

*Dear usmnews.net*

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The word around the water cooler is that now that Gwen Pate has become Director of the SofA [School of Accountancy], Mary Morgan Anderson is once again hopeful that she may become a full professor. As you probably know Anderson's father [Jerry Morgan] was chairman of the accounting department when Southern Miss supported Pate's doctoral program. Perhaps she thinks Pate will give her a helping hand out of a sense of obligation. Most of us think that given her abysmal publication record that it will take a lot more than a hand.

Name withheld by request

Dear name withheld,

What publications or lack of publications will get you promoted at Southern Miss is a moving target. Speaking from personal experience, I received an unsatisfactory evaluation for an "A" level publication. Dave Duhon was promoted to full based on a [private letter of agreement](#). However, I have to disagree with your characterization of Anderson's research record. Since 2008, her research record has been non-existent. According to the [Southern Miss website](#), Anderson has not published a single article [since 2008](#), and that was an "O" or other ranking. Translating that to a letter grade like the ones we give students, her one publication in six years would be scored a D.