

# Back to pick<sup>a</sup>prof-Dom

As long-time readers are aware, from time to time USMNEWS.NET reporters visit the data available at **pick<sup>a</sup>prof** in order to gauge the quality of instruction across the faculty in the Southern Miss CoB. The quality protocols employed by **pick<sup>a</sup>prof** exceed those of most, if not all, of the other online databases of this sort. As such, this source is often highlighted by USMNEWS.NET.

Table 1 below presents the **pick<sup>a</sup>prof** scores for CoB faculty on a unit-by-unit basis, including only those units where **pick<sup>a</sup>prof** data for two or more CoB faculty exist. Using the "two or more" baseline precluded a few CoB units. These are FM, FIN, and TM.

**Table 1**

Unit-by-Unit pick <sup>a</sup> prof Scores		
Unit	Profs	Average Evaluation
ACC	DePree, Marc	5.00
	Henderson, James	5.00
	Munn, Patricia	5.00
	Pate, Gwen	4.50
	Posey, Roderick	4.00
	Clark, Stanley	2.00
ECO	Klinedinst, Mark	5.00
	Niroomand, Farhang	5.00
	Dakhliya, Sami	4.00
	Green, Trellis	4.00
	Carter, George	3.00
	Gunther, William	3.00
	Nissan, Edward	1.50
	Monchuk, Daniel	1.00
MGT	Sevier, Amy	4.50
	Vest, Michael	4.00
	Peyrefitte, Joseph	3.00
	Fennell, Wanda	2.00
	Duhon, David	1.00
MIS	King, Ernest	5.00
	Lai, Fujun	5.00
	Davis, Donna	4.00
	Magruder, James	4.00
	Chen, Kuo Lane	1.00
MKT	LaFleur, Elizabeth	5.00
	Smith, William	5.00
	Loyd, Dolly	3.00

**Notes:** The gold frames above denote CoB faculty who are departing after the 2007-08 academic year. For each unit, the line separates those CoB faculty above and below the mean evaluation score for the unit.

The Table 1 results are certainly interesting. As previous reports in this genre have indicated, accounting professor Marc DePree is one of the best, if not *the* best, instructor in accounting. Joining DePree above the unit mean are James Henderson (associate professor) and Patricia Munn (instructor). Below the ACC mean are Gwen Pate (associate professor), Roderick Posey (professor) and Stanley Clark (professor). Posey is currently the *Morgan Distinguished Professor of Accounting*, and Clark is a past recipient of that professorship. Pate also serves as the CoB's Director of Undergraduate Programs. It may come as a surprise to new readers of USMNEWS.NET that holders of such titles occupy the bottom rungs of the unit. Long-time readers have seen this result before, and in various settings.

Similarly, EFIB chair George Carter, former CBA dean William Gunther, and Edward Nissan, who is currently the *Economics Professor of Economics* and was the 2001 recipient of the CoB's *Louis K. Brandt Award*, sit below the ECO mean with assistant professor Daniel Monchuk. Carter, a past HEADWAE recipient, and Gunther, the former Secretary-Treasurer of Omicron Delta Epsilon -- the International Honor Society for Economics -- have **pick~~a~~prof** averages of only 3.00. Nissan's average of 1.50 is simply dreadful.

In management, newly appointed Interim chair of MGT & MKT, David Duhon, scores a dismal 1.00 on the **pick~~a~~prof** scale. According to sources, incoming CoB Dean Lance Nail should not be expected to honor the Interim (and other) appointments made by current Interim dean Alvin Williams. With such a low teaching quality rating, Nail may agree with our sources when it comes to Duhon. In fact, sources add that Nail may want to suggest phased retirement for Duhon, especially given Duhon's lackadaisical research record. Finally, despite further evidence of Kuo Lane Chen's abysmal teaching skills, such as the 1.00 rating shown in Table 1 above, the assistant professor of MIS is reportedly now a tenured associate professor of MIS. That elevation comes despite protestations from Williams, MIS professor Donna Davis and SAIS Director Steven Jackson. That elevation also comes as a victory over Williams, Davis and Jackson by MIS professor, and Chen-backer, Chang-Tseh Hsieh, the *McCarty Distinguished Professor of MIS*.

Table 2 below shows the ranking of CoB faculty by teaching evaluation averages from **pick~~a~~prof**.

**Table 2**

**Ranking CoB Professors by pick~~a~~prof Scores**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Prof</b>	<b>Unit</b>
1	DePree, Marc	ACC
	Henderson, James	ACC
	King, Ernest	MIS
	Klinedinst, Mark	ECO
	LaFleur, Elizabeth	ACC
	Lai, Fujun	MIS

	Munn, Patricia	ACC
	Niroomand, Farhang	ECO
	Smith, William	MKT
10	Pate, Gwen	ACC
	Sevier, Amy	MGT
12	Dakhlia, Sami	ECO
	Davis, Donna	MIS
	Green, Trellis	ECO
	Magruder, James	MIS
	Posey, Roderick	ACC
	Vest, Michael	MGT
18	Carter, George	ECO
	Gunther, William	ECO
	Loyd, Dolly	MKT
	Peyrefitte, Joseph	MGT
22	Lindley, James	FIN
23	Clark, Stanley	ACC
	Fennell, Wanda	MGT
25	Nissan, Edward	ECO
26	Chen, Kuo Lane	MIS
	Duhon, David	MGT
	Monchuk, Daniel	ECO

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**Note:** The gold frames above denote CoB faculty who are departing after the 2007-08 academic year.

According to Table 2, DePree, Ernest King (associate professor of BL), Fujun Lai (associate professor of MIS) and William Smith (assistant professor of MKT) are among the top instructors in USM's College of Business. At the bottom are Monchuk, Duhon, Chen and Nissan.

With similar faculty counts, two interesting comparisons are possible. These are (1) ACC and ECO, and (2) MGT and MIS. When it comes to appearances in the top 10, ACC leads ECO five to two. In terms of bottom 10 appearances, ECO leads ACC four to one. When it comes to appearances in the top 10, MIS leads MGT two to one. In terms of bottom 10 appearances, MGT leads MIS three to one. With four appearances in the bottom 10, the instruction in ECO appears to be simply awful. With such a dreadful performance in the classroom, it's surprising that ECO has somehow managed to hold the dean's suite for almost all of the CoB's existence. One of the former occupants of that suite, Gunther, is now a part of ECO's instruction failures. It's also shameful that MGT, the face of any and every b-school, is also prominent among the bottom 10. Sources indicate that if **pickaprof** data existed for former CoB Dean Harold Doty, MGT might look as bad as ECO in the instruction department.