

31st & Pearl

Pent-Up Doty

Former CoB Dean D. Harold Doty hasn't held an administrative post in almost 12 months. After resigning as CoB Dean, on 9 April 2008, amidst a cloud of controversy, Doty has tried to land the top position elsewhere, first at Clemson then at Boise State. Like so many past attempts, such as those at both North and South Florida, Doty's candidacy fell flat.

With the failures to move on from USM mounting, Doty must be bursting at the seams to give another go at managing a business college. The problem for the next institution is that there is at least a 50 percent chance that Doty's stint there will go worse for him and the institution than what occurred during Doty's time at USM (2003-07). Why? Doty is always right, and he isn't a fast learner. His pent-up desire for a do-over means that he's likely to leap head-last into the next situation, hoping to prove all of the naysayers wrong. He'll likely push many of the same, bad ideas he pushed while at USM, and he'll probably do so with greater force and speed. That means we'll see more than *ex officio* voting and triangulation of business faculty and central administration. Next time we'll see a strong dean-weak associate dean model that only pretends to be pro-faculty governance. Next time there'll be less "Syracuse Doty" and more "Southwest Texas State Doty."

Yes, Doty is wound tight these days. As a result, should he get a chance to lead another business college his hiatus-caused TMJ will likely be loosed in a way that has a second business school being chewed up. If that does occur, one can only hope that the unfortunate institution is already at Tier IV on the *U.S. News & World Report* scale. One would hate to see another school dragged down to the bottom.

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