

# Deckchairs on the Titanic?

## A Look at the Disposition of CoB Faculty under the Reorganization Plan

The recent **BREAKING NEWS** stories about the failed secret attempt to move the CoB's economists over to the College of Arts & Letters, new dean Lance Nail's major reorganization of the CoB, and the selection of Gwen Pate and Kenneth Zantow as new assistant deans have CoBers and other readers of USMNEWS.net buzzing. This essay expands on the second recent **BREAKING NEWS** story above by examining the faculty rosters of each of the six new CoB departments in Nail's reorganization plan. These are (1) accounting, (2) business administration, economics and information systems, (3) finance, real estate and legal studies, (4) management and international business, (5) marketing and fashion merchandising and (6) tourism management. The faculty rosters for these new departments are found below, and each contains faculty from the overall 2008-09 CoB roster:

### Accounting

#### Accounting

Anderson, Mary  
Clark, Stanley  
Jackson, Steven  
Jordan, Charles  
Munn, Patty  
Parker, Paula Diane  
Pate, Gwen  
Posey, Roderick  
Simmons, Valerie  
Smith, Robert

### Business Administration, Economics & Information Systems

<u>Business Administration</u>	<u>Economics</u>	<u>Information Systems</u>
Nissan, Edward	Bonaparte, Yosef	Chen, Kuo Lane
	Carter, George	Cumbe, Barry
	Dakhia, Sami	Davis, Donna
	Doty Susan	Hsieh, Chang-Tseh
	Gevrek, Deniz	Lai, Fujun
	Green, Trellis	Lunsford, Dale
	Klinedinst, Mark	Magruder, James
	Niroomand, Farhang	
	Shi, Weihua	

### Finance, Real Estate & Legal Studies

<u>Finance</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Legal Studies</u>
Clark, John	Goodwin, Kimberly	King, Ernest
Hood, Matthew		
Jiao, Feng		
Laatsch, Francis		
Malik, Farooq		
Perry, Timothy		

## **Management & International Business**

### Management

Becton, John Bret  
Blettner, Daniella  
Doty, Harold  
Duhon, David  
Fennell, Wanda  
Gibbs, SherRhonda  
Peyrefitte, Joseph  
Sequeira, Jennifer  
Sevier, Amy  
Topping, Sharon  
Zantow, Kenneth

### International Business

Lambert, John

## **Marketing & Fashion Merchandising**

### Marketing

Andrews, Melinda  
Collins, Brian  
Foster, Jamye  
Gade, Michael  
Hansen, John  
LaFleur, Elizabeth  
Loyd, Dolly  
Pollitte, Wesley  
Rivers, Amber  
Smith, William  
Wittmann, Michael  
Wolf, Marco

### Fashion Merchandising

Burgess, Brigitte  
Drake, Erin  
Yaoyuneyong, Gallayanee

## **Tourism Management**

### Tourism Management

Becker, Cherylynn  
George, Babu  
Green, Evelyn  
Lay, Marsha  
Price, Catherine

Once again the accountants are alone. Insiders say that they will be happy about that, but that the CoB might suffer some as a result. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that the isolation of accounting was necessary for an easier AACSB accreditation process. Thus, this is a tradeoff Nail had to make. By taking IB away from ECO, Nail stripped away more than 90% of the majors that ECO could once count as its own. Also, by pairing ECO with IS, Nail has almost stalemated the economists with regard to departmental politics. Future votes in this department will likely be narrow majorities, which is not good for current EFIB chairman George Carter and Carter's cronies.

Most of the CoB's FIN faculty are likely to be very happy with Nail's decision to separate them from ECO. Now, real estate and legal studies each has an identity, something that the CoB has needed for quite some time. Much of the remaining portions of the new CoB look like the status quo. There are pros and cons for the CoB's management and marketing faculty regarding their split. All in all, the remaining pieces of the reorganization plan, including this particular split, appear to be innocuous.

In looking over the plan as a whole, it's difficult not to conclude that the CoB is generally overstaffed. Eliminating most of the 2/2 teaching loads going around the CoB these days, and there are quite a few of these, and with many supported by dubious justifications, would reduce the need for so many business faculty at USM. Of course, this is a situation that USM provost Robert Lyman would want to explore, not Nail.

Though there are more positives than negatives when it comes to whether or not this particular reorganization can lead to an improvement in the CoB, the selection of Pate and Zantow as the new assistant deans and the failure to expel ECO from the CoB leave behind the feeling that the reorganization may only be the latest example of rearranging deckchairs on the Titanic. Whether the CoB's nature trumps hope in this case, as it has so many times before, remains to be seen.