

31st & Pearl

Tier II Larry

Amidst all of the turmoil inside the CoB in recent weeks and months, a small detail in a recent usmnews.net report almost slipped through the cracks and escaped further notice. That is, former assistant professor of finance Larry Eisenberg is now at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. After being handed a terminal contract from EFIB Chair George Carter at the end of spring semester 2006, Eisenberg departed the CoB near the end of summer semester 2006. Even though Eisenberg had just been dealt a crushing blow from Carter's "tenure club," his sudden summer 2006 departure was a shock to many.

Yes, Larry has moved on, and up. If you visit the 2007 edition of *U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Colleges*, you'll find the NJIT in Tier II among the national universities. Talk about landing on one's feet. Eisenberg accomplished that, and then some. According to sources, old CoB hands will say that LE had some difficulties in the classroom. That may indeed be true. But, as those same sources tell us, no plan to improve Eisenberg's classroom performance was ever put into place and tested. Instead, Carter and other CoB administrators let LE drift along, without lending a helping hand. That Doty and others were willing to contort their bodies to resemble pretzels in order to get David Duhon, whose entire academic year's teaching load revolves around playing a shoe company simulation game, promoted to professor and Ken Zantow tenured and promoted to associate professor, makes the Eisenberg episode all the more troubling.

Given the recent AACSB revelation that the CoB is weak in a number of areas, one has to wonder what goes through the CoB administration's collective mind. Sources tell us that LE had published an article in *Management Science*, in this Century, and he was working on a revision for the *Journal of Futures Markets* at the time Carter's tenure club struck his temple. At the same time, Duhon combines a "letter of agreement" with an article in the *Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education* to become a full, while Zantow spices up a "4th Year Review" with some teaching articles and gets tenured and promoted. Where's the "equal opportunity" in all of this? We're sure left wondering. It's likely many others are as well.

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