

Breaking News

And They're Off

HATTIESBURG – Sources tell USMNEWS.NET reporters that a number of CoB faculty appear to have taken the week of 10/15 – 10/19 (the week of Fall Break 2007) off. One of these appears to be Sami Dakhliya, an assistant professor of economics who joined the CoB in August of 2007 (14 months ago). The possibility of Dakhliya being away from the CoB during the week of Fall Break 2007 is made more interesting by reports that he (Dakhliya) spent all of the week of Fall Break 2006 teaching a course in France. For a look at that report, visit our Archives, or go to [Dakhliya Teaching in France](#). Dakhliya's 2006 trip reportedly involved missing a 5-day work week, including two days of class, as well as compensation from a French institution. Sources tell reporters that any 2007 teaching trip made by Dakhliya might also involve Germany.

Another CoB faculty who appears to be out on the prowl is economics professor Farhang Niroomand, former Associate Dean of the CoB. Of course, Niroomand is no stranger to travel and/or being away from his duties in Hattiesburg. One USMNEWS.NET report entitled "[Niroomand on the Move](#)" shows that Niroomand amassed about \$75,000 (at least) in travel expenses over just a 59-month period in recent years. Niroomand, also an "Amigo" in the Association for Global Business, as well as the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Omicron Delta Epsilon, could be away from Hattiesburg during the week of Fall Break 2007 for any number of reasons.

Another CoB faculty who appears to be on a jaunt of some sort is the McCarty Distinguished Professor of MIS, Chang-Tseh Hsieh. Hsieh's apparent absence is somewhat surprising given that the CoB is in the midst of one of the more political P&T seasons in recent memory. Sources wondered why Hsieh, who sits on the College Advisory Committee, would choose to be away from Hattiesburg whilst there may be a significant level of "P&T politicking" going on back at USM.

These are but three of the individuals believed to be away from their on-campus duties at USM during the week of Fall Break 2007. Expect future follow-ups on this latest episode.