

FROM THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE

PRESIDENT'S BLOG

FEBRUARY, 2008

CoB in a Bowl

I spent the afternoon at the Sig Delt house judging a cooking contest.



The contestants were asked to produce a bowl of something that resembles life in the CoB. My favorite is pictured below.



To me the presentation resembles the CoB perfectly. The healthy, red items look like the productive faculty – they are climbing out of the bowl (the CoB). The maggot-like yellow and white stringlets resemble the *un*productive faculty who use political

connections to squeeze ill-gotten gains from the merit system. The brown mixture underneath it all is also symbolic – the CoB is a house built not on mere sand, but quicksand. Very well done Sig Delts.

FEBRUARY, 2008

I Love Blogging . . . and Picking New Provosts

I wish I could stay in all day and write this blog. I love it. Jeb likes it too. Just sitting around the rest of the day thinking about which Provost candidate I want. Should be fun.

FEBRUARY, 2008

Bushardt on the Run

So, it appears as though the CoB's Stephen Bushardt is on the run. I can't believe Spring Hill College picked him up. He's just a good ol' boy, not a scholar.

FEBRUARY, 2008

Big Pimpin' up in U-S-M



FEBRUARY, 2008

If a Clock Fell Off the Wall in the CFS, Would There be a Sound?

I don't know, but if one did fall there wouldn't likely be anyone around hear it. We don't have the money at USM to fund things like the Center for Financial Services if people aren't going to take them seriously. We'll see.

JANUARY, 2008

Fedora is a Fox!

I am so happy I hired Larry Fedora away from Oklahoma State. He is so hot. I know we'll all enjoy watching him over the next few years.



JANUARY, 2008

I was Right There

It's nice to hold positions that allow you to be part of history. That was again the case when I attended Haley's second inauguration. I was near the podium and got to hear it all. That's me below. Jeb had to wait in the Hummer limo. There was not enough room for him on stage.



JANUARY, 2008

So Many Things to Do

The next thing on my list is choosing a number 2 in command here at USM . . . my Provost. I think I'll pick the most obsequious of all the candidates, and be done with it.

Jeb and I had a good time at Haley's inauguration the other night. Can't wait to show you all the photos of me with some of Jackson's movers and shakers.

DECEMBER, 2007

CoB Accredited . . . Once Again

What exciting news that the AACSB has said our business school is world class! Let's keep up the good work. We sure have some very strong interim administrators in place around the campus. Let's hope our new business school Dean gets off to a good start next year. As we tell all of our prospective b-students, "you can get there from here."

DECEMBER, 2007

Holiday Fun on Jamestown

Jeb and I had a wonderful time playing "hide and go seek" in the mansion the other night. We were like little kids. The executive chef made some delicious s'mores. We gobbled them up next to the fireplace.

DECEMBER, 2007

Revenge of the Nerd

People keep asking me why I allowed Coach Bower to be forced out of his head coaching position here. It's simple actually. You see, when Jeff was a student at USM he was a great athlete. As USM's starting quarterback, he was a big man on campus. His

wife, Debbie, was a cheerleader. They were the attractive and popular kids. While I was at USM, things weren't like that for me.

Well, in late November of 2007, when Jeff was sent packing, I was able to strike a blow, for all people like me, against the cool kids. And now, as President of USM, I'm cooler and more popular than I used to be.



NOVEMBER, 2007

Mamas and Papas

I am happy to hear that we got an invitation to the PapaJohns.com Bowl. Where is that?

NOVEMBER, 2007

Still Saddened by Eagles' Loss in Cali

Still sad about the Eagles loss the other night in Berkeley. It seems that some of the crowd over at eagletalk.net now want Coach Eustachy fired. Someone just sent me these photos. When were these taken?



NOVEMBER, 2007

Who Wants Harold?

I just read Duane Cobb's column on USMNEWS and thought about the possibility of some other school hiring former CoB Dean Harold Doty. Could that really happen?



I suppose it could. Whoever does better have AACSB locked up.

NOVEMBER, 2007

"Black and Blue" Bowl

I love the pageantry of college football. I was proud of Hattiesburg native Martin Hankins the other day. Like me, Martin grew up "in the shadow of the College."



Jeb and I were pulling for Martin to do well, especially on that last touchdown pass. It was great. 😊

NOVEMBER, 2007

Off the Chain

Eaglepalooza '07 was great. Jeb and I had been amped up all that day about it. Eve was terrific as usual. I have asked the SGA for a duplicated headcount on the event.



NOVEMBER, 2007

Eaglepalooza '07 Going to be a Blast

Can't wait to go see Eve tonight. Jeb's excited too. My fave of hers is "Let Me Blow Ya Mind." Jeb likes "Gangsta Love."



I bet on our drive downtown we'll be debating who's hotter – Eve or Pink? Hope to see ya'll there tonight.

NOVEMBER, 2007

If It's Not Accounting, It's Athletics

Seems like all I ever get since becoming president of Southern are requests to fire people. Someone just sent me this picture.



I was told it was found at eaglepost.net. What am I supposed to do? If you all want Bowers fired, you know what to do.

OCTOBER, 2007

Aunt Martha?

Can't believe some USM fans are calling me "Aunt Martha." I had a strong sense that I should have held at least one Core Dialogues

session in The District. Homecoming would have been a good chance to do that. ☹️

OCTOBER, 2007

Downer

Tried to get on and post a blog yesterday afternoon. Internet was down campus-wide. Walked over with Jeb and watched football practice instead. What's with the players getting suspended so often these days? Marcus Raines didn't play against Marshall and now others will not play against UCF.

OCTOBER, 2007

All Doty, All the Time

Shocked that former CoB Dean Harold Doty threatened a faculty member in Greene Hall. For so long the business school has been a thorn in USM's side. Now I hear that Harold wants me to appoint him Dean of the CoB again. Jeb said "Don't do it." I have heard that the business faculty on the Coast would like for me to do it. I think the best to do is run it by one of the Core Dialogues groups this week.

OCTOBER, 2007

Jaw Dropper

Still stunned about what I learned at the CoB in federal court the other day. Jeb and I discussed a lot of it over dinner last night. His jaw dropped when I told him about EFIB Chair George Carter explaining to a junior professor that there are two roads to tenure in the CoB – the merit system and the “good ol’ boy” system.



I couldn't get over having heard that associate professor of accounting Gwen Pate got a successful P&T decision years ago that was due in part to having her name on a paper (in revision stage) that she ultimately neither added, nor subtracted, so much as a comma.

SEPTEMBER, 2007

Unmitigated Disaster

Recently spent an entire day listening to gut-wrenching stories about how badly administrators in the College of Business behave. I'll have more about this later.