

Giving Advice to Doty is Pointless

by Duane Cobb

In what recess of former CoB Dean D. Harold Doty's mind did he believe that Susan Doty's (his wife's) pursuit of the Directorship of the EFIB's Center for Economics Education was a good idea, politically? Doty has been trying to land a bigger, better Dean's job since arriving at USM in the summer of 2003, and his fleeting hopes at doing that have been well-documented here at USMNEWS.NET over the past 18 months or so. Now this. They, the Dotys that is, had to know that this would make news, that "Ms. Doty's" -- to use EFIB Chairman George Carter's term -- attempt to get a job in the CoB would be seen as a blatant case of nepotism. And, that's putting it in the best of terms.

Doty's head-hunter firm must feel guilty about taking Doty's money, at least some of the time. They try to put him in a position to land a new job, and he (Doty) goes and blows it on a bush league, quasi-administrative position for his wife at a Tier IV university. It must be, to Doty's agents, like taking candy from a baby. Knowing Doty the way most CoB faculty do, he (Doty) probably ignores every piece of advice they give him. And, why shouldn't he? He has managed his career so marvelously up to this point. Right?

Let the speculation begin as to why such a boneheaded decision to pursue the CEE Directorship was made. After reading "CoB Castles Calculator for Non-CoBers," it may be that the Dotys need the dough. They have a half-million dollar home (in Average City, USA terms), and Doty's demotion up to the 3rd floor of Greene Hall means his income will fall by about \$20,000 per year (see *2007 Merit Raises* report). Enter the EFIB's CEE Directorship for "Ms. Doty," and things are back to the status quo for the Canebrake clan, if not better.

One year after awarding himself, as CoB Dean, the politically astute 60th (out of 61) largest raise in the CoB for 2006 (\$1,524), and forgoing a merit raise altogether in 2004, Doty grabs, as a full professor of management, the 12th largest raise (in 2007) in the college, totaling \$5,162. Of course, he'll say this latest raise is for all the research he does – the *Journal of Business Research*, that is. It surely can't be for his superior teaching because Doty hasn't seen the front of an MGT class since coming to USM over four years ago. All of this supports the "need money" theory of the Dotys' recent decision-making.

A final consideration for now is the fact that, with both Dotys in USM's employ, the Dotys' children could attend USM tuition-free. This would certainly help any of the CoB Knights. College expenses can add up, and USM isn't shy about raising tuition, again and again and again. (Never mind that part of the reason for that is waste and abuse, particularly by administrators around USM's five colleges.)

Yep, I would say that Doty is now on the road to his former USM salary (approx. \$153,000). In jumping onto that road, perhaps the Dotys' have given up the dream of living in a boom town like Tampa and heading the business school at South Florida – the school Doty pined for, dating back to his graduate school days in Austin. It may be "Hattiesburg Forever" now. Yes, because he can't listen to anyone but himself, he may be as stuck on the fourth tier for the duration.