

Dear usmnews.net

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Check out the recent "[Rick's Blog](#)" entry from Pensacola -- he's the guy who has been critical of Saunders -- on the Saunders' candidacy at CoC.

Name withheld

Dear name withheld,

Thanks for the heads up. Our question is how Saunders will spin the [substandard evaluation](#) UWF received on her watch. In fact, UWF's evaluation was not just "substandard", it was the [lowest overall score](#) of any University in the State of Florida. At USM, Saunders "[rode all the rides](#)" and simply proclaimed everything was wonderful, even when USM was perpetually mired in the fourth tier.

For ease of reference here is the complete report with comments:

[UWF Provost finalist for College of Charleston presidency](#)



The College of Charleston Board of Trustees has announced its three finalist to the 22nd president of the college. Among the finalist is Martha Saunders, Provost and Professor, University of West Florida. She is in competition with South Carolina Lt. Gov. Glenn F. McConnell and retired Harvard professor Dr. Dennis Encarnation.

There was a fourth finalist, Andrew Card, Jr., but he pulled out of the race. Card is the executive director in the Office of the Provost at Texas A&M University.

[You keep track of the COC process on its website.](#)

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Found in section: [Education](#)

Tags: [College of Charleston](#), [Glenn F. McConnell](#), [Martha Saunders](#), [University of West Florida](#)

Reader Feedback

2 Responses to “UWF Provost finalist for College of Charleston presidency”

1. *Dorian Grey* says:

[March 6, 2014 at 5:08 am](#)

As a UWF student who works fairly closely with the administration – I for one have to admit that I am ecstatic at the prospect of Saunders leaving. Between her reputation at USM to the questionable decisions made at UWF – it is clear that the focus of UWF’s top administrators is no longer on the students who attend the university but on those who have deep pockets. As the push for heightened athletic visibility has increased – the needs of the students and the faculty and staff continue to get pushed to the side. There is no transparency. Bense needs to be held accountable for the decisions she has made (including her hiring choices – see Saunders, LeDuff, Bailey, and Gore) that have done nothing but take UWF and make it the LAST RANKED university in the state.

2. *John Thompson* says:

[March 5, 2014 at 9:35 am](#)

So UWF is losing another high ranking administrator, just like Kyle Marrero last year and several others going back 5 years including President Cavanaugh. What is the problem with UWF? The numbers released by the school yesterday (Tuesday) rank UWF dead last among the state universities, well below perianal low aching schools like FAU, FAMU, and New College.

I think we deserve answers from President Bense, real answers and not just the spin she put on the numbers at her Town Hall Meeting. One of the metrics UWF scored very badly in was retention and graduation rates. It seems relatively few incoming freshmen actually graduate. Could that be because Bense, in her zeal to pump up enrollment opened the doors wide for unqualified students who simply can’t keep up with the demands of a university education?