

GH Chatter

There are strong indications, according to chatter, that former CoB management professor Stephen Bushardt, now with Spring Hill College in Mobile, is gearing up to conclude his SHC duties after 2009-10 so that he can join former CoB dean Harold Doty at the University of Texas at Tyler, where Doty now serves as b-school dean. This move, should it materialize, would not likely surprise many CoBers who knew both of these former central CoB figures.

From similar type chatter there appears to be some chance that CoB economist George Carter will join his former CoB colleague Farhang Niroomand at the University of Houston at Victoria following the 2009-10 academic year. Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net will recall that Niroomand was associate dean of the CoB from 1998-2007, and before that he was on the CoB's economics faculty for more than 10 years. During the 2005-08 period, Carter worked under Niroomand as chair of the EFIB. In portions of the "What Carter Thinks" series, available in the USMNEWS.net archives, Carter explains how Niroomand is perhaps the only former CoB administrator that Carter respected while chairman.

More chatter about anxiety amongst the CoB's fashion merchandisers and decision scientists. Both groups will possibly find themselves on the chopping block as future rounds of budget cuts come to fruition. Any anxiety from FMers may also be coming from reports that new marketing chair Leisa Flynn wants to de-emphasize "fashion merchandising," and instead emphasize "retail merchandising." Doing so would perhaps allow her to replace at least two of the FMers with one or more junior marketing professors.

According to chatter the recent departure of Deniz Gevrek may actually harm the future prospects of USM's three remaining economists. One of these, Sami Dakhli, spends considerable time away from USM and chatter has it that he may not even return from his spring 2010 jaunt. If so (and maybe even if not so), the prospect of cutting the remaining two (or three) economists loose may not be so daunting for USM administrators.

GH Chatter is a series at USMNEWS that provides a glimpse at what CoB students, and sometimes CoB faculty, are discussing throughout the corridors of Joseph Greene Hall and beyond.