

CoB to Get Scianna Hall

HATTIESBURG - As Amy Martin's 20-July-2011 [presser entitled](#) "Southern Miss Alumnus Donates \$5 Million to New Business Building" indicates, Charles Scianna is [the heretofore unknown](#) "new benefactor" of USM's b-school. By donating \$5 million towards the new CoB facility on U.S. Hwy 49, that new facility will be known to future USM business majors as Scianna Hall. USM president Martha Saunders referred to Scianna's donation as an "amazing gift," telling the USM community that he ". . . is a wonderful role model for our students as a man with an unwavering commitment to integrity and hard work."



Charles Scianna

According to Martin's presser, Scianna received an undergraduate degree from USM, and he is currently the president of [Sim-Tex](#), ". . . one of the leading suppliers of API-certified oil country tubular goods." Scianna informed Martin that Saunders', and CoB dean Lance Nail's, desire to make the CoB ". . . the number one business school in the country" was among the motivations for making such a substantial gift to USM.

Sources tell USMNEWS.net readers that the opening line of Martin's presser, which includes the phrase "a gift *commitment* [emphasis added]" is one to be wary of at this point in time. Such [a phrase](#), sources point out, harkens back to [the gift pledges](#) secured by former b-school dean William Gunther (1998-2003) from CoB backers like Gene Carlisle and Lou Ann Poynter. Still, the speed with which Nail (potentially) secured the funding for this new facility points another finger at the ineptness, in fundraising and other areas, of the preceding CoB administration of Harold Doty (2003-07). Doty is currently the b-school dean at the University of Texas at Tyler.