

BREAKING NEWS

New Nail CoB

HATTIESBURG -- Halloween 2008 was indeed a very big day in the life of USM's College of Business. During a CoB-wide faculty meeting, new CoB dean Lance Nail presented a major reorganization plan to CoB faculty and staff. That plan increased the number of departments in the CoB from four to six, representing the largest number of departments in the college in many years. For newer USMNEWS.net readers, the current departments in USM's CoB are:

- Department of Economics, Finance & International Business
- Department of Management & Marketing
- Department of Tourism Management
- School of Accountancy & Information Systems

With Nail's announcement of 31-Oct-08, the CoB's new departments are:

- Department of Business, Economics & Information Systems
- Department of Finance, Real Estate & Legal Studies
- Department of Management & International Business
- Department of Marketing & Fashion Merchandising
- Department of Tourism Management
- School of Accountancy

These changes are slated to take effect on 1-July-09. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that Nail plans to initiate (in the near future) national searches for *five* new chairs, given that a national search for a new director of the School of Accountancy is currently underway. According to sources, any number of "goals" are accomplished for Nail through this reorganization. Though these will be discussed in future reports here at USMNEWS.net, they include the effective "neutering" of the CoB's economics unit -- a unit that has been a thorn in Nail's side for weeks -- given that IB has been separated from ECO. Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net recall that all but a handful of the majors in ECO/IB are contributed by IB. The elevation of real estate and legal studies is another prominent feature of Nail's new CoB. It was only three years ago that then-CoB dean Harold Doty attempted to eliminate the CoB's real estate program but was thwarted by EFIB chair George Carter and former CoB assistant professor of real estate Sean Salter. Finally, the isolation of accounting is believed to be the result of discussions indicating that accounting's separate AACSB accreditation will be made easier if AACSB is not made to sift through accreditation data from non-accounting units like IS.