

## Coffman Out as USM Chief Information Officer

HATTIESBURG - Speculation that Homer Coffman's recent assignment to administrative leave by the Martha Saunders administration - coming as a result of his participation in what is now *infamously* known as USM's "Tabletgate" scandal - would become permanent appears to have come true. A recent visit to [www.homercoffman.com](http://www.homercoffman.com) revealed that the former USM chief information officer has, since early 2012, referred to himself as an independent information technology management consultant. He also notes there that he concluded his employment [with USM in](#) early 2012. Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net will recall that the [Tabletgate scandal](#) heated up during fall 2011, resulting in administrative punishments for Coffman, former USM provost Robert Lyman, and USM contracts and procurements director Mike Herndon.



*Homer Coffman*

Some readers may be surprised to learn that Hoffman earned a B.S. in criminal justice from [USM](#) back in 1975, making him *yet another* USM alum among the central administrative ranks of the 100 year old institution. Coffman earned an M.S. in organizational development and information systems from the [Naval Postgraduate School](#) in 1985, and he picked up an M.S. in computer information resource management from [Webster University](#) in 1991. He is currently in the dissertation stage of (online) doctoral studies at [Capella University](#).

A visit to USM's directory confirms Coffman's departure, something the Saunders administration has yet to announce to the USM or Hattiesburg communities. Meanwhile, Herndon's employment with USM appears to be ongoing, though future announcements about his assignment could be forthcoming. Lyman resigned from his

provost appointment during Tabletgate, yet remains on the psychology faculty at USM at this time.