

31st & Pearl

Harold Doty Brings "Change You Can Xerox"

They say that "even a blind squirrel finds an acorn now and then." The same will be true for former CoB Dean, Harold Doty. He, too, will one day land a new job as the Dean of some (junior) college or university. When that day arrives, Doty will, to borrow a now *infamous* phrase from Hillary Clinton, bring "change you can Xerox." He did it once, he'll (most likely) do it again.

Let's recap. Shortly after arriving in USM's College of Business in the summer of 2003, Doty gave his new underlings two gifts: "Developing Careers" and PRIDE. According to reports at usmnews.net, neither were original. The first seems to have been influenced by the chapter title of a popular human resource management textbook -- a book that Doty should have been familiar with at the time. The second is an acronym from several ideals specified for the CoB by Doty (professionalism, respect, integrity, etc.). However, as usmnews.net reporters showed, everyone from the local sheriff to the neighborhood grade schoolers have used the phrase at one time or another.

Granted, the above examples of "Xeroxing" aren't the worst things anyone has ever seen out of an academic administrator. However, Doty was just warming up at the time. For his next two gifts, he went to Jared. These were the incomparable integrity policy, taken directly from the Whitman business school at Syracuse University, and the AACSB faculty qualifications definitions, borrowed "without proper citation" (i.e., "Xeroxed") from Central Missouri State University (of all places). Imagine it -- an academic integrity policy copied from another university without attribution. That takes the cake! Well, almost. Copying a low-level university's AACSB work product goes even further. And, what makes these stories even more compelling is they way Doty sucked rank-and-file faculty into the intrigue. In the first case, former CoB marketing professor, Laurie Babin, officially commissioned the "Xeroxing." In the second, Doty coaxed CoB accounting professor, Charles Jordan, to beg CMSU for *ex post* permission to "Xerox" its AACSB work. I wonder now if Jordan made the call (to CMSU) from his home in Panama City, *Florida*. Now that would be the cherry on top!

Think about it for a moment. Doty's copier could soon be coming to a (junior) college or university near you. If he does, try not to get sucked into the change-by-Xeroxing.

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