

# Amazeballs

## A Look at Bennett's Feb-Mar 2013 Consulting Contract with IHL

USMNEWS.net has obtained a copy of the consulting contractual agreement that then-incoming USM president Rodney Bennett negotiated with the Mississippi IHL.



**CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**  
**Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning**

The contract is made and entered into by and between the **Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning**, State of Mississippi, hereinafter called the "**Board**," and **Rodney Bennett** hereinafter called the "**Contractor**."

The **Board** and the **Contractor** hereby agree to the following terms and conditions: The laws of the State of Mississippi:

1. The **Contractor** shall provide consulting services as directed by the **Board** to review existing programs, operations, and personnel at the **University of Southern Mississippi** in order to effectuate an orderly transition in the Office of the President at said university on April 1, 2013.
2. This contract shall be effective from **February 8, 2013** through **March 30, 2013**.
3. The **Board** agrees to pay the **Contractor** \$1,000 per day for work performed under this contract plus actual and reasonable expenses. The **Contractor** shall submit detailed statements of services provided and receipts for actual and reasonable expenses incurred. The maximum amount payable under this Contract for consulting services and associated expenses shall not exceed \$10,000.
4. The **Contractor** shall provide such reports as may be required by the **Board** relating to the progress of the transition at the **University of Southern Mississippi**.

WITNESS our signatures on the dates shown below.

<p><b>For the Board:</b></p> <p> _____ Hank M. Bounds, Commissioner of Higher Education</p> <p>_____ Date <b>2-26-13</b></p>	<p><b>For the Contractor:</b></p> <p> _____ Rodney Bennett</p> <p>_____ Date <b>2.26.13</b></p>
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As the insert above indicates, Bennett was hired as a consulting president from 8-Feb-2013 through 30-Mar-2013. He took over for interim president Aubrey Lucas on 1-Apr-2013, or about 4 weeks ago. The agreement paid Bennett \$1,000 per day, with up to \$10,000 in expenses over the 5-6 week period. It is also worth noting that even though the consulting contract began on 8-Feb-2013, it was not signed by either Bennett or IHL commissioner Hank Bounds until 26-Feb-2013.