

# 31<sup>st</sup> & Pearl

## Carter's Chaperones

By now you've heard that the Department of Economics, Finance and International Business has selected, for the 2006-07 academic year, the unheard of committee option with regard to personnel issues in the department. In a stunning 7-5 vote, the department elected the committee option, to include the chair, over the chair-only governance model. There was also one vote for the committee option that excludes the chair. That means that, by a vote of 8-5, the EFIB no longer trusts its chair to represent it in personnel issues, at least not without chaperones.

So, Mark Klinedinst and James Lindley --- one a professor of economics and the other a professor of finance --- will join George Carter, the current EFIB chair, in evaluating the prospects of about 15 other faculty members. This past academic year, 2005-06, Carter did this job by himself. Apparently, he failed. Now, the committee of three must pick up the pieces. For Carter, not all is lost. The EFIB put him in the new committee system, and in doing so appear to be giving him a shot at redemption.

What remains to be seen is how this choice, a rare event in the CoB, will shake out. Did Carter get the message? We hope so, though our experience is telling us otherwise. From what we hear, Carter appeared shaken by the outcome of the vote, an indication to us that the "company man" remains the "company man." Well, now he's got company. Klinedinst and Lindley will be there, looking over Carter's shoulder at every turn. It's a new day in the CoB, another "first" to mark the Doty era --- faculty governance like the kind not seen around Greene Hall in years. Ms. Ingram, go ahead and complete the purchase orders, two more chairs are now needed in the conference room.