

Cunt Martha's Extravagance

Part 1 – 'Chad Driskell & guests' Fly to Omaha

Via a Mississippi Open Records Act request, USMNEWS.net recently obtained a large batch of documents from USM relating to USM president Martha Saunders' university aircraft. This series, *Cunt Martha's Extravagance*, provides analysis of these documents. The insert below presents an interdepartmental invoice for a trip to Omaha, Nebraska, made by (1) "Dr. Saunders & guests", and (2) "Chad Driskell & guests" on 14&16-June-2009. This trip was made to enjoy the USM baseball team's participation in the 2009 College World Series.

FORM # 1115

Original
 Department Copy
 Register File

INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOICE
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
(FOR CAMPUS USE ONLY)

Date: 6/23/2009

CHARGE: President's Office CREDIT: Airplane Operations
DEPARTMENT NAME DEPARTMENT NAME

8001 200-0001 8003 200-4130
EO POST NUMBER EO POST NUMBER

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION OF GOODS OR SERVICES, INCLUDING DATES OF SERVICE	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1	5.85 hour round trip flight to Omaha, NE for Dr. Saunders & guests	4,880.00	4,880.00
1	5.85 hour round trip flight to Omaha, NE for Chad Driskell & guests	4,880.00	4,880.00
Trip June 14, 2009 to Omaha, NE for College World Series			
Trip June 16, 2009 to Omaha, NE for College World Series			
TOTAL			9,760.00

SPS APPROVAL IF REQUIRED: _____ DATE: _____
PROVOST APPROVAL IF REQUIRED: _____ DATE: _____

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION	ACCOUNT	FUND	DEPTD	PROGRAM	PROJECTIONANT	AMOUNT
BUDGET STRINGS TO CHARGE FOR SERVICES OR MATERIALS RECEIVED	804021	10H10	100001	0000		4880.00
	804021	10H10	100003	0000		4880.00
COUNTERS DEPARTMENT SYMBOL						
BUDGET STRINGS TO CREDIT FOR SALES OF SERVICES OR MATERIALS	804021	10H10	100011	0000		9360.00
COUNTERS DEPARTMENT SYMBOL						

JOURNAL NUMBER: _____
JOURNAL DATE: _____

Who is Chad Driskell? [According to USM](#), Driskell (pictured below) is the executive assistant to the president for external affairs. A native of Forest, MS, he is a 1993 graduate of USM, earning a bachelor's degree in political science. He was selected to serve in his current post by a committee chaired by Julian Allen, associate vice president for research and economic development at USM.



Chad Driskell

According to the invoice, USM charged itself \$9,360 for Saunders'/Driskell's trip to Omaha to watch the Golden Eagles. The portion attributable to Driskell, who is likely a big USM baseball fan, and his guests came to \$4,680. What are the odds that Driskell, an executive assistant at USM, reimbursed USM for this amount? If you are a member of the USM faculty senate, you might want to ponder this question as you prepare to represent those (possibly 100) USM faculty who will be terminated by the 2010 budget cuts.