

Dakhlia Bids CoB *Adieu*

CoB ECO Prof Accepts Teaching Post across the Pond

Reports streaming into USMNEWS.net indicate that CoB associate professor of economics, Sami Dakhlia, has executed a resignation statement effective at the end of the 2009-10 academic year. Sources indicate that Dakhlia will be taking a new position at an institution in France, where Dakhlia retains citizenship. This move follows on the heels of former CoB ECOer Deniz Gevrek's surprise Christmas holidays (2009) departure for Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi. Gevrek's decision to leave came as a result of USM's decision to (1) eliminate the CoB's economics programs, (2) force the five mostly senior economists into retirement, and (3) move the then four mostly junior economists who remain into the College of Arts & Letters. As USMNEWS.net readers are aware, USM decided upon the three items above during the Aug/Sept 2009 budget-cutting period.

Dakhlia came to USM in 2006 after a failed tenure-track run at the University of Alabama, and he has not published a journal article since 2006. This situation has led to reports that his tenure-track run at USM was likely to be problematic. Dakhlia's departure could also spell doom for USM's fledgling "economics department." Sources tell USMNEWS.net that CoAL dean Denise von Herrmann expects the economists to grow the B.A. program. Without Dakhlia, the highest profile *personality* in/spokesperson for ECO, fewer students will likely be enticed to select the B.A. program in economics. With only Akbar Marvasti and Daniel Monchuk remaining, some believe the economics may not be viable in CoAL.