

31st & Pearl

The Faculty Member's Standard of Accuracy

If you've read the ". . . Mock Interview with a CoB Administrator" by now, then you have seen the title above before. One of the CoB administrators actually wrote this line as part of a longer statement describing how the "all information used and published [in the new SEDONA database] on our faculty is consistent, *to the faculty member's standard of accuracy.*" We must admit to being as intrigued by this statement as the mock interviewer was at the time. Who wrote it? After what we've seen at usmpride.com, it could've been any one of them. From incorrect dates on published work to journal article entries that don't reflect anything based on reality, it seems that the CoB administrators all used the same standard of accuracy — *inaccuracy* — when completing their own SEDONA files. From what we gather by reading "SEDONA Files" and "On the Folly of . . .," the whole 2006 raise process in the CoB was a Category 5 academic disaster.

You get results as bad as those that we saw this year (2006) only through practice. We can't help but think now that the administrator who penned the phrase that now poses as the title of our column committed a Freudian-like slip of the hand, revealing a small bit of the "administrator communication code" that many in the CoB suspect has existed for quite some time. With every day that goes by now, the whole CoB reward structure looks to us like a scheme that can be purchased using a 1-800 number from a late-night television infomercial.

Professor Donna Davis, the CoB's SEDONA Coordinator, has stated on the USM Forum --- No Quarter Message Board that she believes the information contained in SEDONA should be publicly accessible. We agree. However, one thing we are learning is that there are many "acceptable standards" to CoB administrators regarding a number of concepts. One of these concepts is "confidentiality." As such, you can bet 2006 was our first, and last, opportunity to *observe* how they define "accuracy."