

Bad Apples

A Look at How George Carter's Politics May Ruin the Nail Administration

Have no doubts about it, EFIB chairman George Carter is on a mission to bring down the new Lance Nail administration of USM's College of Business. And, with the hiring and firing and "friendraising" efforts Carter has made over the past two decades, he may indeed pull it off before it is all over. This column is **Part 2** in a three-part series of opinion pieces that will attempt to explain just how Carter may pull off the *coup* that some in the CoB are hoping for and others are nervous about.

Part 2 is entitled "**Bad Apples**" for a reason. It details the small group of CoB faculty that operate like satellites around Carter, bridging the gap between Carter's home department, the EFIB, and other departments and divisions within the CoB and across USM. This small group consists of the four faculty pictured below:



Of course, at the head of this satellite group is Carter, (pictured above, second row). As pointed out in the previous installment in this series, Carter is so *infamous* in CoB circles that he warrants [his own set of pages](#) here at USMNEWS.net. It is there that readers of USMNEWS.net are invited to peruse stories about Carter's [summer teaching schedule](#)

[shenanigans](#) and his notorious [overload pay for friends](#) program. There one will also see reports on Carter's [use of USM facilities](#) to operate a [private enterprise](#). Carter is also the individual known for [using 12 years](#) over an almost two-decade period to achieve tenure, a process usually applied to academicians over a five or six year period. And, though there is so much more to cover concerning Carter, by presiding over one of the [darkest days](#) in CoB history, Carter is one of few CoB faculty whose actions form the basis for additional pages here at USMNEWS.net.

The preceding shows just what Carter has to lose by having to exist under a non-compliant Nail administration. Conversely, the text above also shows what Carter has to gain (back) by mounting a political phalanx aimed at Nail. How can Carter pull this off? It can be done with the help of the group of satellite faculty that is shown above. First among that group is *untentured* associate professor of finance, John Clark (pictured above, top row, left). Like so many hires made by the EFIB in recent years, Clark is somewhat of an academic pariah. Though he exited the University of Missouri at Kansas City (in 2003) just shy of sitting before various tenure and promotion committees, sources tell USMNEWS.net that the outcome of Clark's T&P application at UMKC was anything *but* a certainty. To understand why that is, one only has to examine reports about Clark's activities since coming to USM's business school just a few short years ago. A review of some of these follows.

Clark is rapidly becoming one of the most political faculty in the CoB, going so far as to put himself in the middle of the 2007-08 journal ranking process in an attempt to build a [bird's nest on the ground](#) for himself through a politicization of the CoB's 2008 journal rankings. As reports here at USMNEWS.net have shown, Clark's publication record consists mainly of *marketing* journals. One of the bigger [financial drains](#) in the CoB, Clark's relationship with CoB administrators such as former CoB dean Harold Doty (pictured above, top row, right) has been well-documented (see [Dear John](#)). As an *alternate* member of the CoB's Undergraduate Programs committee, Clark cast the deciding vote that [saved ECO 336](#) from the core curriculum chopping block, a move that greatly benefited Carter and Carter's cronies. Yet, when it comes to performing his duties as Director of the CFS -- a position that *should have* Clark in Greene Hall [5 days per week](#) -- [Clark is often MIA](#). Clark has worked so hard to ingratiate himself with CoB administrators that he even brazenly [changed his own teaching schedule](#), a move for which Clark did not suffer even a mild censure from those same administrators. It's clear, when it comes to supporting the likes of Carter and Doty, you have to fight Clark for the chair at the head of the table.¹

As the [announcement](#) recognizing SAIS Director Steven Jackson's hiring indicates, Jackson (shown above, bottom row, right) was a product of Doty's so-called raid of the academic community of post-Katrina New Orleans. With Jackson, the CoB got more of Katrina than it did of New Orleans' academic community. Jackson runs the SAIS from the hip, a management style that earned him the nickname [Ad Hoc Jackson](#). Jackson received a \$5,000 merit raise in the spring of 2007, a raise period that was based on 2006 achievements. The problem in Jackson's case, however, was that since he was employed by Loyola University in New Orleans during 2006, his [dubious '07 merit raise](#) actually belonged to some other, deserving CoB faculty. Not only that, reports here at USMNEWS.net have shown that Jackson's SEDONA vitae contained double-counting (of journal article) errors, which means

¹ Clark's "teacher's pet" strategy led to one [editorial questioning his tenure](#) application in the CoB.

that his *unqualified*-for 2007 raise was actually inflated to some extent. Finally, reports are now circulating around Greene Hall that Jackson is upset with some of Nail's policy proposals. All things considered, Jackson is easily a willing conduit for transmitting Carter's political plans from Greene Hall to the Gulf Coast.

When former interim CoB dean Alvin Williams named David Duhon (shown above, bottom row, left) as the new interim chair of MGT & MKT (effective August of 2008), regular readers of USMNEWS.net had yet another indication that little had changed in the CoB under the Williams administration. If anything, the [Duhon announcement](#) was the face on a backslide that the CoB had undergone during the Williams period. To Duhon, much has been given. This list includes a "letter of agreement" promotion to full, courtesy of both Williams and Doty, and abetted by former MGT & MKT chair Barry Babin. Duhon was awarded this *nine lives* "letter of agreement" at the same time that [other](#), more qualified researchers in the CoB were being "canned," to use Carter's term. The gift baskets for Duhon didn't stop with his appointment as chair; that is where they began. Next, Williams [named Duhon](#) as the CoB's new *Kaetsu Distinguished Professor of International Business*, a title Duhon is not qualified to [hold](#).

One doesn't have to dig too deep into USMNEWS.net's archives, however, to discover that Duhon has [every reason](#) *not* to ally himself with Carter. Why, then, would Duhon choose to ally himself with Carter and the Carter Bunch? If you've been around the CoB for any length of time, you understand that David Duhon has a remarkable capacity, a resiliency even, for remaining oblivious to things that are right in front of him. This capacity, combined with the fact that both Duhon and Carter have been in the CoB together for a long, long time, and consequently have allied themselves on many issues, keeps Duhon in the Carter camp. Moreover, Duhon is not a member of the hard-working class in the CoB. Nail's presence, and insistence on hard work and success, threatens Duhon's gravy train existence. And with Duhon, Carter gets more than simply an additional vote. Duhon gives Carter and the Carter Bunch a presence across campus. With Duhon's campus connections, Nail can easily be made to look very, very bad.

Each the faculty pictured above gives Carter another vote to cast against Nail and Nail's policies.² But, each gives Carter so much more than that. From Clark to Doty to Jackson to Duhon, these four "bad apples" give Carter a system of satellites to reach wider constituencies at USM in orchestrating an anti-Nail campaign.

² This installment has not focused specifically on Harold Doty's presence (since 2003) in the CoB. So much is known about Doty that it was not deemed as necessary as reviews of the others' activities.