

# Skip Exposed

by Duane Cobb

The one-time LSU accountant, Kirby “Skip” Hughes, came to USM’s b-school (in 2009) with a decent record. He had some good journal pubs, and he held a chaired position. However, as the old saying goes – *that was then, this is now*. [Hughes](#) is now the new director of the CoB’s accounting school. In that capacity, he reports to CoB dean Lance Nail, who assumed the top position in the CoB just one year prior to bringing Skip on board.



In less than one year on the job, Hughes has gone on record [refusing](#) to commit to rewarding A-level research with a (minimum of) 4.0 on the CoB’s *Enhancing Faculty Productivity* scale. He’s also [refused](#) to *clearly state* that he is committed to the CoB’s 2008 journal classification system, saying instead that the [train](#) was already moving down the [tracks](#) when he set foot in Hattiesburg (?). As regular USMNEWS.net readers will recall, these statements are part of the USMNEWS.net vast [audio library](#).

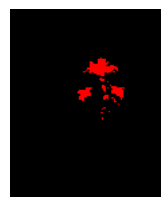


It wasn’t long after these revelations were made public that USMNEWS.net published a [report](#) indicating that Hughes was already doing pedagogical research, just a few months into his tenure in USM’s b-school. Not only that, the cover page of the document highlighted by contributors indicated that Hughes considered the work “Management Accounting,” a designation that is important when it comes to receiving credit for one’s research in the School of Accounting. Of course, this gem would fit

neatly into the CoB’s “perks for buds” series, or the *sins and sinners* genre. So many reports in the Archives [show](#) that in the CoB rules are only rules when they are useful in keeping outspoken faculty silent.



The USMNEWS.net audio library also reveals that Skip seems to be thrilled that the economists are exiting CoB stage left after the 2009-10 academic year. Recall that during the summer/fall 2009 eco war, it was pointed out by a USMNEWS.net contributor that LSU was in the process of removing economics from its b-school. Here’s an interesting question: What was Hughes’ role in the move to sweep economics out of the LSU b-school?



Readers nationwide are well-versed in the mobbing theme that is central to this website. The reports on the Hughes’ audio tapes seem to indicate that Skip is perfectly [comfortable](#) playing the [role](#) of academic cooler. In fact, his comfort level is so high that it seems to suggest that he would have little problem being brought into [a situation](#) to play such a role, especially if he were paid [well over](#) \$100,000 per year to do so. Yes, Hughes’ transformation is complete, or at least darn near close to it. I wonder what his former LSU business college colleagues think about the makeover. One wouldn’t think it’s going over so well down in Baton Rouge.