BREAKING NEWS

Are the Eyes of Texas Upon Niroomand?

HATTIESBURG – Sources not far from CoB economist Farhang Niroomand say that the former CoB associate dean is looking to become the new business dean at the University of Houston – Victoria. Niroomand served as AD under both former CBA dean William Gunther (1998-2003) and former CoB dean Harold Doty (2003-07), wherein, according to insiders, Niroomand controlled, at least in large part, the reins.



Farhang Niroomand

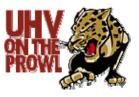
A visit to the UH - Victoria business school's <u>website</u> revealed that the current dean of business there, Jifu Wang, is serving in an "interim" capacity. Should Niroomand secure the top spot in UH - V's business school, he would once again be working under Tim Hudson, current UH - V president and former USM provost. Some sources describe Niroomand's relationship with Hudson (while the two were at USM) as "close," though others used the term "roller coaster."



Tim Hudson

If UH - V is indeed "on the prowl" for a new b-school dean, and if Niroomand is her target, she will be gaining someone with an "in" to educational grants from the U.S. Department of Education and ties to the "economic development" communities. Both of these are areas that Hudson championed while in the administration at the University of Southern Mississippi. In fact, sources tell

USMNEWS.net that Hudson was the architect of USM's economic development efforts/programs, which will soon be housed in the multi-million dollar Trent Lott complex on the U.S. Hwy 49 boundary of USM's main campus.



For Niroomand, UH - V will likely be a major adjustment. Founded in 1973, UH - V has a student body of only 2,600. While at USM, Niroomand was at the heart of a number of <u>controversies and scandals</u> – episodes he would likely now want to distance himself from. Similar behavior at UH - Victoria, however, will "stand out" even more than it did at USM.