

CoB News, 5 August 2008

"New members of our profession who have not been warned or advised otherwise are often amazed at the ferocity they encounter when naively offering a suggestion for doing things differently within their college. When the dean in question is also a management prof, it is enough to make one wonder if he (there are relatively few women business school deans) has ever read any of the books he teaches out of or may even have written!"

Arthur G. Bedeian, 2002

The Doty Channel

Total views of the **YouTube** version of then-CoB dean Harold Doty's Sept-2005 speech to faculty and administrators at the University of South Florida have climbed to 750. In one of the most embarrassing displays in recent memory, Doty told those assembled in Tampa, where he was interviewing for the post of business school dean, that "private money" is the "fun money" in that administrators have greater discretion over its use, as opposed to public funds ("E&G dollars").



DotyTube

In making his point, Doty even referred to the account housing donated (from private sources) funds as his "booze account," while that containing state appropriations was dubbed the "non-booze account." According to Doty, at least back in 2005, a USM business dean can pretty much do anything he wants with the fun money.

These days, *former* CoB dean Harold Doty is telling a different story. In a recent United States District Court deposition, Doty had the occasion to elaborate on what he told USF faculty and administrators about an administrator's domain over public and private monies. The relevant portions of that deposition are presented below to show how Doty now explains his choice of words to the USF family on that Sept-2005 day (Q=counsel's question; A=Doty's response).

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Q. When you went -- let me ask you this:
You appear on Marc's website making some
statements about money; is that correct?
A. That is correct.
Q. And you do not contend that those are
false representations of you, do they?
A. I did not say that.
Q. I'm just -- you said what he shows you
saying on that website, didn't you?
A. I believe it's taken out of context and
constitutes presentation of false light.
Q. You do?
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About midway through the Doty deposition in the summer of 2008, we reach the point where Doty is first asked about his views on USMNEWS.net's video presentation of his so-called "fun

money" speech. Doty testifies that it is his belief that the video takes the "fun money" portion of his USF job presentation "out of context," thus constituting what Doty believes is presentation in false light. When confronted with this opinion, counsel appears flabbergasted, and offers up: "You do?" Doty's response, a simple "Yes," is inserted below, along with additional testimony about the issue.

A. Yes.

Q. Tell me how.

A. Because I believe it misstates what I said in that it takes it out of context.

Q. What I see is that you saying that you have more freedom with foundation money and in fact refer to foundation money as booze account money or liquor account money, something in those terms?

A. I think any intelligent person realize I was making joke.

Q. So that was merely a joke?

According to Doty, the whole discussion of "booze account" money was a joke. Counsel, however, recognizes that there are two issues at play. To be sure, use of terms like "booze account" is meant to make light (or a joke) of a situation. But, the lesson behind Doty's "joke" is that administrators have more discretion over the use of private donations that they do over use of public monies. Recognizing both parts of the situation, the joke and the underlying lesson, counsel presses Doty on the issue of administrative control over private donations. Those portions of the deposition are inserted below.

A. Yes.

Q. So --

A. And interpreted as such by the audience.

Q. So then in your experience there is the same amount of control over foundation money as there is over other statement --

Q. In your experience in your opinion is there the same amount of control over the foundation money than there is over the other monies of the state?

A. Yes.

As the testimony above clearly indicates, counsel asks Doty if it is his (Doty's) opinion that administrators have the same amount of control over foundation (private) money as they do over state appropriations. Doty's answer: "Yes." Based on Doty's responses, this whole part of his USF presentation is even more bizarre than first thought. According to sources, it doesn't even make sense that Doty would interject the statements that he used in Tampa *if* he (Doty) believed that administrative discretion were equal over both sources of money. Is that what Doty *really* believes?

Near the end of Doty's deposition, legal counsel returns to the issue of the "fun money." Those portions of the deposition are inserted at the top of the next page, and they seem to get to the heart of what Doty *really* believes about administrative discretion over university monies.

Q. On USM news.net, I believe you're quoted to the effect that fund money is private money. Do you agree with that?

A. I believe you have more flexibility with money that you raise from private sources than you have with money that is allocated by the State.

Q. I think you are quoted as saying I can pretty much do anything I want with the booze account.

A. Again, you are you need to remember that you are reading statements that are taken out of context.

Doty clearly states (see above) that he believes administrators have **more**, *not* the same, flexibility with money that is raised from private sources than they do with money that is allocated by the State. When pressed further with a follow-up about being able to do more with private funds, Doty chides legal counsel about using statements that are, in Doty's words, "taken out of context."

Doty reveals opposing opinions about a single issue in the same summer 2008 deposition. What are *we* to believe? According to sources, Doty's latter opinion (just above) is the only one that makes sense of the whole "fun money" portion of his (Doty's) USF presentation. Such an opinion can co-exist with notion that the "booze account" description was a joke, intended to make light of the fact that administrators have greater discretion over foundation monies.

The video of Doty at USF *is what it is*. Many of USMNEWS.net's readers have viewed the full version of Doty's Sept-2005 USF presentation. That video is also contained in USMNEWS.net's audio and video library, and reporters and editorialists who have viewed it in its entirety have indicated that there is no "context" issue with either the portions available at USMNEWS.net or the excerpt presented on [YouTube](#). As one editorialist put it, the context issue exists only in Doty's mind, which is quite understandable given the true light the video shines on the situation.

"The Greatest Ever": What We Saw

The new USMNEWS.net series on "the greatest ever" scholars in each of the CoB's units was as popular as reporters first guessed it would be. Table 1 below shows just who the series chose as "the greatest ever" in the various CoB units.

Table 1
The Best Ever Scholars in Each CoB Unit

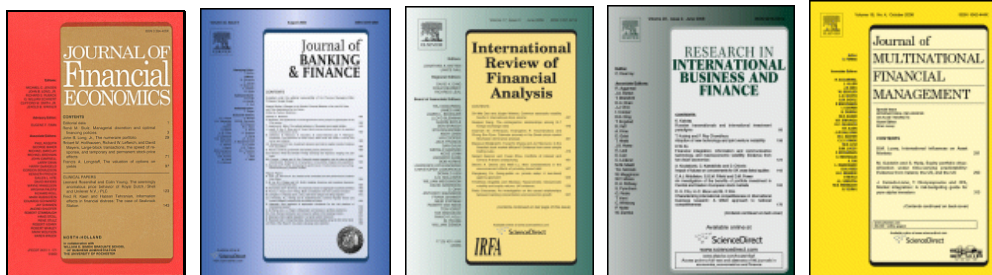
| Unit | "The Greatest Ever" | Close Calls |
|-------------|----------------------------|--|
| FIN | Lindley, James | |
| IB | Trevino, Len | |
| RE | Salter, Sean | |
| INS | Hamwi, Iskandar "Alex" | |
| FM | Kozar, Joy | Burgess, Brigitte Moore, Cynthia E. |

| | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| MIS | Davis, Don | Davis, Donna Lai, Fujun |
| BL | King, Ernest | |
| MKT | Robin, Don | Reidenbach, Eric |
| ACC | DePree, Marc | Grant, Terry |
| ECO | Dickie, Mark Mixon, Franklin | |
| MGT | Doty, Harold | Carr, Jon Jayaraman, Vaidy |
| TM | Henthorne, Tony | |

Readers are reporting that this series was not only enjoyable, but enlightening as well. The reporters at USMNEWS.net congratulate all of those chosen to represent their particular units as "the greatest ever," and we encourage all of those who got a "close call" mention to continue to strive for excellence. For some in the latter group, a "day in the sun" may lie ahead.

Don't Sleep on Nail

With all of the reports about the "the greatest ever" CoB faculty, CoB faculty and other readers of USMNEWS.net may have been distracted enough to have missed the fact that the CoB's new dean, Lance Nail, has quite a respectable research portfolio of his own. That portfolio was highlighted in [Home Sweet Home for CoB Dean's Seat](#), and it contains the elite-level *Journal of Financial Economics* and the A-level *Journal of Banking & Finance*.



As far as FIN goes, professor James Lindley is not only tops of the current group, he's tops all-time. Nail's record is, however, clearly superior to that of any other current CoB finance faculty. So, when Nail sits down to ponder the research output of CoB faculty, sources say he will do so with the qualifications one would hope for, if not expect, from an administrator.