

31st & Pearl

Doty's Legacy, and Gall

CoB Dean Harold Doty has gall. He has the gall to stand in front of CoB faculty, as he did in December of 2006, and critically remark that former CBA Dean Joseph Greene's standard for raises was "who had the children last." It takes gall to make such a statement when one's own standard seems to be "who has the biggest mortgage" or "who has the most expensive lifestyle." Doty's CoB is far from a meritocracy. In fact, Greene's college may have been more like a meritocracy than Doty's, now that USM has ushered in the research focus that was not part of Greene's world.

The truth of the matter is that the CBA of Ty Black is the only time when USM's business school resembled a meritocracy, and even then there were significant departures from that ideal. The Doty era and the "Black to Fade" era are now synonymous. The CoB itself is quickly fading from relevance. That's not hard to comprehend when one considers the secondary standard for pay raises in Doty's regime – "who offers the most political support for the latest agenda item."

Whatever its shortcomings, Greene's CBA could not have been worse than the morass that is Doty's CoB. The financial support of L.D. Brinkman, Gene Carlisle and many others attest to that. Given the recent posting of the long list of usmpride.com readers, a list that represents only a sample of this site's readership, the demise of Doty's CoB will be a matter of public record, and that record of demise and the gall that goes with it will be Doty's legacy.

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