Is Nail Still Sprucing Up Dakhlia's Seminar Series?
A Look Ahead to Future Participants

Various reports here at USMNEWS.net have indicated that EFIB economist Sami Dakhlia's weekly seminar series is struggling. A portion of **CoB News, 27 August 2008** entitled "Nail Classing Up 'EFIB Fridays'," indicated that new CoB dean Lance Nail was attempting to boost the struggling series by cultivating his own professional contacts. That installment of **CoB News** provided details of the recent seminar series participation of Bill Megginson, the *Rainbolt Professor of Finance* at the University of Oklahoma. Based on information sent to USMNEWS.net, it seems that Nail is still working, perhaps now with the help of CoB finance faculty James Lindley and Kimberly Goodwin, to salvage something from Dakhlia's weekly seminar series. That information relates to a number of newly-scheduled outside speakers for fall 2008/spring 2009, the majority of which are, including Megginson, finance professors/finance economists.

This new list begins with Michael Highfield, an assistant professor of finance at Mississippi State University.

Michael Highfield

Highfield is a University of Kentucky-trained finance scholar who has published, since 2000, in a number of journals. These include (1) *Real Estate Economics*, (2) *Financial Review*, (3) *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*, (4) *Journal of Real Estate Research*, (5) *Applied Financial Economics*, (6) *Quarterly Journal of Finance and Accounting*, (7) *Journal of International Financial Markets, Institutions & Money*, (8) *Journal of Asset Management* and (9) *Wharton Real Estate Review*. Three of these journals (see below) are classified as A-level journals in USM's College of Business.

Next on the schedule is Steve Swidler, the *J. Stanley Mackin Distinguished Professor of Finance* at Auburn University.

Steve Swidler

Swidler's publication record includes hits in (1) *Journal of Finance*, (2) *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, (3) *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, (4) *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*, (5) *Journal of Economics & Finance*, (6) *International Review of Financial Analysis*, (7) *Quarterly Journal of Finance and Accounting*, (8) *Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting and Financial Management*, (9) *Financial Services Review*, (10) *Risk Letters*, (11) *State and Local Government Review*, (12) *Financial Research Letters*, (13) *Journal of Air Transport Management*, (14) *Journal of Multinational Financial Management*, (15) *Journal of Financial Research*, (16) *Journal of Banking and Finance*, (17) *Applied Economics Letters*, (18) *International Journal of Finance*, (19) *Public Budgeting and Finance*, (20) *Emerging Markets Quarterly*, (21) *International Review of Economics and Finance*, (22) *Journal of Real Estate Literature*, (23) *Journal of International Financial Markets, Institutions and Money*, (24) *Managerial and Decision Economics*, (25) *Review of Financial Economics*, (26) *Journal of Financial Engineering*, (27) *Global Finance Journal*, (28) *Economics Letters*, (29) *Southwest Journal of Business and Economics*, (30) *Review of Research in Futures Markets*, (31) *Journal of Economics and Business*, (32) *Southern Economic Journal*, and (33) *Journal of Economics*. Of the 33 separate journals listed above, 9 (see below) are rated as A-level journals in USM's business school.
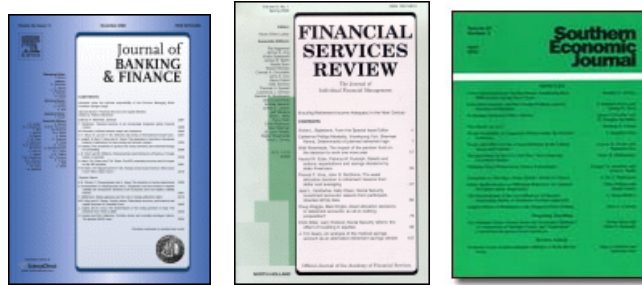
The final upcoming participant covered in this report is Hyeongwoo Kim, an assistant professor of economics at Auburn University.

Hyeongwoo Kim

Kim, a 2006 PhD in economics, has publications in (1) *Applied Financial Economics*, (2) *Journal of Forecasting* and (3) *Economics Bulletin*. One of these journals (see below) is rated as an A-level journal in USM's CoB.

Though these three upcoming speakers might not have the stellar credentials held by Megginson, they easily represent a step up from what "EFIB Fridays" has been producing in recent months, and, aside from Megginson, arguably a step up from what the series has ever produced.