

BREAKING NEWS

Jackson Embarrasses Self, CoB at AAA Meeting in California

ANAHEIM – The CoB's Interim SAIS Director, Steven Jackson, embarrassed both himself and USM's CoB at the recent American Accounting Association's annual meeting in Anaheim, California. Jackson attended a morning session featuring a presentation by USMNEWS.net's editor, Marc DePree, who also introduced Jackson to the session's moderator.



Steven Jackson

After the session had progressed some extent, an attendee who had been sitting near Jackson stopped the session and reported to those in attendance that Jackson was recording the session. DePree, who had just completed his presentation on administrative malfeasance in the CoB, stood and advised Jackson and others that he (DePree) was not opposed to Jackson's actions. Others, however, were disturbed by Jackson's attempt to record the session. In fact, Jackson's behavior created a bit of a stir among other attendees, one of whom retorted that the group was meeting in the United States of America, not China. The moderator asked Jackson to cease recording, and Jackson indicated that he would comply with the moderator's direction.

Jackson's morning behavior continued to reverberate through the halls of the AAA meeting that same afternoon. At a later session, one professor who had witnessed events at the morning session reported to others: "Can you believe it? The [department] chair was recording [Marc] DePree's discussion of the school's malfeasance."

Jackson, whose latest stint at USM has been relatively brief (it began in January of 2007), has been mired in controversy since coming to the CoB from Loyola University in New Orleans. The only product of former CoB dean Harold Doty's [so-called](#) great raid of post-Katrina New Orleans' academic community, Jackson has been a central figure in CoB controversies ranging from [double-counting of journal publications](#) to [receipt of inappropriate merit raises](#). In fact, the heat around Jackson has been so high that he found himself as a defendant in a (still ongoing) United States District Court case only

nine months after coming to USM (this most recent time), and only two or three months after taking over as Interim SAIS Director.

With Jackson's embarrassing actions at the recent AAA annual meeting added to the mix of other troublesome episodes, the summer of 2008 is one that new CoB dean, Lance Nail, may remember for a long time to come. Jackson, who ostensibly was in Anaheim to interview candidates for the post of permanent SAIS director, appears to have had other, somewhat disconcerting intentions. As such, Jackson's August 2008 trip to Anaheim did not come cheaply for Mississippi's taxpayers or for the CoB's reputation.