

31st & Pearl

Hello, I'm with Kintera and I'm Calling About . . .

Harold Doty's mouth continues to amaze. Now we learn that one of his newest pet projects is an electronic screening of various USM alumni. Question 1: Why? It seems Doty really needs to know just what each of them is worth, as well as how they've structured their assets, so that he can "replenish" his "booze account" (see video clip at usmpride.com). It's hard to host a kegger when the petty cash jar is running on empty. Question 2: How? USM is going to pay Kintera, a subsidiary of Marts and Lundy, \$30,000 to conduct the financial analyses (of USM alumni). This new project may mean that the Carlisles can expect an inquiry about the payouts on their life insurance policies. Or, perhaps the Draughns will get notification that a real estate professional needs access to their house for appraisal purposes.

Given what we now know about how "booze account" funds are used, all of this has little chance of going over well with local business executives and College of Business alumni. But, Doty can't help himself on this one. As he told faculty and administration at South Florida in September of 2005 — the same event in which the Kintera project was announced — ". . . I [m] me, and that's a full-time job." We can't help but think he's putting in a little overtime on this one, but this is the same Dean who, as we are told, proposed a secret degree program at a CoB committee meeting. After three years it's hard to tell when he's running full throttle or just idling. It all seems to blend together now.

Sometimes "what goes around comes around" (another Doty sound byte). In this case, perhaps usmpride.com's contributors should consider beginning a series on the wherewithal of CoB administrators, starting at the top. Some of the work is done. For instance, we know that one central CoB administrator got more than a \$20,000 merit raise in 2004. How did he "structure" it? Certainly this type of this information is "publicly available," just as Doty stated in Tampa.

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