

## Hudson a Chancellor Finalist at Arkansas State

HATTIESBURG – Former USM provost and former University of Houston-Victoria president Tim Hudson [was recently named](#) one of three finalists for the job of Chancellor of Arkansas State University. According to ASU-System president Charles Welch, Hudson joins University of North Texas provost John Beehler and California State University-Bakersfield provost Soraya Coley in vying for the top position at the Jonesboro-based institution. Reports also indicate that these three were chosen by an advisory committee from among 28 candidates for the post.

- Dr. Soraya M. Coley      Sunday-Tuesday, February 12-14
- Dr. Tim Hudson          Tuesday-Thursday, February 14-16
- Dr. John M. Beehler      Sunday-Tuesday, February 19-21

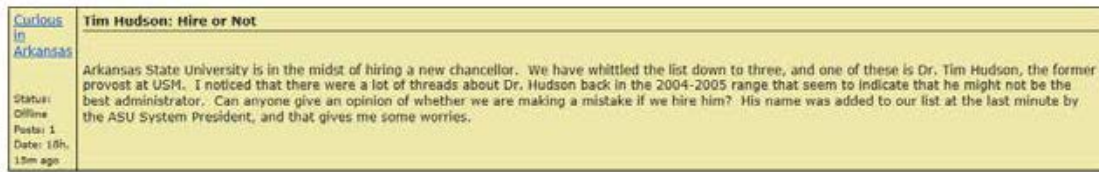
Arkansas State University System officials [released the interview schedule](#) posted above on 31-Jan-2012. According to the schedule, Hudson visits Jonesboro on Tues-Thurs, 14-16 of Feb-2012. Hudson is the second of the three candidates to make the interview trip. The press release also indicates that Hudson is currently the vice chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. In fact, Hudson [was named to his current position](#) in late June-2011. Thus, he had been in that post only 229 days at the time his plane touched down in Arkansas for the ASU interview. According to sources, he was likely in [his chair](#) at TTU in Lubbock only about 100 days, *if* that many, at the time he applied for the job at ASU.



*Tim Hudson*

Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net will recall that Hudson's tenure as provost at USM during the now *infamous* Shelby Thames administration at USM was rocky at best. Many current and former USM faculty and staff remember the Thames-Hudson and Thames-Jay Grimes (provost) administration as one of the most anti-faculty environments that the now-100-year old institution has ever experienced. Hudson's [subsequent tenure](#) as president of UH-V was also tumultuous, [ending suddenly](#) in Aug-

2010. At that point, Hudson was rumored to have been pulled into the UH-System office so that his behavior could be [more closely monitored](#).



A recent visit, presumably from Jonesboro, to the USM AAUP chapter's message board suggests that Hudson's candidacy at ASU may have been the result of some backdoor dealings. According to "Curious in Arkansas," Hudson's name was added to the list of finalists "at the last minute by the ASU System President," a situation that sources tell USMNEWS.net sounds much like how former CoB associate dean Farhang Niroomand got his current job as dean of business at UH-V - a hire that was made by *Hudson* a few years ago. Sources also note that this process sounds much like the one that resulted in former CoB dean Harold Doty being hired as business dean at the University of Texas-Tyler. Doty's hire there was made by another former USM administrator (during the Thames regime), Peter Fos. Fos served as provost at UT-T at the time Doty was brought there from USM.

This is yet another interesting twist in the Hudson story. It seems clear now that no matter how many times things go awry for him - and of his own making many would add - he always seems to aim straight for the presidency/chancellorship of whichever universities may be "looking" at that moment. At least as far as "Curious in Arkansas" is concerned, the anxiety level in Jonesboro is now rising as a result of Hudson's ambitions.