

## *Letters to the Editor*

Dear USM News,

I read the warning posed by one of your readers regarding course assignments, research interests, and faculty politics. I would like to add that given the flight of research competent faculty, tenure committees will likely be dominated by senior faculty who have, for a variety of reasons, decided to stay at USM's CoB. New faculty who are on tenure track should be warned that their annual reviews and tenure review could be very problematic unless they play ball with these senior faculty in every committee and faculty vote. Efforts to politicize junior faculty will be the mode of operation for this clique of senior faculty who are accustomed to running things and I don't see any way out of this situation given a very young and inexperienced dean.

<Name withheld>

*Reporter's Note:* The "warning" the reader refers to above is [here](#).

Dear USMNEWS,

At the recent state of the economy seminar [the CoB's Bureau of Business and Economic Development Director] Bill Gunther said that the weakening dollar is the one piece of good economic news of late. It that is so, why is everything I read from national media is saying that the weaker dollar is partly responsible for the rise in gas prices? With that, and what you reported about the article on Gunther and [Associate BBER Director Edward] Ranck that was in the newspaper, it's a real mess over there.

<name withheld>

*Reporter's Note:* The report the reader refers to above is [here](#).