

CoB News, 31 March 2008

Invisible CoB

Previous reports at USMNEWS.NET have shown how the CoB is disappearing when it comes to being part of the academic life of the University of Southern Mississippi. Last week's 98th USM Founders Day celebration was no different, as President Martha Saunders, VP of Student Affairs Joe Paul, and Provost Bobby Middlebrooks distributed about a dozen student awards in four categories: Outstanding Freshmen (1 female, 1 male), Outstanding Citizen (1 female, 1 male), USM Student Hall of Fame inductions, and the Phi Kappa Phi Silver Bowl Award. If you attended last week's celebration, then you know that not a single one of these awards was given to a student in USM's College of Business -- the only USM College to carry the distinction.



Edward Nissan

The only recognition received by the CoB at the celebration was recognition, amongst a larger group, of Edward Nissan's 30 years of faculty service at USM. However, as USMNEWS.NET readers have learned over the past two years, Nissan's years in the CoB have been characterized by privilege and dereliction, as he has benefited from the patronage of friend, and former CoB administrator, Farhang Niroomand and others. Reports in our archives show (1) that the 2001 Louis K. Brandt Research Award process was manipulated in a way that made Nissan the winner, and (2) that Nissan recently skipped out on a term on the Academic Council to which he was elected. Finally, despite proclamations by EFIB Chair George Carter that Nissan was the catalyst of the CoB's current research culture, reports here have shown (1) that Nissan was not catalyst of anything good, and (2) that the CoB does not have a research culture.

CoB Job Searchers' Applications Meet Exit 13

Based on reports coming into the USMNEWS.NET newsroom, former CoB Dean Harold Doty and former CoB Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand are not the only current members of the CoB having difficulty finding new employment elsewhere. A number of faculty (e.g., John Clark, etc.) are finding that the doorways leading out of USM's College of Business may be slamming shut. As one source put it, "If your application file has [USM's] CoB letterhead in it, and especially if that letterhead is signed by any of the usual CoB 'toadies,' then your application is 'dead in the water'." If those doorways are indeed slamming shut, and it does appear as though they are, then one can only speculate as to how long the quarantine will last.