

Is Rodney Bennett Qualified to be President of USM?

Part 2

President Rodney Bennett's Curriculum Vita

We finally received President Rodney Bennett's curriculum vita from USM. It took several reminders and many weeks for USM to come up with it. That's okay. We're patient.

Yesterday, we introduced this series about the qualifications of Dr. Bennett by way of reviewing USM's and University of Georgia's organizational charts. Today, we begin the review of his CV.

Here's the top part of page 1:

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SUMMARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE:

Dean of Students	Extended Campuses
Campus Police	Greek Life
Judicial Programs/Student Conduct	Minority Services and Programs
African American Cultural Center	Student Leadership Development
New Student Orientation	Peer Mentoring Programs
National Student Exchange	University Withdrawals
Community Service and Service Learning	Career Services
Student Activities	Student Government Association
Recreational Sports	Student Publications
Student Organizations	Student Center
Student Unions and Programming	AmeriCorps
Student Activity Fee	Student Handbook
Intercollegiate Cheerleading	Residency Appeals
Student Development	New Student Programs
Student Financial Aid	University Health Services
Disability Services	University Testing Services
Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS)	University Housing

We know from our [previous report](#) that Dr Bennett did not have decision authority for the following supervisory experiences:

The organizational units Dr. Bennett has not led include "Senior VP of Finance and Administration" composed of "Budget Director," "Environmental Safety," "Human Resources," "Auxiliary Services," "Facilities Management," "Architects for Facilities Planning," and "Business and Accounting Services;" "Academic Affairs and Provost" which is composed of "VP for Research," "VP for Public Service and Outreach," "VP for Instruction," and "VP for Information and Technology;" and "Senior Vice President for External Affairs."

Let's take a look at details. Dr. Bennett makes representations at the top of his CV, specifically, his SUMMARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE.

“Dean of Students”: Dr. Bennett’s supervisory duties and experience clearly included [“Dean of Students.”](#)

“Campus police”: UGA University Police reports to and is under the supervisory authority of the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, not the VP for Student Affairs, Rodney Bennett’s area of supervisory experience. (See organization chart). A simple mistake? Puffery? Or intentionally misleading?

“SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCES,” like “New Student Orientation,” “Intercollegiate Cheerleading,” and “Greek Life,” seem to belong to Dr. Bennett’s duties as VP for Student Affairs. Other of Bennett’s “SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCES,” like “Student Financial Aid,” “University Housing,” and “University Health Services,” appear to have significant overlap with the supervisory duties of other administrators. Dr. Bennett’s supervisory experiences as they related to these duties will have to be clarified by Dr. Bennett himself.

What do you think?

Remember the attack USM faculty made against then-President Thames over his vice president for research, [Angeline Dvorak](#). Dvorak (now Godwin) claimed to have served on the English faculty at the University of Kentucky, which an investigation proved to be a false claim.

As we review Dr. Bennett’s CV, faculty should think back on those events and consider them in relation to Dr. Bennett’s representations on his CV. We’ll revisit that question when we review Dr. Bennett’s research and teaching record.