

Aunt Martha's Psychiatry Couch

Kangaroo Court-Type Atmosphere Pervading USM

Ed Kemp's 29-April-2011 [news story](#) for *The Hattiesburg American* [tells more](#) about [the saga](#) involving Kate Greene, the USM political science professor who has been suspended from her spring 2011 Supreme Court & Civil Liberties course. According to Kemp, AAUP-USM sent a letter to USM president Martha Saunders on 13-April-2011, ". . . expressing concern about the administration's failure to follow AAUP guidelines and Southern Miss' own policies for the suspension" of Greene, which occurred due to a 30-March-2011 in-class argument with USM SGA vice president [Jeffery McClendon](#). Greene was suspended, with pay, for two weeks, while McClendon was allowed to continue attending Greene's Supreme Court & Civil Liberties course. After two weeks, Greene was reinstated to teach only two of her three spring 2011 courses, while Troy Gibson, Greene's replacement for Supreme Court & Civil Liberties, continues to serve as the official instructor-of-record for that course.



Details of Greene's suspension by USM led to complaints from AAUP-USM, its president Tammy Greer, and former USM history professor Bill Scarborough, among others. According to AAUP-USM's statement to Kemp, the Saunders administration did not provide Greene with an opportunity to explain the events of 30-March-2011, instead relying on only McClendon's view, possibly supported by other students, of that day's altercation. AAUP-USM also told Kemp that Saunders required Greene to submit to a psychiatric evaluation before being allowed to return to her teaching duties. As regular readers of USMNEWS.net are aware, the practice of requiring psychiatric evaluations – a move Scarborough described as “insulting” – is becoming a staple in the Saunders administration's downward mobbing of faculty program. That requirement was attempted in Saunders' mobbing of USMNEWS.net's editor, a situation dating back to the spring of 2007, and one involving USM's new associate vice president for research, Gordon Cannon. Lastly, USM associate professor of history, Doug Chambers, told Kemp that the Saunders administration's “preemptory” suspension of Greene is both “reprehensible” and in violation of every norm of proper administration of an institution of higher education.