

31st & Pearl

Dr. Niroo – who???

The CoB's vote on 8-Dec-06 to amend the faculty evaluation process accomplished a lot of things. One thing that has heretofore gone unmentioned is that the vote diminished the political power of CoB Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand. By getting the faculty evaluation and merit raise process put behind closed doors, wherein only CoB Dean Harold Doty and the individual department chairpersons decide who wins and who loses, Niroomand will no longer have the same ability to shift raise monies from faculty in one area to faculty in another as he did in prior years.

Management professors Stephen Bushardt and David Duhon, along with their department chairman Barry Babin, must have a case of the giggles about all of this. The chance to get big raises *and* stick it to Niroomand is almost too much fun for them to have in a single day. We're sure they'll manage to land on their feet somehow. In the meantime, economics professors Edward Nissan and Charles Sawyer, along with their chair George Carter, must be scrambling now. As merit raises in tourism management and fashion merchandising and elsewhere stretch out to fill the empty space provided by the Bushardt/Duhon proposal, the old hands in EFIB have to be worried about footing the bill.

The palace coup that was effected by the "good ol' boys" of the CoB will be the gift that keeps on giving. Word from Jackson is that some nifty raises may be headed higher ed's way this spring. On the outside looking in stand a number of CoB alumni who must also be tickled by Niroomand's diminished position. Former CBA Dean Tyrone Black, and former faculty like Eddie Lewis and Mary Ann Cockerham (and on and on) will probably raise a glass or two of eggnog this holiday season in celebration of the unexpected triumph.