

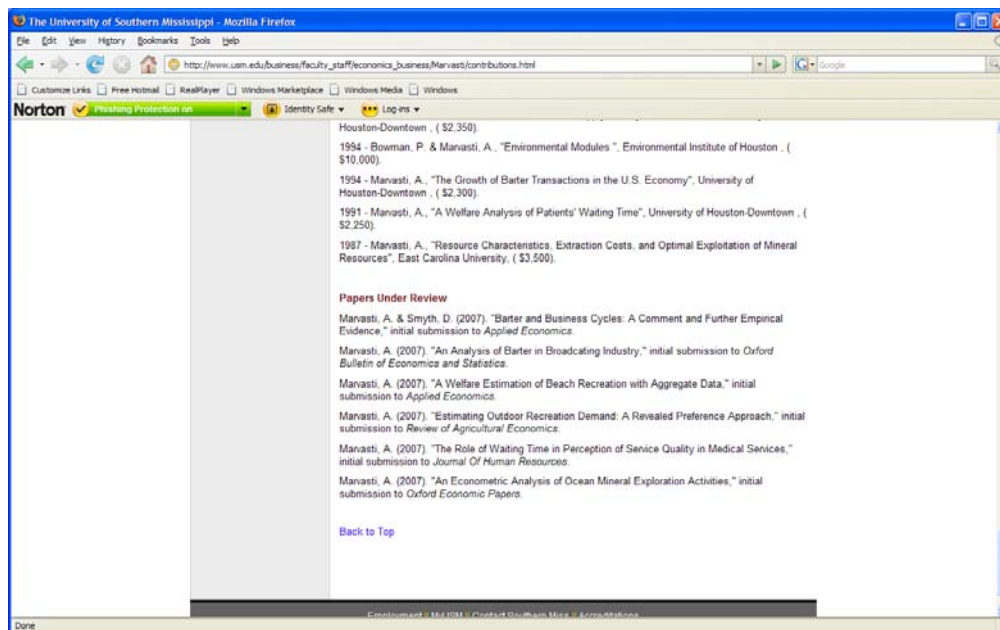
## Updated 19-November-08, See Below!

"Happy day, Dean Nail. I am going to need \$2,200 out of your budget."

On 11-April-2007, USMNEWS.net posted a report on CoB economist Daniel Monchuk's 23-page publication in the Spring 2007 issue of the *Review of Agricultural Economics*. As that report, [What Does a 'C-Publication' Cost These Days?](#), indicated, Monchuk's publication in the *RAE*, which was at that time an *unlisted* journal in the CoB's journal classification system, hit the CoB up for **\$2,185**. This high price tag came as a result of the *RAE*'s \$95/page publication fee.

Since that report, the *RAE*'s per-page publication fee of \$95 has held steady. The way the CoB views the *RAE*, however, has not. According to the work done by the CoB's 2007-08 journal ranking committee, chaired by *untenured assistant* professor of economics, Sami Dakhli, the *RAE* has risen from the ranks of the unlisted journals to the B-level category. This represents one of the most significant jumps in the CoB's lengthy journal classification lists.

According to sources, it is likely that a journal with such a steep publication fee has a relatively high acceptance rate. So if one, or one's college/university employer, can get past the steep publication fee, he or she will likely face a relatively high probability of success on a submission to the *RAE*. A recent visit to the CoB's individual faculty web pages reveals that this thought process has not escaped newly-promoted professor of economics, Akbar Marvasti.



According to the **Papers Under Review** section of Marvasti's Intellectual Contributions page, which is inserted above, Marvasti currently has a paper under review with the *RAE*. And, according to sources, Marvasti's main research areas, unlike Monchuk's, do not even include agricultural economics. So, if Monchuk's experience with the *RAE* is any indication, Marvasti may soon be approaching EFIB chair, George Carter, requesting \$2,200 out of the EFIB's budget. And if that day arrives, Carter will likely want to approach new CoB dean, Lance Nail, for the funds, so as not to wreck the EFIB's budget for the year.



Akbar Marvasti



George Carter



Lance Nail

On top of the potential \$2,200 expense (if not more), Marvasti will reap the benefits of a B-level publication. And in his effort to acquire a well-regarded research portfolio, even if only inside the confines of the CoB's Joseph Greene Hall, Marvasti appears to be taking advantage of some of the other work done by Dakhli's 2007-08 journal ranking committee. Another ECO move the JR committee made was to elevate *Applied Economics* from a B-level journal to an A-level journal. According to one source, this may be one of the more inappropriate upgrades made by Dakhli's group. Hardly waiting for the ink on the 2008 CoB journal classifications to dry, Marvasti has already sent off not one, but two, new submissions to *AE*. Perhaps it would not be premature at this point for USM President, Martha Saunders, to declare that Marvasti will be having a "banner year" in 2008-09.

## Updated 19-November-08

Word has found its way to USMNEWS.net indicating that one of Akbar Marvasti's two recent submissions to *Applied Economics*, the recently elevated (from B-level status) A-level journal in the CoB, has already been published by *AE*. The insert below shows the first page of Marvasti's recently published seven-page *AE* article on beach recreation. The speed with which this all occurred represents just why some USMNEWS.net sources are saying that *AE* should never have been elevated to an A-level journal in the first place. One insider reminds us, however, that new CoB dean Lance Nail plans on using ISI journal quality metrics and that *AE* ranks only 124 out of 191 (35<sup>th</sup> percentile) using that metric. Even so, one can be reasonably sure that EFIB chair George Carter and former CoB associate dean Farhang Niroomand will be

fighting on Marvasti's behalf to see to it that this *AE* publication is counted as an A, as called for by the journal ranking committee. And don't forget, as we are reminded, that Marvasti has another submission to *AE* awaiting the same positive fate.



In putting together this update, USMNEWS.net reporters took some time to examine Marvasti's newly published *AE* article. This was done because prior reports here at USMNEWS.net have shown that Marvasti is notorious for pulling years-old research out and passing it off as fresh and new. One *Special Report* in particular – [EFIB Groundhog Days](#) – provided compelling evidence suggesting that Marvasti presented nearly 10 year-old research at a 9-Nov-07 installment of Sami Dakhli's "EFIB Fridays" seminar series.

A scan of Marvasti's recent *AE* publication (above) reveals what appears to be more "interesting behavior" on Marvasti's part. Marvasti's data are a time-series of public visits to a beach park in Galveston, TX, not far from Marvasti's former professional homes in the University of Houston – Downtown/Clear Lake. The time-series spans from 2001-03, a period sources tell USMNEWS.net that Marvasti was still on board the Houston-based institution(s). Next, the dates of the referenced works in

Marvasti's article were examined. Results from that examination are shown in Table 1 below:

**Table 1**  
**Cited Works in Marvasti's New *AE* Publication**

<u>Year</u>	<u># Cited Works</u>
2008	
2007	
2006	
2005	
2004	1
2003	2
2002	
2001	
2000	1
1999	1
1998	1
1997	
1996	2
1995	1
1994	1
1993	1
1992	
1991	1
1990	
1989	1
1988	3
1987	1
1986	
1985	1
1984	
1983	
1982	
1981	
1980	1
1979	
1978	
1977	
1976	
1975	1

Based on the data in Table 1 above, this paper has, according to sources, the looks of one that was put together ca. 2004 and has not been touched since, except to dust it off and submit it to *AE*. Perhaps Marvasti was waiting on Dakhli's journal ranking committee to submit its final product before doing so.