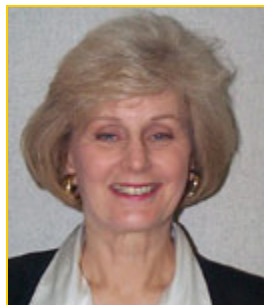


# **BREAKING NEWS**

## **More CoB Reorganization Wrinkles Uncovered**

**HATTIESBURG** – The [3-Nov-08](#) **BREAKING NEWS** and [4-Nov-08](#) **BREAKING NEWS UPDATE** stories about the secret plan to ship the CoB's economists over to the College of Arts & Letters and new CoB dean Lance Nail's recent [reorganization plan](#) for the CoB currently dominate other Greene Hall politics. With that domination comes new information concerning Nail's CoB reorganization, beginning with the plan to hire new chairs to administer each of the six new departments. According to the plan, Nail intends to select from six pools of *external candidates* to fill new slots to chair (1) Accounting [SoA], (2) Business, Economics and Management Information Systems [BEMIS], (3) Finance, Real Estate and Legal Studies [FRELS], (4) Management and International Business [MIBS], (5) Marketing and Fashion Merchandising [MFM], and (6) Tourism Management [TM]. However, sources tell USMNEWS.net that the prospect of hiring six new *external* candidates to chair the CoB's new departments would conservatively call for an annual expenditure (in salaries and fringe benefits) of about \$900,000 on the part of USM's central administration. Given Mississippi's dire government budget situation, its eight public universities are now looking at serious budget cuts, not increased allocations. As such, Nail's reorganization plan will fail if it depends on the hiring of external candidates from national search processes.



**Donna Davis**

Sources are now reporting to USMNEWS.net that Nail is going to have to resort to CoB insiders to fill the role of chair for most, if not all, of the new CoB departments. One name that we are told is in the lead for one of these positions is MIS professor Donna Davis, who is currently in charge of the CoB's graduate academic services on an interim basis. Given Davis' current position, any salary adjustment required to move her into the chairperson's office of the new BEMIS department could easily be accommodated by the CoB's existing budget. Davis currently earns \$117,043 per year as interim GAS director.

Another interesting story emerging from sources, and one that is related to Nail's failed attempt to move the CoB's economists to CoAL *and* his subsequent decision to combine economics with management information systems, involves two additional MIS faculty. These are the *McCarty Distinguished Professor of MIS* Chang-Tseh Hsieh and associate professor of MIS James Magruder.



**Chang-Tseh Hsieh**



**J. Scott Magruder**

According to sources, though they are both teaching MIS exclusively at the moment (and have been for some time), Hsieh holds a PhD in finance from Purdue University, while Magruder holds a PhD in economics from Southern Illinois University. A number of stories here at USMNEWS.net have indicated that ECO is significantly *overstaffed* now, and sourced reports have stated that Nail intends to rectify that particular staffing situation in ECO. Now, reporters at USMNEWS.net are being told that both Hsieh and Magruder will likely be used to fill in any teaching gaps in ECO as the human resource envelope in ECO is pushed back to tighter and tighter positions.