

Carter Nailed It

Former EFIB chair, and CoB economics professor, [George Carter](#) nailed it a while back when he said that the CoB's economists tended to be intemperate, or not collegial, and as a result they had become pariahs in Joseph A. Greene Hall. Fortunately for USMNEWS.net readers, Carter did not know his comments were being saved for posterity (they are now in the USMNEWS.net audio library), otherwise he would not likely have been so candid. He is, after all, as big a part of the ECO cabal as anyone else, so his condemnation applies to him just like it does to some of the other dismal scientists roaming the halls of USM's b-school.

What do we have now as far as ECOers go? Well, Mark Klinedinst for one, the rarely present Academic Council member who made sure to attend one of the final fall 2008 AC meetings – one of only two AC meetings (out of seven) MK attended in 2008-09 – just so that he could undermine (or attempt to) CoB dean Lance Nail's then-prospective reorganization of USM's b-school. Klinedinst's attempt, futile and uncollegial as it was, went for naught, as the Mississippi IHL Board would later approve of Nail's re-org. Surely members of the Saunders administration put a star by Klinedinst's name on a document or two.

Then there's Akbar Marvasti, who filed a grievance *against other rank-and-file faculty* during his first year in the CoB. Nowadays Marvasti spends his time having 25-year members of the USM faculty (i.e., Trellis Green) kicked out of their JAG office, just so that he can have a window seat. To call this move lacking in collegiality is a gross understatement, so we won't. Marvasti's colleague, Sami Dakhli, a recently-hired CoB economist who was, to use Carter's term, canned by the University of Alabama just a few short years ago, was the key player in the May-07 mobbing episode in which Marc DePree, the USMNEWS.net editor, was targeted by a number of CoBers, including then-interim dean Alvin Williams. Is Dakhli a pariah? It would seem, and possibly as far as *two* institutions are concerned.

That brings us back to Carter, who once referred to then-CoB dean Harold Doty in the most uncollegial of terms, and only later issued an open, Christmastime apology via public e-mail. Carter also told us that there were *hardly any* good academicians in the CoB outside the ECO, and that the Undergraduate Programs people were as *inefficient* as any group around. All of this nasty, all of it public. Pariahs of the JAG? Yes, it would seem so. And now this uncollegial group of faculty, which serves only a couple of handfuls of majors, is hoping its antics will not be a consideration when the institution considers doing what is the fiscally sound thing by eliminating the ECO major. Tough times call for decisive action. And as George Carter always says, there's a price to be paid for everything.