SEDONA Files

In an effort to shed more light on the annual evaluation process in the CoB, this is Part VII in a series of examinations of CoB faculty SEDONA materials, as they appeared on 2 May 2006, or just after the time of the CoB's annual evaluation. Previous exhibits have pointed out that CoB faculty are responsible for maintaining their CV items on SEDONA, an electronic database. As stated in an e-mail by Dean Doty, SEDONA materials **only** are to be evaluated by CoB administrators at the annual review hearing.

Readers may be interested in how a typical installment of **SEDONA Files** comes together. We decided to present the process, using this installment as an example. First, we start with something in SEDONA that seems at least a little suspicious. For example, see the three entries below, all pertaining to the **Service to the University** category in the SEDONA database:

Barry J Babin

Member:

2005-2006: University Research Council 2004-2005 through 2005-2006: University Research Council 2003-2004: University Research Council 2003-2004 through 2004-2005: University Research Council

It would seem that Babin is attempting to squeeze a lot of credit out of a simple University Research Council assignment.

Curious entries such as these will usually lead to further examination of SEDONA files elsewhere. For instance, under **Service to the University**, we found the following 2005-2006 entries for two other CoB faculty:

Frank G Mixon, Jr.

Member:

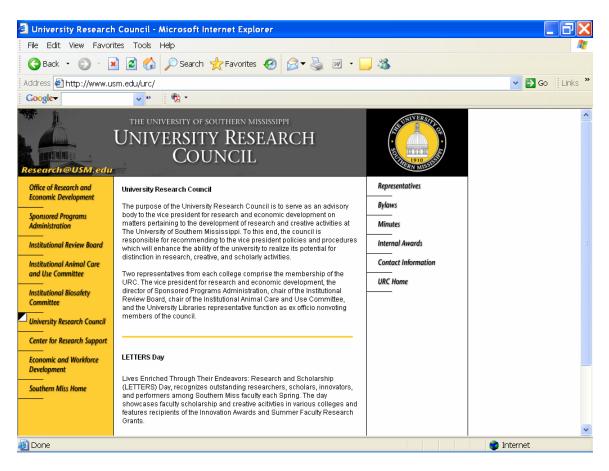
2005-2006: University Research Council

David Sharp

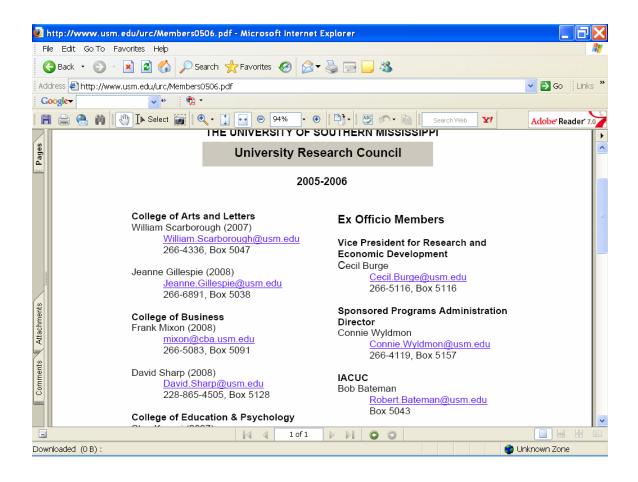
Member:

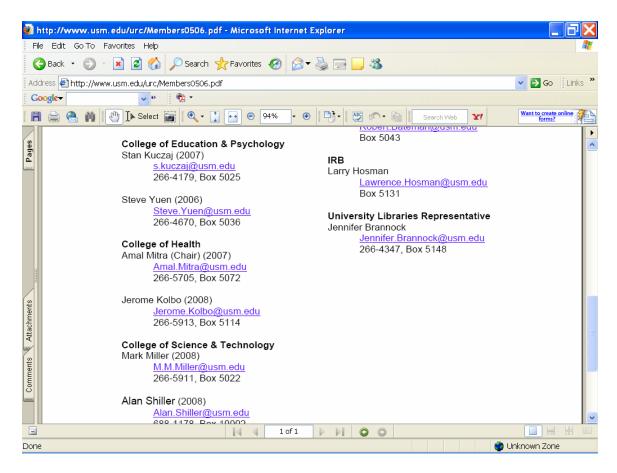
2005-2006: University Research Council

The SEDONA entries for these three faculty appear to represent enough information for **SEDONA Files** to conduct a preliminary investigation. To do so, we visit the USM website. There we captured the following screen:



As you can see, we visited the University Research Council's own webpage at usm.edu. It was there we noticed the link to representatives, which we accessed. Two screens from that visit are inserted just below:





As you can see, there are two (2) representatives from each College on the URC, and only Mixon and Sharp are listed as being 2005-2006 members from the CoB. Usually at this point we provide a statement or two of discussion/analysis. Here we would just say that it appears as though Babin counted some 2005-2006 Service, perhaps more than once, that he should not have counted at all. As a result, his 2005-06 Service rating and merit raise were (potentially) significantly larger than they should have been.

That's pretty much it. More next time.