

CoB News, 21 August 2008

“. . . once appointed, deans seldom continue to attend their disciplinary meetings. Instead, they frequent conferences with other deans, where they devote themselves to such matters as accreditation. This further reinforces their delusions of grandeur. An informal reviewer of this manuscript has even noted that deans create an elitist hierarchy within their own ranks by only associating with other deans of ‘schools like their own.’”

Arthur G. Bedeian, 2002

“Greeting the Newbies . . .”

As President Martha Saunders [blogged on 18-August-2008](#), USM once again welcomes a number of new faculty to campus. The photo below was posted to Saunders’ recent blog, and it shows new CoB dean, Lance Nail, in action. Also pictured there is “CoB retreat,” Dale Lunsford, a “new” MIS faculty from High Point College in North Carolina.



Newbie USM faculty (2008-09) at a reception hosted by USM President, Martha Saunders.

As USMNEWS.net readers are aware, Lunsford was part of the 1990s College of Business Administration at USM. Sources stated that Lunsford was encouraged to seek employment elsewhere due to a lack of productivity while at USM previously. Now, according to Saunders at least, Lunsford is “delightfully talented and energetic . . .”

Only Shenanigans can Stop Him

The recent USMNEWS.net piece, ["Dr. Lai . . . come on down!"](#) showed how MIS prof, Fujun Lai, is a rising star among CoB ranks. In fact, that essay virtually handed the CoB’s 2009 Louis K. Brandt Research Award to Lai, who has already published in a premier MIS journal. At this point, only shenanigans of one sort or other seem capable of derailing Lai.

Lai's spouse, Weihua Shi, is a *visiting* assistant professor of finance in the CoB. Shi is no stranger to controversial situations, such as when she provided a voting proxy – a proxy she did not legally hold at the time given her *visiting* status -- to former CoB associate dean, Farhang Niroomand, for use in the EFIB's "[Black Tuesday](#)" faculty governance revote in the fall of 2006. A recent visit to Shi's page on the CoB-H Internet site reveals what appears to be a Roderick Posey-esque shenanigan. There (see below) Shi claims, and has for some time, a publication in the *International Business Review*. According to sources, this journal is the second best in IB, and it is classified as an A-level journal in many b-schools.



A recent search of the *IBR*'s website did not reveal any publication there for Shi, whether in the journal's already-published archives or on its forthcoming docket. This finding is consistent with other CoB-based information on Shi, such as her **INTELLECTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS** page on the CoB-H site, and her brief bio on the CoB-GC site.



As reported some time ago here at [USMNEWS.net](#), EFIB chair, George Carter, has referred to Shi as a "permanent visitor" for the CoB. If that proves to be true, Shi may want to consider avoiding various current and former CoB administrators so as not to derail Lai's rapid ascension.