "Black Tuesday," when the EFIB's original committee choice was overturned in favor of the "chair only" option.

The governance vote in the EFIB is making news once again. Another year, another controversy, or so it seems. This time, however, there will almost certainly be an overwhelming majority for Carter's favored "chair only" option. So big will the majority likely be that it will be safe, once again, for Klinedinst to wade back into the political waters and cast his vote for committee-style governance. Yes, the political waters are safe enough for Klinedinst, one of the CoB's wealthy land owners (see "CoB Castles"), to pretend to be a liberal again. Bon voyage.

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