

Lyman Looks Better Second Time Around

THE LATEST NEWS ON THE USM BUDGET CUT OF 2009-10

Lyman Gives Up the Goods

USM provost Robert Lyman was once again interviewed by *The Hattiesburg American's* higher education reporter Ed Kemp about the \$8 million Aug-09 budget cut at the institution. Lyman told Kemp – for Kemp's [27-Aug-09 story](#) entitled "Concern raised over cuts at USM" – that Southern Miss is putting tenured/tenure-track faculty in economics *and* technical and occupational education on the chopping block as a result of program elimination. And although Kemp reports that those faculty who will be terminated had a chance to appeal that decision on 24-Aug-09 and now await the 1-Sept-09 deadline for faculty terminations to judge the success of their appeals, Lyman told Kemp that the program terminations that will result in the firing of the economics/education faculty will be put before the IHL Board at either its September-09 or October-09 meetings. Thus, **Lyman inadvertently gave Kemp the results of the 24-Aug-09 appeals** during the interview for Kemp's 27-Aug-09 story linked above. This likely comes as a shocker to those faculty in economics/education.

Photogate #2

Speaking of Lyman, sources say that the photo of Lyman included in Ed Kemp's latest *THA* article, which is inserted below, shows a much more serious provost. This is certainly not the gleeful- looking provost who was depicted in earlier *THA* reports that covered the \$8 million budget cuts and the "canning" of 9 tenured/tenure-track economics faculty at USM. Though the cuts are deep, the public relations disaster that was Lyman's last discussion with *THA*, due mostly to the accompanying photo, was at least avoided on this latest occasion.



USM Provost Robert Lyman

While the "Lyman photo fiasco" of recent days may have been avoided in Kemp's latest article, a new photogate emerged when USM president Martha Saunders was captured, in what some say is in an unflattering way, in pictures. What's worse this time is that Saunders contributed nothing to the report, at least as far as *THA* readers can tell. The recent photo of Saunders is inserted below.



USM President Martha Saunders

Given the benefits Kemp's recent piece provided to Lyman, Saunders will likely request a follow-up story from Kemp so that she can have her likeness reproduced in a more reader-friendly manner. If that happens, USMNEWS.net reporters will be on the scene.

Hauer They Doing Over in ECO?

As reported in Ed Kemp's 27-Aug-09 *THA* article linked above, English professor Stanley Hauer, a 32-year veteran of USM, said he supports the Saunders administration's decision to cut the CoB's economics programs and terminate its 9 tenured/tenure-track faculty. According to Hauer, the cuts are "necessary" in the current economic climate. Hauer is the first USM faculty member, outside of administration, to speak openly to the media in support of the administration's decision to eliminate the programs and faculty. That he comes from liberal arts is also interesting. Sources say that cracks in the support for ECO have been developing in recent days, and Hauer may simply be the first evidence of them to reach the general public.