

# CoB News, 26 September 2008

## Dolly Loyd – Devoted Campus Leader

One can only imagine the surprise at least some CoB faculty must have experienced to hear USM president, Martha Saunders, refer (during Saunders' 24-Sept-08 fall convocation speech) to CoB marketing *instructor*, Dolly Loyd, as a devoted *campus leader*. Saunders' remark about Loyd came as part of Saunders' push to have USM faculty and staff donate more than ever to the United Way. In an effort to back that process, Saunders appointed Loyd and Mike Giles to spearhead the 2008-09 campaign.



USM's 2008-09 United Way campaign goal is \$100,000, and according to Loyd's [comments](#) to USM PR rep, David Tisdale, the UW's giving back can be seen at various spots on the USM campus, including the DuBard School for Language Disorders, the Children's Center for Communication and Development, and the Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention. Loyd hung around outside the fall 2008 convocation to pass out information on the 2008-09 UW campaign (see photo above, where Loyd is conversing with Rusty Anderson from the job placement office).

Loyd is a multi-decade *untenured* veteran of USM's business school, and not someone Saunders would likely have been thinking of as she (Saunders) listed the various ways that her new administration would judge the success of the institution's resources. Two of the major platforms Saunders mentioned as meritorious are peer-reviewed publications and external funding, not areas in which Loyd is known for being (generally) productive.<sup>1</sup>

## EFIB Fridays Drying Up?

Save for new CoB dean Lance Nail's interventions, it appears as though EFIB economist Sami Dakhli's "EFIB Fridays" seminar series is drying up. About the only presenters Dakhli is having

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<sup>1</sup> Having said that, it should be pointed out that a USMNEWS.net contributor once delivered a report showing that Loyd had produced more academic scholarship than former CoB associate dean, and current CoB economics professor, Farhang Niroomand, had over a particular period of time. That report is contained in USMNEWS.net's vast [Archives](#) section.

success booking these days come from the EFIB itself. This year's participants have included Daniel Monchuk (assistant professor of economics) and Mark Klinedinst (professor of economics). And as numerous reports here at USMNEWS.net have pointed out, Klinedinst has not published an indexed journal article since 1998 – more than 10 years ago! Luckily for Dakhliya, Nail knows some top notch talent, such as Bill Megginson from the University of Oklahoma, who presented on 26-Sept-08.

The lack of life in Dakhliya's seminar series does not, however, seem to deterring EFIB economists from presenting their work elsewhere. Monchuk is scheduled to make a presentation on 24-Oct-08 to faculty in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois in Urbana- Champaign. Monchuk's visit is being sponsored by the DACE at UI, so it will be interesting to learn in the future whether or not Monchuk files for any reimbursements from USM.

One trip that has already cost USM a "pretty penny" is economics professor Akbar Marvasti's June-08 jaunt to Waikiki, Hawaii, to attend the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Western Economic Association meeting. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that it may have been okay for Marvasti to participate at this conference while he was employed with Pomona College in California, but, given Marvasti's lack of research production *and* USM's dire budget situation, Nail should consider barring Marvasti from such lavish travel in the future.

Finally, former EFIB economist, Charles Sawyer, now of Texas Christian University, has capitalized on Dakhliya's "EFIB Fridays" in the past as well. Sawyer spent the 2007-08 academic year at TCU while his family remained in Hattiesburg. According to sources, during that time Sawyer visited Dakhliya's seminar on multiple occasions, and in one case as a presenter. It would be informative to learn whether or not TCU paid for what sources call "Sawyer's homecoming(s)" last year. Something we do know is that (1) Sawyer piggybacked on Dakhliya's seminar docket by getting Dakhliya protégé, Art Carden of Rhodes College, to visit TCU for an encore performance, and (2) Sawyer has not yet had Klinedinst, Farhang Niroomand, or any other EFIB economists visit Fort Worth for a presentation. Could it be that Sawyer does not think particularly highly of Klinedinst et al.?

## **What did Saunders Say about the CoB?**

During her 24-Sept-08 fall convocation speech, USM president Martha Saunders touched upon some highlights of the 2007-08 academic year in each USM college. For the CoB, this meant the mention of (1) the AACSB accreditation reaffirmation, and (2) the development of the new healthcare marketing degree. In delivering these accolades, Saunders failed to mention that the CoB had to undergo an expensive "6<sup>th</sup> Year Review" to get a clean bill of health from its accrediting agency, the AACSB. And, though she did point out that the healthcare marketing degree is the only degree of its kind in Mississippi, perhaps a dubious distinction in itself, she failed to note that the program is run almost exclusively, if not exclusively, by Michael Wittmann, a CoBer who reports here at USM have shown to lack the requisite *real* academic credentials for delivering such a program.