

New Website, usmlite.com, Launches

HATTIESBURG – A new, anonymous weblog, usmlite.com, has launched, and it is covering events at USM in a unique fashion. Suggesting that USM is becoming a “64 calorie” university, USMlite, which is *not* affiliated with USMNEWS.net, specializes in a satirical approach to commenting on issues facing the 100-year old institution.



Included on the website are features such as “Ask Marta,” which is [a link](#) to a virtual conversation with “Marta von Saunderheizen,” president of “Southern Miss College.” The “pop-up” included with this link is, according to sources, quite humorous, offering a drop-down menu of subjects for discussions with Saunderheizen. The subjects included on the menu are (1) “Questions about my hair,” (2) “Donate to athletics program,” (3) “Request an interview,” (4) “Schedule a keynote address,” (5) “Buy a brick in my honor,” and (6) “Something else.”

Ask Marta Announcements & Proclamations

Included behind the “Announcements & Proclamations” [link](#) are satirical stories about USM’s 2010 homecoming *victory*, a new AutoGyro course offering, a recent LEAD award for student housing, and Greek consolidation. This page appears to be receiving daily updates, so sources indicate that it could be one to watch for on a regular basis. Next, the “Press Oraface” [link](#) currently presents a letter from Saunderheizen about the college’s new e-mail policy. Finally, among other links, the “President Marta’s Book Club” [link](#) takes visitors to a page containing reviews of various books by Saunderheizen. So far, the reviewed list includes two entries.

President Marta's Book Club

USMlite introduces its various features through a group of pseudonyms, and there is a link for readers’ submissions. Thus, the website appears open to acting somewhat like a message board. However things play out from here, USMlite appears ready to provide a unique take on all things USM.