Next Stop New Orleans?

A GUEST EDITORIAL BY Victoria Tyler

A recent visit to an internet cost of living comparison calculator points out that an income of \$156,012 per year in New Orleans is necessary, should one move there from Tyler, TX, to maintain the same standard of living that a salary of \$150,500 in Tyler provides. Why these salary numbers, and these particular cities? The answer to that comes partially from recent update to the USMNEWS.net series entitled **Help Wanted**. That series tracks openings across the United States for college of business deans. A recent update to that series shows that the b-school at the University of New Orleans has an opening at the top. As the insert from that series below shows, the salary of the previous dean there was \$185,000 per year, well more than is needed – almost \$30,000 more in fact – to get someone in Tyler who earns \$150,500 per year to make the trek to the Crescent City. Who is it that lives in Tyler and earns \$150,500 you ask? Long time followers of USMNEWS.net know the answer. It's Harold Doty, the former b-school dean at USM who left Hattiesburg back in 2009 to become the top dog in the b-school at the University of Texas at Tyler.

| Job Opening | Prior Dean's Salary | Finalists | Filled by | |
|---|---------------------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| University of New Orleans College of Business Administration | \$185,000 | | | |

Of course, there are many openings listed in the **Help Wanted** series that offer higher salaries than that above from UNO in its forthcoming search. Why UNO? That's easy. UNO's new president is Peter Fos, the same former dean of USM's College of Health who left USM just a few years ago to assume the provost position at the University of Texas at Tyler. That's correct – it was Fos who brought his former dean colleague from USM out west from Hattiesburg to Tyler to "manage" the east Texas institution's b-school. Maybe Fos will look elsewhere this time. Bringing Doty to Tyler caused all sorts of chaos for Fos and many others. However, don't expect rational behavior where these guys are concerned. They seem to be immune to reality when it comes to deciding whether or not to reunite with old cronies. This search should be fun to watch.