

Niroomand 4, Doty 0

The recent *31st & Pearl* column entitled “300” spelled it out clearly – former CoB Dean Harold Doty does not appear to be getting any post-Dean royal treatment since joining the CoB’s regular-line faculty. As Duane Cobb said after reading that column – “That’s a good thing. He [Doty] doesn’t deserve it.” However, former CoB Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand represents the other half of the “package deal” that was the CoB administrative resignation of 9 April 2007. How has the treatment of Niroomand been since he *re*joined the CoB’s regular-line faculty? Or, better yet, how does the treatment of Doty compare to that of Niroomand? Reporters at USMNEWS.NET think readers will be intrigued by some of the results that were found when the “data” were examined.

This event takes a look at what former CBA Dean William Gunther has been doing lately to advance the careers of Doty and Niroomand. Let’s begin with Doty. USMNEWS.NET reporters conducted various Internet searches, but were unable to find any evidence that Gunther has done anything of late to advance Harold Doty’s academic career prospects. A search by USMNEWS.NET reporters of USM’s catalogue of press releases also failed to turn up anything of significance.

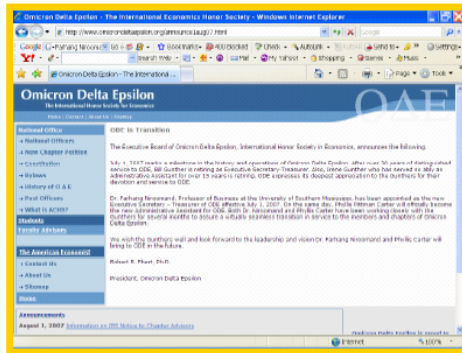
At this point (of failure), one may be wondering why we chose to examine “what former CBA Dean William Gunther has been doing . . . to advance the careers of Doty and Niroomand.” Hopefully, the results for Niroomand will clear up any confusion our readers may have on this point. As the **Breaking News** item entitled ["Niroomand Now Holds a Top Spot at Omicron Delta Epsilon"](#) showed, Gunther and his wife, Irene, spent the summer of 2007 turning over the Omicron Delta Epsilon kingdom to Niroomand. As page 1 of that report indicates (see below), “Robert R. Ebert, President of Omicron Delta Epsilon (International Honor Society in Economics), announced on 1-July-07 that, after 30 years of service, the USM College of Business’ William Gunther retired as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the international organization.” As that **Breaking News** item goes on to say, Gunther’s replacement is none other than the CoB’s own former Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand. And, as Ebert’s press release explains, Niroomand has spent several months “working closely” with the Gunthers in order to provide a seamless transition for all who benefit from the services of Omicron Delta Epsilon.

Breaking News

Niroomand Now Holds a Top Spot at Omicron Delta Epsilon

HATTIESBURG – Robert R. Ebert, President of Omicron Delta Epsilon (International Honor Society in Economics), announced on 1-July-07 that, after 30 years of service, the USM College of Business' William Gunther retired (effective 1-July-07) as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the international organization. Gunther, a former Dean of the USM CBA, served the last 15 of his 30 years alongside his wife Irene, who worked as the Administrative Assistant to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

According to Ebert's 1-July-07 press release (shown below), Gunther's replacement is none other than the CoB's own "Professor of Business," Farhang Niroomand. Niroomand's appointment, along with that of his executive assistant Phyllis Pittman Carter, became effective on 1-July 07. According to Ebert, "Both Dr. Niroomand and Phyllis Pittman Carter have been working closely with the Gunthers for several months to assure a virtually seamless transition in service to the members and chapters of Omicron Delta Epsilon."



Ebert's release, entitled "ODE in Transition," closes by wishing "the Gunthers well" and "look[ing] forward to the leadership and vision Dr. Farhang Niroomand and Phyllis Carter will bring to ODE in the future."

Niroomand's climb through the ranks of ODE has been the subject of reports here at USMNEWS.NET. One of these is an installment in the **Special Report** series entitled

Before we conclude, we must admit that serving as the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the ODE might appear to be a trivial "reward" (from Gunther). However, two things should be remembered. First, as the full version of the **Breaking News** item above shows, the ES-T position in the ODE comes with a travel budget. Second, and perhaps most important, when it comes time for EFIB Chair George Carter to evaluate Niroomand's academic accomplishments, Niroomand's ES-T position will be treated (by Carter) like a Nobel Prize. So, for now at least, the score is clearly Niroomand 4, and Doty 0. If some of our tipsters are accurate, Niroomand's lead will only widen as we broaden the scope of this comparison. And if that plays out, Doty will be interested, given the way sources describe "the package" and "the deal" from the 9 April 2007 resignations.