

AOL Czar Revisited

It seems like everyone agrees that the CoB needs a person to be in charge of the AOL efforts for re-accreditation – an AOL Czar (or Czarina); everyone except Harold Doty, that is. As usual, his lack of foresight and non-existent planning skills have brought him to the point of wanting a new committee chairman instead of a Czar. If we were jaded, we might think that is the case because the news board has suggested a Czar for quite some time. Insiders in, on, and around the various CoB AACSB committees have reported that Doty has finally seen the obvious on at least one point: Dave Duhon is not the man to lead any AACSB charge. The same insiders say Duhon acknowledges this too. We could explore for pages why this obvious situation (Duhon is to detailed administration what a fish is to a bicycle) was not corrected years ago, but this is not the time for that (nor the same idea with Tony Henthorne as new Tourism Management Chairman).

Harold wants a new committee structure for the AOL morass. Please see any of the number of fine articles on re-arranging deck chairs on this board. Silly ole Harold seems to “think” that a committee with other committee chairmen and assorted CoB chairmen and other administrators makes for a fine committee that will cure all ills and make the sixth year visit the last one . . . for four years. While they certainly do perform some tasks, which of those in that group will voluntarily quit being a “foreman” in favor of being a “laborer”? Can’t you hear the “Are you crazy?!” comments being shouted at each other? If the “leaders” do not lead, nor follow instructions, and there are no “workers” to perform, how exactly does this get anything off the multi-page “probation” report corrected? Even with all this mythic “positive momentum”, this is a plan doomed from conception.

Who is desired person to be the Chairman of chairmen? Harold has widely said that the object of his desires for this is – once again – Dr. Mike Vest. Again, a great choice if – *if* - the right structure was in place *and* Dr. Vest had a burning passion for the job. It is possible: Dr. Stan Lewis once had the assessment passion in the CoB. The suggestion for Harold seems so obvious that even Dean Oblivious should understand it, but, alas, no. If Dr. Vest is your selection, you must make it worth his while to do it; you know, Harold, an incentive. Surely you must have heard of them at some point in your career. While we have no specific facts on this at this time (and unlike Harold that *does* stop us from agreeing 100% with someone), we have the long, torturous Doty years as a clear pattern to use. The Doty dogma is to lavish undue rewards on his 100%ers (who could have been rented for a far cheaper rate), and then low-ball those who can accomplish

something and try to bully them in to what you want them to do. We know this is like telling students how and what to study for a test, but if you want to get Dr. Vest, or anyone else for this job that is needed for re-accreditation, you *must* make it worth his while. Do not be a piker for once, Harold. Step up. This may be your *only* chance to succeed.