

EFIB News, April 2007

A number of news items have been coming out of the EFIB Department in recent days. Of course, one of them is the "resignation" of Farhang Niroomand as Associate Dean of the CoB. Niroomand (see below), also a professor of economics, cited several reasons for leaving the AD post, such as health concerns, his desire to get back into the classroom full-time, and the lack of attention he has paid to his journal, the *Journal of Current Research in Global Business*, in recent weeks and months.



Farhang Niroomand

Niroomand's journal has been the subject of numerous reports here at USMNEWS.NET. Many question the quality of the periodical, as well as the total cost to the CoB (and to USM) of Niroomand's association with it. For more on these reports, and other reports on Niroomand, visit the Archives section (<http://www.usmnews.net/Niroomand.html>).

More "Keep it Together" Days for Carter

USMNEWS.NET sources indicate that embattled EFIB Chair George Carter is struggling to save himself from being part of the fallout from the Doty-Niroomand "resignations." On Wednesday, less than 24 hours after Doty and Niroomand stepped down, some EFIB faculty began to publicly call for Carter's resignation, a move Carter has resisted to this point. Based on reports, it appears to us that Carter's reluctance to vacate his administrative position is more of a "face-saving" stance than it is one of doing what is best for the CoB.

In an effort to maintain the reigns, Carter (see below) has been missing-in-action more and more. He took off on Monday and Tuesday of the Doty-Niroomand "resignation" week, as well as other parts of the same week. In doing so, Carter missed his Monday teaching schedule, which includes an "overload" section of statistics, taught on Monday nights.

That means that another week of that class has gone by the wayside. This is important to note given that "learning shortcomings" in stats (BA 301 and BA 303) were uncovered by the CoB's AACSB committees during 2006.



George Carter

USMNEWS.NET has been on top of that story since it broke, providing a number of reports that address the reasons for any shortcomings in the learning of statistics by CoB students. For a look at these reports, see <http://www.usmnews.net/A%20Look%20at%20picaprof%20Grades%20in%20BAECO.pdf>, http://www.usmnews.net/Carter_and_Minitab.pdf, and <http://www.usmnews.net/whats%20wrong%20with%20stats.pdf>. Carter's MIA routine appears to be his way of coping with recent developments surrounding the ouster of his two supervisors, Doty and Niroomand. One anonymous reader has referred to this routine as Carter's "keep it (hold it) together time," adding also that much of Carter's actual time "on campus" appears to be spent walking outdoors or reading in local coffee shops.

Buh-Bye Real Estate?

Stories are now circulating around the CoB that Doty's final act as Dean was to eliminate the CoB's real estate major/program. A number of current and prospective CoB students will find this latest turn of events interesting. Until USMNEWS.NET is able to confirm or deny this story, if you are enrolled as a real estate major, plan to be, or know someone who is either of these, you will need to go by JGH 309A and ask EFIB Chair George Carter about the future status of the CoB's real estate major.