

Niroomand Fighting to Maintain Power in Victoria

HATTIESBURG – With all of the [chaos](#) involving former USM business college executives Harold Doty and Stephen Bushardt at the University of Texas – Tyler, USMNEWS.net [continues to receive](#) reports of unrest in the business school at the University of Houston – Victoria, which is [now managed](#) by former USM associate dean of business Farhang Niroomand. Niroomand’s abuse of power, as told in part through the reports in the link above, became the centerpiece of an 8-Feb-2011 meeting of the UH-Victoria business faculty, which reportedly lasted two hours.



Niroomand

Sardesai

Salazar

At the meeting, Niroomand (pictured above) addressed UH-Victoria business faculty concerns regarding the allocation of faculty travel money, admitting that there are “rumors” of “favoritism and misappropriation” of faculty travel. To deal with these rumors, Niroomand has established, as UH-Victoria business faculty were reminded, a committee of UH-Victoria business faculty to rule on all faculty requests for travel funds. Niroomand then turned to a discussion of transparency, during which he addressed faculty concerns about his own travel habits since becoming the business school dean at UH-Victoria back in 2009. Niroomand argued that his travel is not being funded by faculty development accounts. He attempted to inform this discussion by distributing a summary report of travel expenditures by the UH-Victoria business school faculty. Sources tell USMNEWS.net, however, that this summary did not address funding sources and expenditures for Niroomand’s own travel. Fortunately for UH-Victoria faculty, significant details about Niroomand’s exorbitant travel habits are contained in reports [here](#) at USMNEWS.net.

Sources also tell USMNEWS.net that Niroomand is very concerned about facing a “no confidence” vote from the UH-Victoria business faculty. Such a reality may explain why UH-Victoria business school faculty Ron Sardesai and Ronald Salazar (both pictured above) asked to be recognized at the meeting. These two, who are described by sources as Niroomand sycophants, admonished the UH-Victoria business school faculty about attempts to undermine the organization’s AACSB accreditation and administration. Sardesai, the interim associate dean, and Salazar, who is listed on the UH-Victoria website as an assistant professor, addressed their concerns about “recent anonymous

slanders" against Niroomand. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that Sardessai's participation represents "the usual stuff" for an associate dean, while Salazar's sycophancy seems to fit the mold of USM's business school under Doty and Niroomand from 2003-07, a time when special 4th year reviews, letters of agreement, and other alternate paths to promotions and tenure existed for certain favored CoB faculty.