

Here, There, & Everywhere

Examining the USM Departure of William Gunther

As the CoB's economists depart the Joseph Greene Hall stage at the end of the 2009-10 academic year, USMNEWS.net will be examining the research credentials that will be leaving the CoB, if not the institution as a whole. This installment focuses on professor William Gunther, who is one of the five mostly senior economists who retired so that the four mostly junior CoB economists could maintain their USM careers in the USM College of Arts & Letters.

What will the USM lose with Gunther's departure? On the research front, Table 1 below (which contains Gunther's publications trail based on information located in the USMNEWS.net Archives and/or found using Google) suggests not much.

Table 1 – Gunther's Journal Publications Trail

| Year | Journal Publications |
|------|--|
| 2010 | |
| 2009 | |
| 2008 | |
| 2007 | |
| 2006 | |
| 2005 | |
| 2004 | |
| 2003 | |
| 2002 | |
| 2001 | |
| 2000 | |
| 1999 | |
| 1998 | |
| 1997 | |
| 1996 | <i>Journal of Vacation Marketing</i> |
| 1995 | |
| 1994 | <i>Tourism Recreation Research</i> |
| 1993 | <i>Economic Inquiry</i> |
| 1992 | |
| 1991 | |
| 1990 | |
| 1989 | |
| 1988 | |
| 1987 | <i>Journal of Economic Issues</i> <i>Review of Regional Studies</i> |
| 1986 | |
| 1985 | |
| 1984 | <i>Alabama Law Review</i> |
| 1983 | |
| 1982 | |
| 1981 | <i>The American Economist</i> |
| 1980 | |
| 1979 | |
| 1978 | |
| 1977 | <i>The American Economist</i> |
| 1976 | |
| 1975 | <i>Growth & Change</i> |
| 1974 | <i>Land Economics</i> |
| 1973 | <i>Journal of Small Business Management</i> |
| 1972 | |
| 1971 | <i>Review of Regional Studies</i> |
| 1970 | |
| 1969 | |

As is the case with other USM economists examined via this series (e.g., Sami Dakhli), Gunther's publications trail above is like academic cotton candy. There are several small gaps in output from 1969 through 1987, followed by a larger gap from 1988-92. Gunther came to USM in 1998, and has remained since that year. He has not published anything (that researchers could locate) over the 1997-2010 period. It is not difficult to see why the CoB was forced to count Gunther as "not Academically Qualified" during the most recent (2007) AACSB Peer Review Team visit.

Gunther came to USM's CBA in 1998 as its new dean. From the beginning, Gunther's service was mired in a controversy involving Gunther teaching at the University of Alabama (and possibly another institution) while dean of the b-school at USM. Part 1 of the USMNEWS.net series [CoB at a Crossroads](#) highlights this and other controversies involving Gunther since 1998. Readers are invited to peruse the USMNEWS.net Archives for more on Gunther. The report entitled [The Carter Bunch](#), and *31st & Pearl* entitled [The 4/4 Poster Boy](#) are good places to start. Don't forget to also check out the reports on Gunther's teaching at UA. These are filled with Freedom of Information Act-obtained supporting documents.