

CoB News, 24 September 2008

18 New Faculty at USM-GC

According to Charmaine Williams' 22-Sept-08 USM press release, 18 new faculty have joined the Gulf Coast operation at the University of Southern Mississippi. Among these 18 are four new CoB-GC faculty. These are Brian Collins, Marsha Lay, Dale Lunsford and Marco Wolf.



While Collins and Lunsford are shown in the back row of the photo accompanying Williams' presser (see above), neither Lay nor Wolf was available for the photo-op. According to sources, this display furthers the long-held belief among many CoB-Hers that the CoB-GC faculty do only what they want to do, and even then only when they want to do it.

“Doty’s Baby”

If USM public relations official David Tisdale's [22-Sept-08 presser](#) entitled “Southern Entrepreneurship Program Symposium set for Sept. 30” is any indication, the CoB no longer holds dominion over the area of entrepreneurship. Individuals employed in the CoB during the 2003-07 administration of former dean D. Harold Doty generally recognize that entrepreneurship was a key element in Doty's plans for the CoB. In fact, some CoBers referred to entrepreneurship as “Doty's baby,” given Doty's penchant for gearing the CoB's general education curriculum in that direction, as well as his decision to classify, according to sources, undeclared CoB students as entrepreneurship majors.

But, as Tisdale's presser points out, the College of Science and Technology's department of economic and workforce development is making a major power grab at entrepreneurship by sponsoring the inaugural Southern Entrepreneurship Program symposium. The symposium, which is being coordinated by Brent Hales, an assistant professor of economic and workforce development, is set to occur on 30-Sept-08 at the Advanced Technology Center on the campus of Jones County Junior College in Ellisville.



Advanced Technology Center

According to Tisdale's presser, the program will feature entrepreneurs from RARE Design, Uniform Corner, Caliente Grill, South City Records, Catfish One, Off-road Research Technology, KC Jay's and T&G Lawn Design. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that at least some of the entrepreneurs listed here are former CoB students. Tisdale's release also indicates that the three other participating sponsors are:

- Trent Lott National Center for Excellence in Economic Development & Entrepreneurship
- Jones County Junior College
- Montgomery Institute/WIRED Initiative

The [Trent Lott Center](#), which took on the name “. . . Entrepreneurship” relatively [late](#) in the planning stage, is the \$22.8 million future home (December 2008) of all of USM's economic development operations. Some long-time USM sources have stated that this particular addition (i.e., “. . . Entrepreneurship”) was “a shot at the Doty administration” from former USM President Shelby Thames. If the upcoming symposium is representative, that shot has taken hold, as “Doty's baby” has seemingly gone out with the bath water.



Trent Lott National Center for Excellence in Economic Development & Entrepreneurship

According to sources, the disappearance of entrepreneurship means that those sympathetic to the Doty administration of the CoB no longer have anything *real* to point to as a lasting, positive contribution made by Doty to USM. In other words, the grab by CoST at entrepreneurship has resulted in the disappearance of the last vestiges of any potentially positive impact Doty had on the 100 year old institution.

View from the Luxury Suite

With USM's 27-34 loss to Marshall University on Saturday, the "Golden Eagle Nation" has grown anxious about the Golden Eagles' new head coach, Larry Fedora. Saturday's loss made for two firsts in USM gridiron history: (1) USM had never lost to a Conference USA opener before Saturday, and (2) USM had never lost to Marshall University before Saturday. These two firsts were seen by new USM President, Martha Saunders, from her luxury suite in the south end zone of M.M. Roberts Stadium in Hattiesburg. While Fedora's USM mantra has been "Sound the Attack!", with the recent loss to MU many USM fans are now chanting "Sound the Retreat!"