

## CoBsters Without Portfolio

What the Doty-Niroomand “Resignations” will Ultimately Cost MS Taxpayers

The announcement on 10 April 2007 that the USM Human Resources Department had “confirmed” that CoB Dean D. Harold Doty and CoB Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand “resigned” from their administrative duties sent a small tremor across the already battle-scarred USM campus. What has heretofore escaped much of the reporting by media such as *The Hattiesburg American*, WDAM-TV, and *The Student Printz* is the statement in the official press releases indicating that both Doty and Niroomand will return to full-time teaching duties at the beginning of **fall semester 2007**. That statement means that from mid-April 2007 through mid-August 2007 both Doty and Niroomand will continue to be paid their salaries and fringes by MS taxpayers even though neither of them will have any significant USM-related duties to perform.

In order to provide an analysis of the cost to MS taxpayers of this forthcoming *inactivity* by both Doty (see below) and Niroomand (see below), usmnews.net reporters used salary/fringes data from the 2005-2006 academic year for CoB faculty, as reported in [http://www.usmnews.net/CoB\\_2005\(1\).06.pdf](http://www.usmnews.net/CoB_2005(1).06.pdf). For Doty, these came to about \$188,000 per year (during 2005-2006), while for Niroomand they totaled about \$165,000 per year (during 2005-2006).



Harold Doty



Farhang Niroomand

Table 1 below provides a month-by-month cost estimate, using the 2005-2006 figures reported above, of USM’s employment *without portfolio* of D. Harold Doty and Farhang Niroomand over the period mid-Apr 2007 through mid-August 2007.

**Table 1**  
**Cost to MS Taxpayers of USM’s Employment Without Portfolio of Doty & Niroomand**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Doty Compensation</u>	<u>Niroomand Compensation</u>
½ Apr-07	\$ 7,833.33	\$ 6,875.00
May-07	\$15,666.66	\$13,750.00
June-07	\$15,666.66	\$13,750.00

July-07	\$15,666.66	\$13,750.00
½ Aug-07	<u>\$ 7,833.33</u>	<u>\$ 6,875.00</u>
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$62,666.64</b>	<b>\$55,000.00</b>

As shown above in Table 1, Doty will be paid almost **\$63,000** over the next four months for doing next-to-nothing, if anything at all. At the same time, and for doing little more than Doty (Niroomand teaches a single course in spring of 2007), Niroomand will be paid **\$55,000** by MS taxpayers. The totals above produce a grand sum of **\$117,666.64** --- a truly amazing amount of money for MS taxpayers to be forced to pay to clean up the messes caused by these two, and this figure does not count any “clean-up costs” that may be incurred by MS taxpayers if/when some of the Doty-Niroomand “issues” find their way into Forrest and/or Harrison County Courthouses.

We would also note that the estimates you see above in Table 1 are conservative ones, especially given the fact that they fail to include salary and fringes associated with the 2006 merit raises (i.e., the figures above do not reflect 2006-2007 salaries and fringes). As usmnews.net readers will recall, Niroomand awarded himself a substantial raise in May of 2006 --- a raise that was easily tops in the CoB! Of course, the figures above also do not account for the “human cost” of the bad choices made by Doty and/or Niroomand over the past few years.