

Wiesenburg Names CoB Dean Search Committee

HATTIESBURG – In a 24-Sept-2012 e-mail, USM provost Denis Wiesenburg released the names of those selected to serve on the search committee to replace former CoB dean Lance Nail, who departed USM in August-2012 for the top spot in the Rawls Business College at Texas Tech University. The text of that e-mail appears here:

Dear Colleagues,

We are about to begin the process of identifying and recruiting a new dean for our College of Business. Over the last few weeks, I have consulted with faculty, staff, administrators, and community leaders to identify members of the university and business community who can provide us with the best guidance possible as we undertake this important search. Finding the right leader for our College of Business is critical to the continued advancement of our business degree programs at The University of Southern Mississippi.

I am pleased to announce that we have established an outstanding search committee with broad experience and knowledge that will lead to a highly successful search for the dean of the College of Business. Dr. David Davies, Dean of the Honors College, has agreed to chair the search committee. Other members of the search committee include:

- * Bret Becton, Assistant Professor, Department of Management and International Business
- * Michael Dugan, Horn Professor of Accounting, School of Accountancy
- * Steven Jackson, Associate Professor, School of Accountancy – Gulf Coast
- * Gary Kelly, Chair, Department of Finance
- * Thomas McDonnell, Franchise Services of North America, Inc., CoB Business Advisory Council
- * Joseph Olmi, Chair, Department of Psychology
- * Hugh Parker, Horn LLP., CoB Business Advisory Council
- * Gwen Pate, Interim Senior Associate Dean, School of Accountancy
- * Bill Smith, Professor, Department of Marketing and Fashion Merchandising
- * Susan Steen, Director, International Education
- * Amy Yeend, Assistant Director, Career Services, College of Business

The committee will conduct all aspects of the search including advertisement of the position, review of applicants, initial interviews, campus interviews, and recommendation of preferred candidates to the Provost. After identifying a strong pool of candidates, the committee will conduct interviews early in the Spring 2013 semester in a collaborative process with the college and the campus community. Appointment of the new dean will be effective July 1, 2013.

I wish to extend my thanks to those members of the College of Business, the university, and the business community who have agreed to serve on this search committee and to those who have provided counsel in preparing for this important search.

Denis Wiesenburg

USMNEWS.net has consistently heard two complaints about the e-mail above. First, many are in disbelief that a CoB dean search would run concurrently with one for a new president. By operating this way, USM is depriving the new president to select his or her own leader for the CoB. As sources point out, this is the type of behavior that perpetuates problems at USM. Second, many have commented on how lackluster search committee is, particularly the representatives from the CoB.