

Ghastly Service Ghosts

A LOOK AT FALL 2008 SERVICE DERELICTION IN THE COB

Faculty in the CoB's management and marketing department (MGT & MKT) have, on occasion, referred to CoB economics professor Mark Klinedinst as "the ghost." They do so because Klinedinst has spent much of his tenure *in* USM's CoB *out* of USM's CoB. Put simply – he has, over the past 20+ years, rarely been around Greene Hall (JAG). Had he been a stellar researcher, such behavior could be excused. In Klinedinst's case, however, there has not been a publication in an indexed journal article since 1998, an oft-cited statistic in reports and editorials here at USMNEWS.net. This report adds more to the pile of dereliction evidence in Klinedinst's case by examining his attendance record on USM's Academic Council from 8-Sept-08 through 3-Nov-08. Other members' (from the CoB) attendance records are also examined. These data appear below in Table 1.

Table 1
Fall 2008 Academic Council Attendance

Meeting Date	CoB Member	Absent	Present	Proxy
8-Sept-08	Carr, Jon		•	
	Henderson, Jim	•		Pate, Gwen
	Klinedinst, Mark		•	
6-Oct-08	Carr, Jon	•		
	Henderson, Jim	•		Pate, Gwen
	Klinedinst, Mark	•		
3-Nov-08	Carr, Jon		•	
	Henderson, Jim	•		Pate, Gwen
	Klinedinst, Mark	•		

As Table 1 above shows, Jon Carr's attendance rate was the highest among the three CoB members of USM's AC, yet it was only 66.7%. Table 1 also indicates that both Klinedinst and Henderson lagged behind Carr, with dismal AC attendance rates of 33.3% and 0.0%, respectively. At least in Henderson's case, having CoB Undergraduate Programs director Gwen Pate sit as a proxy produced a "coverage rate" of 100.0%, better than that for either Carr or Klinedinst. Still, the overall level of dereliction involving CoB service on USM's Academic Council is egregious. Of the 9 total possible appearances shown above, elected CoB members attended only 3 of those, for a disturbingly low aggregate coverage rate of 33.3%. Thus, according to the data above, Klinedinst is not the only CoB "ghost" when it comes to service dereliction, at least as far as the USM Academic Council is concerned. Accounting's Jim Henderson apparently purchased, much

like an indentured servant, the services of associate professor of accounting Gwen Pate.

Compounding the Henderson-Pate situation vis-à-vis the AC are (1) the fact that Pate is a CoB administrator (Director/Assistant Dean, UG Services), and should have to have approval of CoB dean Lance Nail to use her (his) time to sub for Henderson on the AC, and (2) the fact that Henderson was, during the fall of 2008, being paid a 9-month salary of **\$116,824**. Pate's 12-month salary of **\$112,840** only heightens Henderson's already egregious *inaction*. As (1) and (2) stand, the CoB had **\$229,664** tied up in *Henderson's responsibility* (for the CoB) on USM's Academic Council.

Postscript

Apparently, the correlation between the number of AC meetings missed (from 8-Sept-08 through 3-Nov-08) and one's salary is **+.82**. Would those in Klinedinst's own department call service dereliction, like that shown above for CoB faculty on the Academic Council, a *luxury* good? And, shouldn't CoB dean Lance Nail, who himself earns **\$225,000** per year (12-month), be more effectively monitoring the behavior of those who are sent from the CoB to serve on important USM committees?