

Gone Fishin'

When USM Provost Jay Grimes announced Harold Doty's "resignation" from the CoB Dean's Office, he mentioned that Doty had expressed an interest in "fishing." In the sport fishing arena, as in the alternative use of the word "fishing," there are different avenues one can take. While Doty might be in a boat somewhere, this author supposes that Doty was making a poor attempt at cleverness. I think he's "fishing" for jobs. Doty's opportunities, however, do mirror the traditional fishing avenues one might think about.

Many fishing enthusiasts rank deep sea fishing – especially fishing for Marlin or other big game fish – as the ultimate fishing trip. In the job search world, Doty's Marlin was the dean job at Clemson. A wily fish, Clemson seems to have slipped Doty's hook, recognizing Doty's bait as the trick it is.

Maybe Doty is turning his attention to Bass fishing – still exciting. In the job hunt, Bass fishing probably equates to landing a faculty job at a Tier I or II business school in management. While this catch would indicate that Doty had been defeated as a dean, he most likely will blame his ineffectual tenure on Thames. Unfortunately for Doty, Tier I and II universities generally employ faculty members who can use Google® and who can recognize the usmnews.net documentation of Doty's idiocy for what it is: a true picture of an incompetent dean.

Unsuccessful at Bass fishing, Doty may turn to the old Catfish pond – stocked with fish who relish their daily feedings of dog food at regular intervals. Can't you just see Doty, standing on the bank of a Catfish pond, holding a pole, waiting for a nibble? Again, unfortunately for Doty, those fish are a little too smart. They recognize his cheese on a hook for what it is and stay away, much as other institutions at the Tier III and IV levels recognize Doty for the "jerk" (to quote George Carter) he is. They're smart old fish who have seen lots of poorly baited hooks before.

No, Doty probably isn't being very successful as he fishes for new jobs. He really needs to catch something, though. Spend one year at USM and he might not even resemble the Harold Doty of today. He may have fallen victim to the jackals that lie in waiting within his precious management and marketing department. In one year, he might not be able to get acceptances at real journals. In one year, he might be coauthoring with Duhon, Carr, Bushardt, or Sequeira – if any of them will have anything to do with Doty once he's no longer dean of the CoB.

Doty may be a really good fisherman. We know he can lie like one ("I refused to cancel the real estate major."). Unfortunately for Doty, his hook is a little too small, his bait is a little too old, and his prey is a little too smart to fall for the hook, line, and sinker USM bought back in 2003.