GH Chatter

The 19-May-2010 USMNEWS.net <u>report</u> about USM's "Kaetsu Court" generated some chatter about the notables who visited the campus around the time of the centennial graduation ceremony. Word is that all of the former holders of the CoB's *Kaetsu Professorship in IB* were on hand, including Eddie Lewis (William Carey University), Tyrone Black (retired), and Alvin Williams (University of South Alabama). As recognized, these joined current holder David Duhon. Again, only one of these current and former holders also served in the CoB's international business unit.

The Joe Morgan resignation remains a popular concern among USM faculty. The investigation into improprieties involving the USM Research Foundation, and its Pinion Properties concern, is ongoing, as is talk that Morgan may have somehow been involved. At some point Morgan may find it beneficial to speak to the local media about these matters. As stated before, Morgan is the brother of CoB accountant Mary Anderson.

Some say that the CoB's "west coast hallway" construction project and other summer 2010 JAG interior ventures are coming out of current operating funds. Word also is that the fee could easily hit five figures, causing USMers and others to question the stewardship of taxpayer monies in a time of economic/budgetary crisis.

Chatter has it that outgoing CoB economist Sami Dakhlia's Canebrake home is up for sale at a cool \$450,000. Dakhlia didn't make the four year mark with USM, and he is leaving at \$84,000 per year. The earlier USMNEWS.net report Carrying Costs described how former CoB dean Harold Doty listed his own Canebrake home in mid-2009 for \$364,000, and later lowered the price to \$349,900 before selling it, which some say occurred in early 2010. Still, Doty "carried" the home for several months while living and working in Tyler, Texas, as b-school dean of UT-Tyler. Former finance faculty John Clark also left the CoB in mid-2009, however his home remains listed for sale today. Clark's price began at over \$300,000, and is now down to \$288,000. Doty left the CoB in 2009 earning \$130,000, while Clark departed at \$110,000 per year. With a home priced at about 5.5 times his departing salary, and setting to move to Paris, Dakhlia is in rarefied air. Given today's sluggish economy, USM's decision to cut the CoB's economics programs may ultimately be much worse for Dakhlia than for any of the other nine outgoing CoB ECO faculty.

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.