

On Transgressions

What makes a “transgression”? Committing an error, having a lapse in judgment, overstepping authority or proprieties, or other wrongdoing – that is what a transgression is. Chairman Carter said he committed a transgression against Dean Doty and asked him to forgive him for it. Confession and repentance is a proper approach. What about the other – and similar – transgressions against others in the CoB?

There are currently 11 pages of Carter quotes listed on pride board. Several concern Doty and getting caught saying them. Is it only a transgression if it against a superior in the chain of command? If so, has Carter apologized to Provost Grimes? While it is perhaps more heinous and less intelligent, it is no worse offense to harm non-superiors in administration. Why then has Carter, as far as can be discerned, not apologized to the rest of the offended parties?

Two of the quotes concern faculty members no longer at USM; why discuss them at all, especially with new faculty members that probably do not know them? If an example is needed, surely a more current and better example could be used.

Has there been an apology to Dr. Dave Duhon? He is the victim of several quotes concerning various aspects of his personality and career. Surely there is reason to seek forgiveness there.

Dr. Tom Lindley is another favorite topic for disparagement. Has there been an apology offered to him? Your frequent and atrocious comments concerning a such a fine senior faculty member in the CoB should command an apology.

What about the “Undergraduate Programs people”? That covers both faculty and staff members. Surely all of them do not deserve your wrath, do they?

What about “foreign people”? Are there race and nationality issues too?

Finally there is almost every other faculty member in the CoB. Everyone in the Marketing and Management Department, except for Barry Babin, a fellow administrator, are not “members of the scholarly profession”. The same general tone was sent to the Accounting and MIS faculty members. The only people Dr. Carter seems to think are “scholars” even in his own Department are Drs. Sawyer and Nissan. That is only about 10% of the Department that is supposed to be the stand out area. Many faculty members have been heard to say remarks about these

comments from Dr. Carter that indicate they were not happy with his characterizations of them. None of them has been heard to say an apology was offered to them by Dr. Carter. Why is that? Surely such wide-spread hurt, such lack of judgment, such wrongdoing is a transgression and deserving of an apology. Perhaps none has been offered because of fear for what happens after that. Even if an apology is ever made – after all this time – it will probably take a very long time before many people are willing to forgive and forget.

Is each new day another transgression in the series of transgressions? Please do the right thing, Dr. Carter. Apologize.

Let's move forward.