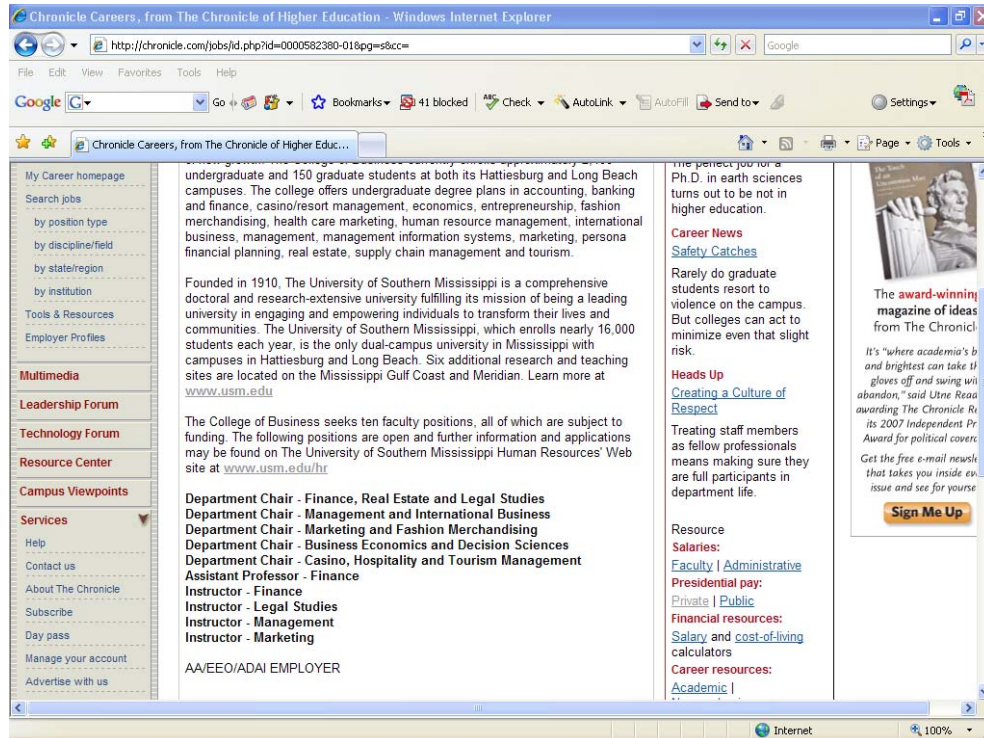


Damn the Qualifications! Full Speed Ahead!

by Duane Cobb

One only has to gaze at the recent CoB job postings at *The Chronicle of Higher Education* for a depression of sorts to set (back) in. There one finds 10 openings that new CoB dean Lance Nail plans to fill, and *only one of them* is for a regular-line, tenure-track faculty position. What a pitiful beginning to what was hoped by many to be a stellar CoB administration. Now, it appears as if Nail believes the CoB can be returned to glory with a few more David Duhons (as chairs) and an Evelyn Green (an *instructor*) in every department.



The insert above (from *TCHE*) pretty much says it all – 5 new department chairs (administrators), 4 new instructors (non-PhDs), *another* assistant professor in finance (Nail's home department) and the CoB is all good. If this weren't such a sad state of affairs it would all be humorous. Once again the CoB will be hoping that AACSB can bail it out. With four new non-PhD faculty on board, and over \$1 million thrown down the administration toilet annually, you would think they (AACSB) would, especially given all of the lack of classroom instruction qualifications issues the CoB dealt with during re-accreditation 2006-07 under the Harold Doty/Farhang Niroomand administration (debacle).

One would think that Nail understood things a little better than this, but he is, like Doty before him, a rookie dean with little to draw upon. Also like Doty, Nail may have just made the biggest mistake of his professional life – taking an administrative position at the University of Southern Mississippi. Either way, that's all in the past now. It's the future I'm concerned about.