

A Third Checkbook?

by Duane Cobb

Some of the stuff USMNEWS.NET readers send to us is really, really intriguing. Some of it is just plain amusing. After watching “Doty Describes the ‘Fun Money’” video on YouTube, one reader noticed that at the point where Doty says he’s “got two checkbooks” – you remember . . . the “booze account” and the “non-booze account” – Doty is actually holding up three fingers (including thumb), not two. To this picture our reader asks – “What’s the third checkbook?”



Of course, I can’t answer that question. What I can do is laugh, both at the reader’s wit and the possibilities, of a third, previously unheard of, checkbook.

If a third checkbook does exist, perhaps it’s Doty’s “Hooters account.” That would be the one used for purchasing t-shirts at the Toronto Hooters while on an AACSB road trip (related to teaching enhancement). Or, it could be an “Academic Visit’ account” used to fund former Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand’s dubious trips to Atlanta, Seattle and other places. Maybe it’s the “ad hoc account,” used for funding the purchase of equipment necessary for implementing “digital” degree programs.

Better yet, how about a “secret degree account” used to house “tuition” funds paid on behalf of students who just want a

generic degree from USM’s College of Business.



Assuming there really had been a “third checkbook,” the best guess about it would probably be one related to Susan Doty’s (Doty’s wife) position as Director of the CoB’s Center for Economic Education. Maybe Harold set up a third account, through USM’s College of Education & Psychology, that provides additional funds for Ms. Doty’s CEE activities. Of course, that checkbook would need to be routed through USM’s CoEP because, after all, Ms. Doty is Harold’s wife. (Don’t you love how, in Doty’s mind at least, routing things intended for his wife through CoEP somehow solves the conflict of interest dilemma?) There is not third checkbook (at least I don’t think there is), but there is humor in the idea of one. A booze account, a non-booze account, and a ____ account.

With everything one might see and discover while visiting the CoB, one would think that Deans across the nation would be fighting with each other for the privilege of sitting on the CoB’s AACSB Peer Review Team. Ah . . . the stories they could tell.