

## Admin Bloat Marches On at USM

HATTIESBURG – According to a 9-Sept-2011 [presser from USM](#), Bay St. Louis native Lauren Benvenuti, shown below, has been named the USM Alumni Association’s Manager for Constituent Relations. According to the presser, Benvenuti – a two-time graduate of USM – will serve “a dual role for the [USM Alumni] Association as the primary field representative and adviser for The Legacy, the student alumni association.” In the former role, Benvenuti “maintains relationships with individual chapter presidents, alumni ambassadors and constituent society officers and coordinates the calendar of external events for the Association.” In the latter position, she will “manage[ The Legacy’s] programming and budget.” Lastly, the presser notes that Benvenuti comes to the USMAA from her graduate assistant post with USM’s Luckyday Foundation Citizenship Scholars Program.



*Lauren Benvenuti*

In [recent months](#), USMNEWS.net [has published](#) a number of [reports](#) and [editorials](#) regarding [administrative bloat at](#) USM. Sources indicate that this particular situation looks much [like that](#) surrounding the USMAA’s [hiring of](#) Elizabeth Payne, the former USM Centennial Celebration Coordinator. As such, this story perhaps relates to what a prior USMNEWS.net report (linked above) refers to as “an age-old phenomenon at USM” wherein “much of the institution’s budget is used to employ relatives and associates of prominent Hattiesburg-area residents in various nice-paying staff positions.”