

GH Chatter

CoB faculty have been talking about the so-called "resignations" of former CoB Dean Harold Doty, and Doty's Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand, since the day they occurred (9-April-07). The subject came up again recently, when accounting instructor Patty Munn was asked about it by legal counsel during a deposition in a United States District Court case. Here's what Ms. Munn had to say (Q=plaintiff's legal counsel's question; A=Munn's response; USMLC=USM legal counsel's interjection):

Q. Ended up with [Harold] Doty being removed as the Dean?

A. Was that under [former USM President Shelby] Thames' watch? He was and I don't know the exact reasons, I mean I heard some reasons, but I don't know if they are right or not.

Q. What were the reasons for Doty's firing that you heard?

USMLC. I'm sorry. Dr. Doty wasn't fired.

Q. Well, that he was removed as the Dean of the college of business?

A. He resigned.

Q. Why?

A. What I heard was that there was an incident with another professor.

Q. [Farhang] Niroomand?

A. Yes. And he -- and that there was some kind of sexual harassment deal with Niroomand and that Dr. Doty did not follow-up on it or discipline Niroomand as he should have.

Q. Didn't respond appropriately?

A. That's what I heard. . . .

So, from Munn's testimony we know the CoBers have been circulating the story that Niroomand got Doty in trouble with USM's central administration. According to the stories Munn heard, Niroomand's troubles involved sexual harassment, and Doty's involved a failure to discipline Niroomand appropriately.