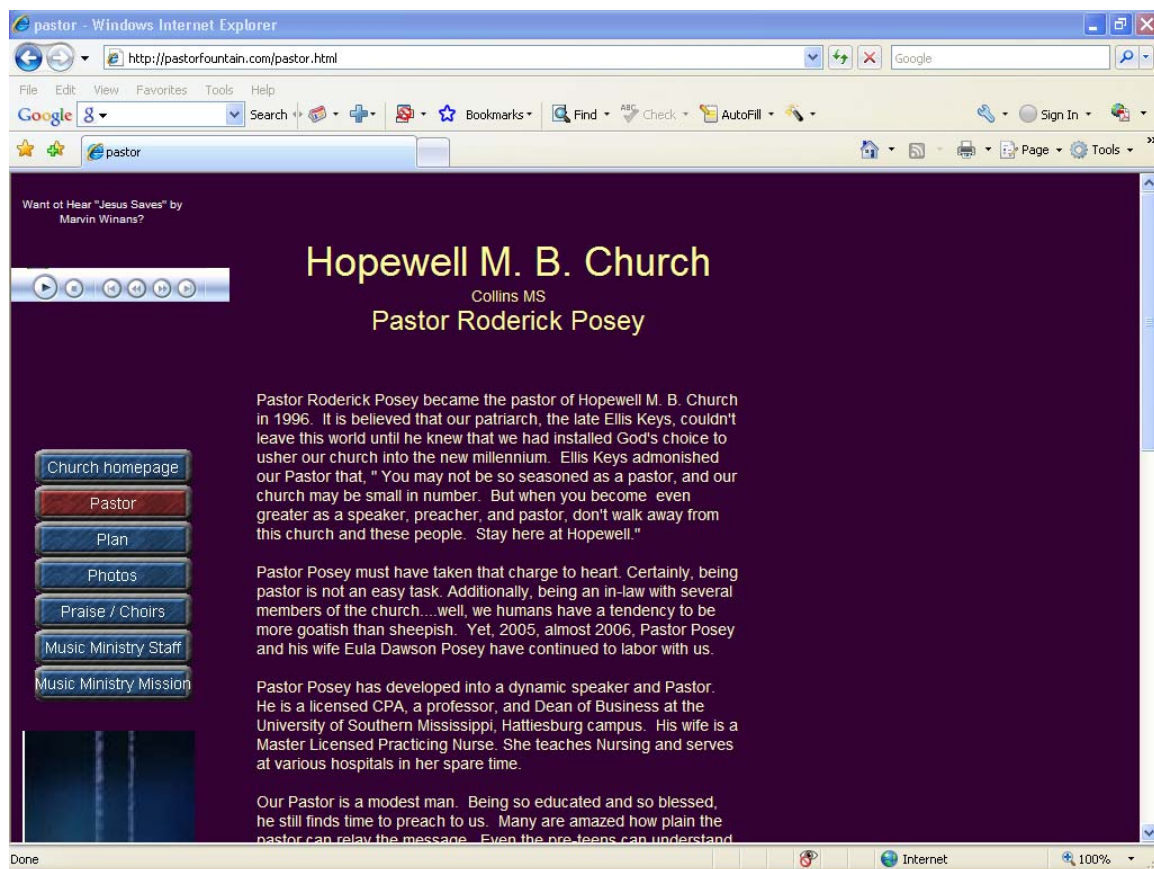


CoB News, 5 February 2009

Roderick Posey, CoB Dean and “. . . a modest man”

Numerous reports here at USMNEWS.net have indicated that CoB accounting professor Roderick Posey serves as a pastor in the Hattiesburg-area, and that his duties as a pastor impede upon his ability to perform his work for USM and Mississippi taxpayers – a job Posey is paid well over \$100,000 per year to do. The screen below supports the claims of prior reports by showing that Posey is indeed a local pastor. As the screen below indicates, Posey is the Pastor of Hopewell M.B. Church in Collins, a town located about 40 minutes from Hattiesburg.



According to Hopewell’s website, Posey has been pastor there since 1996, or for about 13 years. According to the website “bio” on Posey, “Pastor Posey has developed into a dynamic speaker and Pastor. He is a licensed CPA, a professor, and Dean of Business at the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg campus.” Of course, Posey **is not** the dean of business at USM. What reporters at USMNEWS.net reporters do not know is whether Posey supplied such information to information technology officials at Hopewell. If he did supply such false information, then sources say that it is next to impossible to claim that Posey “is a modest man,” as Hopewell’s website (above) claims. (Sources also add that [past claims](#) by Posey to have [published](#) “more than 100” accounting [articles](#) is probably enough to strike the “modesty claim.”)

The website comment that likely sticks most in the craw of Mississippi taxpayers is the statement: “Being so educated and so blessed, [Posey] still finds time to preach to us.” According to sources, the time Posey spends prepping, etc. would be the same time that top-level CoB researchers, past (e.g., Joy Kozar) and present (e.g., James Lindley), were/are spending doing academic research for USM (MS taxpayers); and on top of it all, Posey’s “merit raises” in the CoB have been as good or better than the raises that have been delivered to those same top-level researchers.

Grim and Grimmer

In his 3-Feb-09 article in *The Student Printz* entitled “Faculty Senate planning for cuts,” *TSP* reporter Andy Hess spells out in detail just how “grim” the budget situation facing USM (and the CoB) really is.



Hess’ news piece (shown below) also discusses just how serious some of the measures are that are being considered by USM provost Robert Lyman. These include (1) eliminating open faculty positions, (2) cutting academic programs, (3) faculty/staff furloughs, and (4) increased teaching loads for existing faculty.

Faculty Senate planning for cuts

Andy Hess
Executive Editor

University of Southern Mississippi Provost Bob Lyman delivered a grim economic forecast at Friday’s Faculty Senate meeting. In addition to the 6 percent budget cut the university must already account for by June 30, Lyman anticipates 10 to 12-percent cuts for next fiscal year.

Faculty furloughs, eliminating open faculty positions and cutting programs are just some of the unpleasant options facing the university.

Lyman said the university must act now to curb the impending financial problem. To help stop the bleeding before it starts, he has “hijacked” an academic planning group previously assembled to assess university admission and enrollment management.

The group of 20 representatives of the academic colleges, student affairs and administration will meet over the next month starting today. Members of the group consist of Lyman, Joe Peil, vice president of student affairs; Joe Morgan, chief financial officer; Lynn Smith, budget manager; Denise von Herman, dean of college of arts and letters and Melissa Caran, student body president.

Some possible remedies that will be discussed over the course of the month include suspending or eliminating between 70 and 85 faculty searches, faculty furloughs and increasing teaching loads for current

faculty. A furlough usually refers to a temporary lay-off from work. Lyman said leaving job openings unfilled when they can be is “preferable to terminating personnel already on board.”

“One of the first things I thought about is that we have a bunch of courses in the College of Health on things like golf and archery,” he said. “You think ‘we can cut these without harming our academic mission.’ The trouble is those are heavily enrolled courses.”

“If we’re not careful we end up cutting things that reduce tuition revenue by as much as we save by cutting them.”

Lyman fielded questions from faculty members on budget related issues and asked for input on ways to eliminate without hurting the university.

Afterwards, faculty members expressed their willingness to confront the situation.

Chris Campbell, director of the school of mass communications and journalism, raised the possibility of using the university’s rainy day fund, but Lyman responded that there were already constraints on using too much from the \$1.7 million fund.

“This really distinguishes us from our two peer institutions in the area,” Lyman said. “They have much deeper pockets.”



Bob Lyman

Sources tell USMNEWS.net that Lyman’s responses are simply “a sign of the times,” and that the CoB can really go a long way towards contributing its share to the cause. As yesterday’s *31st & Pearl editorial* points out, the CoB’s economics program is ripe for the cutting. With about 12 faculty for only about 12 majors, and with four full professors earning about \$500,000 per year, not including fringe benefits, ECO’s contribution could go a long way to fulfilling the CoB’s responsibility to assisting the greater institution in this time of crisis. In terms of increased teaching loads, George Carter (ECO), John Clark (FIN), Harold Doty (MGT), David Duhon (MGT), and

William Gunther (ECO) offer up at least a few opportunities for gaining some ground for the CoB and USM. And there is still the matter of all of the CoB's instructors. At times their ranks swell to a college-sized group.

Look for future installments of **CoB News** to delve further into the USM budget crisis and what it will likely mean for the CoB.

Lopez Still Rollin'

Just as USMNEWS.net reporters were wrapping up the recent story about former CoB marketing professor Tara Lopez, the assistant professor of marketing at Southeastern Louisiana University brought home yet another journal publication. This latest one, in the *Journal of Applied Business Research* (shown below), complements the two that were the focus of a recent report – *Journal of Business Case Studies* and *Journal of Diversity Management*.



As with so many other former CoB faculty, the loss of Lopez continues to highlight the cost of the massive [human resources drain](#) that has occurred since 2003 in USM's business college.