

Breaking News

Vest Set to Retire

HATTIESBURG – Reporters at USMNEWS.NET have learned that management professor, Michael Vest, will be entering retirement at the close of the 2007-08 academic year. Vest's departure, combined with the news that associate professor of management, Jon Carr, will be resigning his post in the CoB at the end of 2008, significantly diminishes the CoB's management unit. In recent years, Vest and Carr teamed up to produce an article in the *Journal of Management*, and Carr collaborated with colleagues outside of USM's CoB to produce an article for *The Academy of Management Journal*. These types of contributions will not likely come from their replacements, assuming that the CoB's administration will be allowed to replace either of these faculty with permanent (i.e., tenure-track) hires.

While some sources believe that Vest's departure will create an opening which will be used by the MGT faculty to bring Kirk Ring "home," other CoB faculty have stated that Ring's prospects will be diminished by the departures of Carr and Vest, two of Ring's most vocal supporters. As many USMNEWS.NET readers will recall, Carr, Vest and others attempted to fold Ring, a graduate of the CoB, into the so-called 2007-08 "Bring 'Em All Home" hiring program, but were outvoted in a departmental election. According to sources, Ring has since accepted a faculty post at Wichita State University. Sources also indicate that Carr interpreted the department's majority vote against Ring as a personal shot at him (Carr). It is not known if that feeling factored into Carr's decision to exit the CoB at the end of 2008.

The departures of Carr and Vest do reveal one thing -- the CoB's human resources carousel is alive and well, and still turning.