

Nail Leaving CoB for Rawls College at TTU

HATTIESBURG – USMNEWS.net was once again [on the mark](#), this time with its 2-May-2012 report regarding CoB dean Lance Nail's impending departure from USM for the dean's post at Texas Tech University. Reports [from all over](#) the South now indicate that Nail has indeed [accepted an offer](#) from TTU to lead its business school [into the future](#). In accepting this position, Nail should see a major increase in salary, as he began as USM's dean in July-2008 at a salary of \$225,000. The retiring TTU b-school dean is earning more than \$340,000 per year. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that a guess of \$350,000 is likely a good one regarding Nail's future salary in Lubbock.



Lance Nail

Nail leaves USM just as the institution is beginning construction on a new, \$36 million business school facility. However, he joins TTU just as it opens its own new, \$70 million business school facility. Thus, from the perspectives of prestige, salary and facilities, sources say this move is a “no brainer” for Nail. Sources also add that Nail becomes the first sitting CoB dean *ever* to use that position as a launching pad to another dean's position. The fact that Nail is making a move to Texas Tech, and not to some institution on USM's level or even slightly higher, is yet another feather in his cap.

Incoming interim USM president Aubrey Lucas may now have another major hire to deal with during the upcoming 2012-13 academic year. Naming an interim to replace Nail for the upcoming year will, however, come first. The leading candidates, on paper at least, appear to be Joseph Peyrefitte, Kirby Hughes, David Duhon and Leisa Flynn. None of these, however, appeals to those contacted by USMNEWS.net in terms of being a permanent replacement for Nail. Lucas could, of course, retain an interim CoB dean for a two-year stint, waiting for a permanent president to make the hire. Each potential path has major pros and cons. Stay tuned for more on this situation as it develops further.