

Editorial

IHL and USM Bureaucrats Live With Speculation

Because it works to their advantage. You can speculate all you want but you don't know for sure. The IHL and Saunders walk away from accountability, again. A result: they can do the same inefficient, ineffective, and possibly corrupt behavior again and again. Here's today's version:

The Hattiesburg American [finally got around](#) to reporting what [WDAM reported](#) weeks ago: Saunders "resignation" was not what she and the IHL had represented in last April.

The self-serving PR report last April was that Saunders decided to step down as Southern Miss president "for personal reasons...Since then neither Saunders nor Bounds have elaborated much on that explanation, despite rumors of dissension between Saunders and the board trustees."

Rumors. Apparently the IHL and Saunders love, or at least prefer, the confusion and secrecy.

We now know that the contract for Saunders' departure contained an agreement that the parties would not criticize each other. "[I]t is the intent of the parties (Saunders and the board) not to disparage each other," adding that each party's explanation of Saunders' resignation should not "unnecessarily reflect adversely on the other party." As a result, we have no idea what level of ineptitude or incompetence Saunders finally reached before she was shown the door.

There you have it. That's what the IHL and Saunders prefer. You can't prove anything and no one will pay much attention to your speculations. But, if the IHL and Saunders told the truth, there would be consequences -- or at least they believe there would be. Neither want to do anything about or correct or be accountable for their conduct. We can hear them rationalizing: "Saying bad things wouldn't be in the best interests of the school." What they really mean is it would make the IHL look inept and make it harder for Saunders to get a new job.

It's your money they're squandering. Shouldn't you know what the multitude of bureaucrats are doing with it. On the other hand, don't expect them to tell you what they are doing with your hard earned money.

And, you can take it to the bank if their use of your money could be colored as praiseworthy, they'd be shouting it from the roof tops, and the *Hattiesburg American* would be promptly and dutifully reporting a blow by blow detail of the success.

Secrecy. They love it! Speculate all you want. You can't prove anything.