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The "Ms. Doty" to UT-Tyler Saga Gets Bigger

HATTIESBURG – Recent reports about the decision by the University of Texas – Tyler to hire former CoB dean and current CoB management professor Harold Doty (shown below) as its new College of Business & Technology dean continue to draw the interest of new and long-time readers of USMNEWS.net. To date, a good bit of the reporting of the HD to UT-T story has centered on the fact that UT-T is acquiring, through Harold Doty, the services of Doty's wife Susan (shown below), who will join, and reportedly to their surprise, the UT-T economics faculty in the fall of 2008. The surprise out west in Tyler about the fact that they now have a new economics colleague has also been the subject of numerous letters to USMNEWS.net, and at least one of these criticizes the UT-T faculty for not falling shy in their due diligence in all matters Doty.



Harold Doty

Susan Doty

Now, new details have made their way to USMNEWS.net that both exonerates the "surprised" UT-Tyler faculty and indicates that the "Ms. Doty" to UT-T saga is a bigger deal than readers of USMNEWS.net previously thought. The crux of that new information is that the UT-T Economics Program, which is a part of the Department of Social Sciences at UT-T, is **not** even housed in UT-T's College of Business & Technology, which Harold Doty will be heading just 12 days from now. No, the Economics Program is part of the College of Arts & Sciences at UT-T, which is headed by dean Alisa White. Not only that, the Economics Program at UT-T currently has only two economics faculty, director Tim Kane (shown below) and Guillermo Covarrubias (shown below), meaning that "Ms. Doty" represents a 50% increase in faculty lines in that unit. According to sources, it is very likely that Kane and Covarrubias have been looking for some time to expand their economics program the customary way, by bringing in new economics PhDs from the academic job market. The "hiring" of Susan Doty to the economics faculty, who is not academically qualified to hold such a faculty post, will most likely stymie their efforts to do for some time to come.





Kane

Covarrubias

From the elements of this new story, it appears that Harold Doty is already imposing on other deans at UT-Tyler to facilitate the employment there of his wife Susan. This, however, is not new. When Doty first envisioned hiring Susan at USM as the lead economic education spokesperson for Mississippi, he (Harold) sought to do so through USM's College of Education & Psychology. Of course, that plan was thwarted by then-USM president (provost) Shelby Thames (Jay Grimes) in a battle that was both heated and public (i.e., covered by *The Hattiesburg American*). According to sources, taxpayers were fortunate that the USM central administration emerged victorious in that battle, at least for a time. Now it appears that Doty has rejoined that effort over in eastern Texas, and has already achieved success 12 days before arriving there himself.