

Does EFIB Chair George Carter “Cringe” at the Thought of an Alvin Williams-led USM College of Business?

The title above may be intriguing/surprising, but there’s already enough evidence out there to suggest that the answer is “Yes.” Readers of USMNEWS.NET who missed the recent report “Was George Carter Disingenuous with the Media? . . .” should catch up by reading that report (<http://www.usmnews.net/Was%20George%20Carter%20Disingenuous%20with%20the%20Media.pdf>), given that it describes Carter’s potential feelings about an Alvin Williams-led USM College of Business.



George Carter



Alvin Williams

Now (about 3 weeks after Williams’ appointment as the CoB’s Interim Dean) we have more information about how Carter feels about a Williams-led USM College of Business. This information comes to USMNEWS.NET via an e-mail exchange between Carter and economics professor Franklin Mixon, who queried Carter about dissemination of the 2006 faculty evaluations. Mixon’s e-mail exchange was forwarded to the entire EFIB Department, which ultimately led to acquisition by USMNEWS.NET.¹ That e-mail exchange is inserted at the top of the following page of this report.

As the e-mail exchange inserted below indicates, Mixon sent a simple query to Carter about annual evaluations dissemination, to which Carter promptly responded with information. However, there are two things worthy of comment here. The first is that, although Mixon’s original e-mail included all of the EFIB faculty, Carter’s response was sent only to Mixon, even though Carter’s information would have been useful to other professors in the EFIB. Second, and probably related, Carter’s response to Mixon, which was later forwarded to the

¹ As many USMNEWS.NET readers are now aware, our offices generally receive, from one source or another, all omnibus e-mails sent within the CoB, as well as many e-mails between fewer parties.

Date: Wed, 25 Apr 2007
From: [Frank Mixon <jr.mixon@usm.edu>](mailto:Frank.Mixon@usm.edu)
To: Cob-ecfinintbus@usm.edu
Reply-to: [EFIB Department <cob-ecfinintbus@usm.edu>](mailto:EFIB.Department@usm.edu)
Subject: Fwd: RE: [Cob-ecfinintbus] annual evaluations

Fyi for others in the department (see below).

-----Original Message-----

From: cob-ecfinintbus-bounces@usm.edu
[mailto:cob-ecfinintbus-bounces@usm.edu] On Behalf Of Frank Mixon
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2007
To: EFIB Department
Subject: [Cob-ecfinintbus] annual evaluations

George,

Can you provide any information about our annual evaluations? I think marketing and management has already completed its chair-faculty conferences and everyone there knows their scores already (as of a week ago).

Thanks,
Frank

----- Forwarded message from George Carter <George.Carter@usm.edu> ---
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Date: Wed, 25 Apr 2007
From: George Carter <George.Carter@usm.edu>
Reply-To: George Carter <George.Carter@usm.edu>
Subject: RE: [Cob-ecfinintbus] annual evaluations
To: 'Frank Mixon' <jr.mixon@usm.edu>

Frank,

The new Dean is reviewing them. When he returns them, I will forward them to the respective faculty members for review.

George

entire EFIB, did not address Dean Alvin Williams by name in any way, even though the message conveyed that the EFIB evaluations were, at the time, on Williams' desk. Instead, Carter uses the phrase "The new Dean" to refer to Williams, a phrase that is less than complimentary of Williams in his new position as the CoB's Interim Dean. This phrase also supports what sources tell USMNEWS.NET was a less-than-delighted reaction by Carter (in conversation with a CoB faculty member in the days following the "resignation" of former CoB Dean D. Harold Doty) about Williams as "Dean". Sources tell us that this could be an indication of more to come.