

Hammond Says Thanks and Goodbye

But not to Everyone

Former USM AD Jeff Hammond communicated his farewell in a letter published in [*The Hattiesburg American*](#) on 2-July-2013.



Former USM AD Jeff Hammond

Hammond's letter expresses his appreciation to a significant number of groups and individuals within "our USM family" :

University faculty

Faculty Senate

"[w]onderful young men and women (led by (senior associate athletic director) Jeremy McClain who serve on the Southern Miss athletics staff."

Executive Assistant Rebecca Johnson

Volunteer Larry Davis

Coaches

Students and student-athletes

Todd Monken and his wife Terri

Spencer Adams

Richard Johnston

Chuck and Rita Scianna

Tom and Jim Duff

Dick Voge

Stan Hewitt

John Horn

Circle of Champions

Eagle Club members

Dianne Hammond
Paul and Ruth Centianni
Donna Delmas
fathers Pat and Tommy
Joe Hammond
Michael Hammond
Megan Hammond

Sources tell usmnews.net that multiple references to “dignity and respect” in Hammond’s letter is a slap at the Rodney Bennett administration reflecting Hammond’s and many other’s perception that Hammond’s discharge was handled with neither. Adding credence to these anonymous comments is Hammond’s failure to mention Bennett’s claim that he had been [offered or accepted](#) any “opportunity to continue to serve USM in other ways.”



President Rodney D. Bennett

In fact, Hammond’s letter makes no mention of Rodney Bennett at all.