

## Dakhlia's Trip – Three Years Later

The recent [one year ago today](#) installment about associate professor of economics Sami Dakhlia's week long teaching trip to France reminds us all how things used to be during the Harold Doty-Farhang Niroomand administration (2003-07) of USM's b-school. Though we can always be surprised, it is highly doubtful that current dean Lance Nail and BEDS chair Donna Davis would support teaching junkets that represent double-dipping for Sami Dakhlia or any other CoBer. That comes from word that Nail has been supportive of cleaning up the CoB, and the ECO has been its dirtiest corner over the past several years. It's no wonder, then, that Nail's first idea was to ship ECO, Dakhlia's home unit, over to the College of Arts & Letters (CoAL). That would have happened if not for a negative vote from political science and IDV faculty in the CoAL, who knew, likely from stories provided to them by former b-school economist Shahdad Naghshpour, that ECO was bad news. It's also interesting, looking back, that Dakhlia implicated Doty and EFIB chairman George Carter in his (Dakhlia's) May-07 grievance, filed with then-interim CoB dean Alvin Williams, by stating that they (Doty and Carter) supported his for-pay teaching gig back home in France. While this may be the type of behavior that b-schoolers at the University of Texas – Tyler can now expect, it seems to be on the way out at USM, and that's a good thing. Yes, here we are looking back on the trip almost three years later. It's also been almost three years since Dakhlia published a journal article. Perhaps that's what happens (or what doesn't happen) when the teaching abroad chickens come home to roost. It also indicates that neither Doty nor Carter have a clue about what (and what not) to support with the faculty they administer.