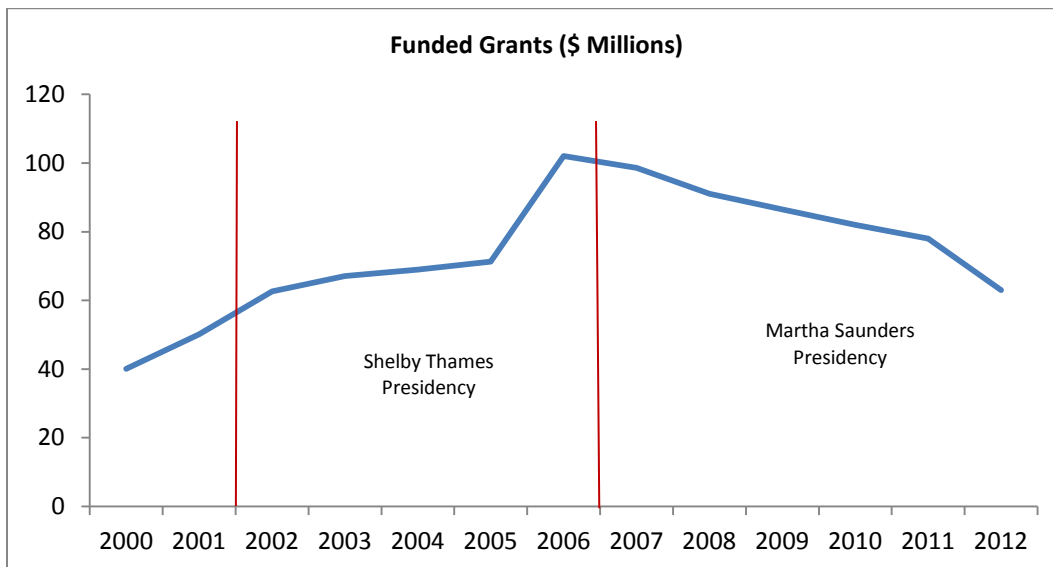


USM's Funded Research Sinking like a Stone

HATTIESBURG – Ed Kemp's 26-Oct-2012 [report for](#) *The Hattiesburg American* entitled "Research funding takes a hit at USM," paints a dismal picture of the funded grants situation at the 100 year old university. Kemp reports that research funding at USM has fallen from \$82 million in 2010 to its current level of only \$63 million. Between these two dates, in 2009, funded research stood at \$78 million. The data from Kemp's story for *THA* was combined with data from a [previous USMNEWS.net report](#) from the fall of 2008 to produce the picture below, which shows grants funding at USM from 2000 through 2012.



As the picture above points out, grants funding rose to a high of \$102 million in 2006, yet has fallen consistently since then. After separating the data by university administration, USMNEWS.net readers can better appreciate how bad the recently-concluded Martha Saunders administration was for public funding of the research efforts of USM faculty and staff. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that by 2013, USM's funded research total could be as low as only one half of its 2006 level. If so, USM's funded research enterprise will have been set back more than one decade, most of which will have occurred under Saunders.

