

Doty-Era Former B-Schooler Appointed Dean at Troy

HATTIESBURG — Former USM b-school faculty Judson Edwards was [recently appointed](#) dean of the Sorrell College of Business at Troy University. Edwards, pictured below, [joined](#) USM's then-College of Business & Economic Development in August-2004 (as an assistant professor of economic development/graduate programs director), or about one year into the Harold Doty/Farhang Niroomand administration of USM's b-school.

With his appointment to the top spot in TU's Sorrell College, Edwards now holds a position sources say is much more prestigious than the ones held by his former employers, Doty and Niroomand. Doty, the b-school dean at USM from 2003-2007, became b-school dean at the University of Texas at Tyler in 2009. Niroomand, who served as USM's b-school associate dean from 1998-2007, became b-school dean at the University of Houston at Victoria in 2009. Sources say these details are made even more interesting by other facets of Hudson's time at USM.



According to reports, Edwards' attendance at the 2004-05 new b-school faculty orientation session came as a surprise to Niroomand, who had not played a role in hiring Edwards, and did not then know that Edwards had joined the USM b-school. When questioned by Niroomand, Edwards informed the CBED AD that he had been hired by Ken Malone and other officials in the Shelby Thames administration. Niroomand was reportedly furious that such a move had been made behind the back of the CBED administration. Compounding Niroomand's anger was the revelation that Edwards [had earned](#) master's and doctorate degrees from the same *USM economic/international development programs* that he was then joining as assistant professor/graduate programs director.

As long-time readers of USMNEWS.net will recall, the Doty/Niroomand administration would later engage in a lengthy campaign to cut the economic/international development programs' ties to the USM b-school. That was accomplished in the latter portion of Doty's reign, and Edwards would also depart USM for TU. After serving at TU for only four years, and despite not having held preparatory positions like department chair or associate dean, Edwards was elevated to b-school dean at TU, a position sources added may also be more prestigious than the one held by CoB dean Lance Nail, given the harm done to the CoB by the Doty/Niroomand team.