

CoB News, 2 May 2008

Is ChevronTexaco Funding Division Between CoB-H – CoB-GC?

Charmaine Williams' 1-May-08 [presser](#) entitled "Southern Miss College of Business Awards Outstanding Gulf Coast Students for 2007-08" indicates that, at a luncheon at Salute Italian Restaurant on 26-April-08, *Gulf Coast* CoB students were presented awards that were sponsored by "local businesses and industries." According to Williams, this annual awards luncheon is named, going by the title *ChevronTexaco Excellence in Business Awards Luncheon*, wherein only CoB-GC students are eligible to receive awards. Based on the details of Williams' press release, the CoB reserves about 10 awards just for CoB-GC students – a decision that further frays the "one USM, one CoB" tie between the Long Beach CoB operation and the Hattiesburg campus. Not only is that bond frayed further by the special treatment of having an awards quota for CoB-GC students, the sponsorship of the CoB-GC's annual affair by ChevronTexaco provides added cachet to the Long Beach event. Hosting it at an off-campus Italian restaurant (Salute) only adds insult to injury, as the CoB-H award recipients have to (historically) choose among plates provided by food service giant, Aramark. As sources have stated in the past, only if and when USM and its CoB truly embraces the "one USM, one ___" mantra will there be a chance that the institution can rise above the perception that the GC operation is little more than a country club.

Thursday with Alvin

USM President, Martha Saunders, has invited the USM family to a reception honoring the retirement of Interim CoB Dean, Alvin Williams. That reception will be held on Thursday, 8-May-08, from 4:00–5:30 p.m. in the courtyard of the Powerhouse Restaurant on USM's campus. Williams is a professor of marketing *and* the Kaetsu Distinguished Professor of International Business at USM, and he served as chair of the Department of Management and Marketing in recent years.



Tholos of Delphi Replica, Main Campus, University of South Alabama

One of the primary sponsors of management professor David Duhon's "letter of agreement" promotion to full, Williams is not actually retiring from academia after 30-June-08. Instead, he is taking a professorship at the University of South Alabama, a fact which will not likely be paraded too prominently by Saunders and other USM dignitaries on the afternoon of 8-May-08.

Ms. Doty Trains Lamar County Educators in Personal Finance

According to Ben Piper's 1-May-08 [article](#) for *The Hattiesburg American* entitled "Finances to be taught early," it's Ms. Susan Doty's Center for Economic Education, and **not** John Clark's Center for *Financial Services*, that has been training Lamar County educators how to integrate personal *finance* issues into the County's regular education curriculum. According to Sue Stevens, the Special Programs Coordinator for Lamar County Schools, Doty gave Lamar County educators hundreds of lessons on a CD-ROM that the educators can use at their disposal. Doty's campaign to train area educators in financial literacy is a part of the CEE's support of the new requirement from the Mississippi Department of Education that Mississippi students complete a semester course in economics before graduating from high school.

Although Doty does not hold any formal degrees in either finance or economics, one factor that sources say points to the need for Clark to at least assist Doty in supporting the MDE's new requirement, set to begin in 2008-09, she has been the CoB's Center for Economic Education Director since last year. Before that, she provided similar training services around South Mississippi through the Mississippi Council on Economic Education. Her husband, Harold Doty, also the former Dean of the CoB, has served on the MCEE Board of Directors.

Though personal finance training potentially has the dual benefit of allowing Lamar County to improve their own financial decisions, Piper's article indicates that Doty and/or Stevens cautioned educators against doing that by stating that "[t]his training is not for personal home use, however, but for the kindergarten–12 classes."