

31st & Pearl

Memo to Nail: Avoid Doty

Now that Lance Nail has accepted USM President Martha Saunders' invitation to succeed D. Harold Doty as USM's fifth business school dean, he should know that staying a healthy distance from Doty might just be the best honeymoon period decision he could make. And, if Nail continues to follow this advice beyond the honeymoon period, his decision to do so will most likely rate as one of the best career decisions he ever makes.

Long-time readers of USMNEWS.NET certainly understand by now that Doty is a disaster. Fun money, booze accounts, plagiarized academic integrity policies, YouTube, AACSB Probation, failed job searches, nepotism, administrative bullying, and all the rest describe a three-ring circus, and it ain't a pretty one. Not only that, Doty now has a vested interest in the failure of all CoB Deans, present and future. If they can't do it, then all of Doty's past failings might be excused by the appearance of an ungovernable CoB. Such a belief on the part of search committees the world over is just what "HoDo" needs to land that ever elusive second deanship.

Yes, Nail should steer clear of Doty and all that Doty stands for. To do otherwise may be career suicide. And Nail, of all potential CoB deans, has an added reason to avoid Doty and the stench that surrounds the former CoB dean. You see, Nail holds a PhD from the University of Alabama, the one Southern university Doty has a searing hatred toward. Doty has expressed that hatred in the past by administering a moratorium on all hires (by the CoB) of alumni and other affiliates of the Tuscaloosa-based institution. If he protects his own administrative career by avoiding Doty, Nail will also be striking a blow for his U in the process . . . And, the CoB community will love him for it.

31st & Pearl is a series housed at usmnews.net that features commentary on aspects of life in the CoB from a variety of columnists.