

31st & Pearl

“Makin’ Their Way, the Only Way They Know How”

Thanks to EFIB chairman George Carter, we have now identified some of the CoB’s “good ole boys.” Those boys have been busy this year. As we look back on the year of the “Letter of Agreement,” we must admit that our first guess about what the group wants for management professor David Duhon was a little off. It seemed like the promotion was necessary to enhance Duhon’s PERS package, which it will certainly do. However, after the recent vote to change the CoB Faculty Handbook it seems clear that the \$5,500 raise that comes with promotion to full was not all they were after. It now looks like they’re trying to get that ole Duhon boy into Canebrake.

As stories begin to trickle in to usmpride staff about how the deal was done, we stand in amazement at management professor Stephen Bushardt’s ability to orchestrate “change” in the CoB. In doing so this time, Bushardt made short work of CoB Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand. In fact, Niroomand was dispatched with such rapidity that the Bushardt’s Friday evening plans were hardly affected. How did it all happen? Change good, centralization bad, Babin says broken, we’re ready to vote, Niroomand gone, let’s hurry, the “ayes” have it, see you next week, Merry Christmas.

Now that the score is Bushardt/Duhon 1, Niroomand 0, it will be interesting to see what happens next. Not much is likely, given what we hear from sources. If Niroomand’s response to all of this is a closed door meeting with economics professor Ed Nissan, then there’s not much left in the tank. If you’re an interested bystander who would like to know what the CoB’s future holds, it looks like getting to know Barry Babin, Bushardt, and Duhon – the bizzaro world’s Dukes of Lamar – would be worth your while.