Farhang Niroomand Accused of Sexual Harassment

The <u>Victoria Advocate</u> is reporting that University of Houston - Victoria Professor Olga Chapa has accused former business school dean Farhang Niroomand of sexual harassment. Dr. Niroomand was an associate dean at the University of Southern Mississippi College of Business until being "relieved" of administrative duties under questionable circumstances. After a tumultuous few years at UHV, including <u>AAUP's</u> "... concern about reports of coercion of untenured faculty members", and <u>discrimination lawsuits</u> by three faculty, Dr. Niroomand returned to teaching.

In her <u>federal lawsuit</u> filed in mid-May 2020, Dr. Chapa alleges the university and the university system "were aware of his [Niroomand's] intimidating, hostile and offensive conduct and failed to exercise reasonable care to prevent and/or promptly correct said conduct." According to the complaint, Niroomand began making sexual advances about a year after she was employed at UHV, including unwanted kisses and threats directed at her career at the university. UHV and the university system "do not agree" with Dr. Chapa's claims. Although Dr. Niroomand is not currently a named defendant he has, according to The Victoria Advocate, denied any misconduct and labeled Dr. Chapa as a disgruntled employee.

Farhang Niroomand <u>Appearing</u> in an wildly stereotypical costume, complete with sombrero, poncho, and a firearm



This is not the first time that such allegations have swirled around Dr. Niroomand. As USM accounting instructor Patty Munn testified under oath the word around USM was that, "... there was some kind of sexual harassment deal with Niroomand and that Dr. Doty [former dean COB, USM and former dean COB, UT-Tyler] did not follow-up on it or discipline Niroomand as he should have."