

**Getting To Know Your Cob Up Close And Personal (Under Oath)**

**We continue “Getting to know your CoB up close and personal (under oath) ...” with untenured associate professor and Interim Director of School of Accountancy and Information Systems Steven Jackson.**



**Steven Jackson, Interim Director  
School of Accountancy and Information Systems**

**Unlike Ms. Munn who confuses novels with facts, Dr. Jordan who refuses to acknowledge the difference between benchmarking and plagiarism, or erstwhile administrator-Dr. Posey who creates “facts” that he uses to punish faculty he does not like, Dr. Jackson willingly joins in an attack -- even fabricating claims -- on a faculty member. Other faculty want to punish the professor to the level of terminating tenure and employment because they do not like his speech. Dr. Jackson goes against his own knowledge and perceptions to join the mobbing. Consider his testimony under oath:**

**“Q: Let’s talk about your letter [advocating firing the professor]...What did [the professor] do to have a destructive impact?**

**A: The atmosphere in the accounting suite of offices when I was here before was very collegial, door open, students involved, faculty interacting. When I came back in January of 2007, that was not the case. A very different atmosphere.**

**Q: How did [the professor] cause that?**

**A: I was told the reason doors were shut, the reason students weren’t as active over there, the reasons no one wanted to talk were because of [the professor].**

**Q: Who told you that?**

**A: That list of folks that I gave you earlier [Anderson, Jordan, Posey, Munn].**

**Q: Okay. Did you observe anything which led you to believe that he was having a destructive impact on the College of Business or in the school of accountancy?**

**A: No.”**

**Leadership, and I assume that includes an Interim Director of School of Accountancy, would correct the misperceptions of his colleagues, Anderson, Jordan, Posey, and Munn. Of course, Dr. Jackson did not have tenure, but he accepted a leadership position. If not a coward, he could lead his colleagues, based on his knowledge and perceptions, to more accurate views of someone they did not like because of their own prejudices against his speech. Dr. Jackson could have—if he were “a real man,” to quote Dr. Thames in similar circumstances—come forward with the facts and stopped inappropriate behavior of his colleagues. Instead, Dr. Jackson took the coward’s route and joined the mobbing. In a letter, Dr. Jackson wrote the dean, which was forwarded to President Saunders, he said “[the professor] must be terminated.” The only apparent reason for Dr. Jackson’s behavior was to be part of the mob. So, under oath, Dr. Jackson presents a view that he could have taken with his colleagues, if he had the courage.**