

How Many CoB Faculty Were Terminated in 2006-07?

The release of the May 2007 IHL Board Meeting Minutes supports comments from USMNEWS.NET readers indicating that one or more CoB faculty may not have passed the tenure process during the 2006-07 academic year. According the IHL Board, the following USM faculty received tenure at the end of the 2006-07 academic year:

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

May 16-17, 2007

AWARD OF TENURE

University of Southern Mississippi†

Burgess, Brigitte

Butler, David

Carr, Jon

Cwikla, Julie

Davis, Michael

Englert, Tracy

Guo, Laodong

Lee, Sungwook

Marcus, David

Masters, Kathleen

McNeese, Mary Nell

Prange, Laura

Ross, Diane DeCesare

Russakovsky, Alexander

Turner, Steven

According to the list above, both Jon Carr (Assoc Prof MGT) and Brigitte Burgess (Assist Prof Fash Merch) were awarded tenure by the IHL. However, there is no mention above that either Kenneth Zantow (Assist Prof MGT) or Kuo Lane Chen (Assist Prof MIS) were awarded tenure at the end of 2006-07. It has been well-known around the CoB that these two had submitted dossiers for promotion and tenure during the 2006-07 academic year.

There is support for the idea that these two may have faced some difficulty in the latter stages of the T&P process. Zantow got to this point in large part due to former CoB Dean Harold Doty's personal assistance. Sources tell USMNEWS.NET that Zantow failed his 3rd Year Review during the 2003-04 academic year. However, Doty granted Zantow a 4th Year Review for 2004-05, wherein Zantow passed largely on the basis of pedagogical research. Unlike Zantow, Chen's research record surpassed expectations faced by CoB faculty for T&P. However, Chen's teaching is, according to local readers (some students), atrocious. Recent reports on the quality of teaching in the CoB that

have been posted to USMNEWS.NET certainly support this assertion. Finally, readers also inform USMNEWS.NET that Chen's dossier was among the large number of T&P folders remanded by USM Provost Jay Grimes, a possibility that seems to be supported by the list above. If sources are accurate, and it seems possible based on the IHL Meeting minutes for May-07, then a number of CoB faculty may be working on terminal contracts during the 2007-08 year.¹

In other news, the IHL also approved the change in status of four CoB faculty. These are Harold Doty, Farhang Niroomand, Joseph Peyrefitte, and Alvin Williams (see below).

CHANGE OF STATUS

University of Southern Mississippi†

Doty, Duane Harold

Niroomand, Farhang

Peyrefitte, Joseph

Williams, Alvin

Doty and Niroomand resigned their posts as CoB Dean and CoB Associate Dean, respectively, on 9-Apr-07, and were replaced by Williams and Peyrefitte, respectively, on 10&11-Apr-07. However, both Williams and Peyrefitte are performing their new roles in an interim capacity only. Doty and Niroomand are now both full-time faculty in the CoB.

The "terminations" aspect of this story is one we'll be following in future reports. Stay tuned.

¹ Sources have also told USMNEWS.NET that Daniel Michael (Assist Prof MGT) and Sean Salter (Assist Prof FIN) will both work from terminal contracts during 2007-08. Reports indicate that Michael failed 3rd Year Review, while Salter was uncustomarily dismissed by Doty, Niroomand, Williams, and EFIB Chair George Carter. With the exception of Williams, each of these current and former CoB administrators has his own Archives page(s) here at USMNEWS.NET.