

*DEAR USMNEWS.NET*

Dear usmnews.net,

I read last week's [The Farm](#). I have two questions. How did Martha sneak the extension for her toy airplane past everyone without the usual round of bad publicity? What were the changes in the lease terms?

Name withheld by request

Dear Name withheld by request,

At this time, usmnews.net does not have an answer to either of your questions. The University has not provided a copy of the lease extension agreement to usmnews.net in spite of the fact that the original Mississippi Open Records requested submitted in November 2011. Our legal counsel continues to press for the information.

usmnews.net can tell you that at the time the [Foundation's audit report was](#) issued in 2010 (for the year 2009), the lease had already been extended through 2019. (See, page 20 of Audit Report) What makes this situation interesting is the fact that the underlying lease did not expire until 2013. We have no explanation why Dr. Saunders felt the need to extend the lease two or three years before it expired. In fact, in February 2010, [Dr. Saunders felt the need to explain](#) to the *Student Printz* that "At this point, we do not have the option of making any changes in that lease." Apparently, Dr. Saunders discovered that she did have the option of making changes to the lease.