

Our Most Talented Colleagues

Unique A-Level Hits of Current & Former CoB Faculty – Accounting

In May of 2007, *untenured assistant* professor of economics Sami Dakhliya, a first-year CoB faculty who, to use EFIB chairman George Carter's term, had just been "canned" by the University of Alabama, took the floor at the end of the CoB's spring 2007 convocation. He then proceeded to blast the USMNEWS.net editor and various CoB faculty for speaking out against the CoB's administration in a way Dakhliya felt encouraged his (Dakhliya's) most talented colleagues to leave USM. Of course, Dakhliya wasn't speaking out in support of those CoB faculty who had been abused by CoB administrators, as management professor Sharon Topping had spoken for only minutes before Dakhliya was handed the rostrum by then-interim CoB dean Alvin Williams. The faculty Topping referred to were beginning to leave the CoB as well by spring of 2007. Dakhliya, however, was, according to sources, speaking on behalf of CoBers (and Dakhliya's friends) like Zaher Hallab (tourism management) and Akbar Marvasti (economics), CoB administrators' favorites who were either leaving the CoB at that time or expressing a desire to do so.

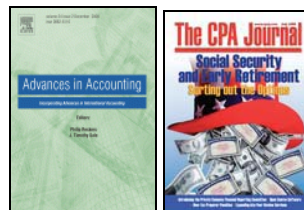
This series presents what sources refer to as Dakhliya's ruse in a new light by showing that the talent lies with those faculty who had been targeted by CoB administrators and their supporters, such as Dakhliya -- i.e., the ones Topping spoke for. It is in the number of unique A-level journal publications that the *real* abilities of "our most talented colleagues" shines through. Each installment in this series (1) begins with those CoB faculty who remain with USM today (spring 2009), and (2) ends with those who departed after 2003 for academic posts elsewhere.

Still in the CoB

There are 10 accounting faculty presently working in USM's b-school. Their level of post-PhD experience runs from 4 years to about 29 years, for an average of **19.2 years**. Seven of these 10 faculty, or 70% of them all, have 20 years or more since the doctorate degree.

Mary Anderson, 4 years

Mary Morgan Anderson, sister of USM CFO Joe Morgan and daughter of J.J. Morgan, former CoB accounting professor, has been around USM's b-school for about four years now. She has been a highly political figure during this period, yet she has maintained some level of research success. To date she has two unique A-level journal publications - - *Advances in Accounting* and *The CPA Journal*. However, Anderson has yet to step out of the shadow of her doctoral program mentor, Louisiana Tech University's Ted Englebrecht. It's now time she did that.



Stanley Clark, 20 years

After two decades since earning his doctorate, CoB accounting professor Stanley Clark has three unique A-level publications. His record includes the heretofore unseen (in terms of this report) publications in the *Journal of Accountancy* and *Strategic Finance*. Most of Clark's work has been done in tandem with another CoB accountant, Charles Jordan, who we will encounter later in this particular report. Clark is a past holder of the CoB's *Morgan Distinguished Professorship in Accounting*.



Marc DePree, 22 years

CoB accounting professor Marc DePree has what is easily the best record of scholarship among the CoB's accountants. His portfolio includes six unique A-level journal publications, including *Issues in Accounting Education* and the *Journal of Accounting & Public Policy*. DePree also has a solo-authored paper in *Abacus*, arguably the best feather in the CoB's ACC cap. Unlike Clark, DePree has *never held* the CoB's *Morgan Distinguished Professorship in Accounting*. Judging by the results of this report, one might conclude that DePree is simply *too distinguished* to have held that title.



James Henderson, 29 years

In the 29 years since earning his doctorate, CoB accountant James Henderson has spent much more time playing golf than he has working on research. His record -- zero unique A-level publications in three decades -- reflects that fact. No surprises here.

Steven Jackson, 20 years

SAIS director Steven Jackson is not widely known as a golfer, however his record, after two decades, is no better than Henderson's, at least in terms of unique A-level journal publications. Jackson has shown a proclivity for wearing Hawaiian print shirts. Perhaps that choice of attire reflects his real sense about the importance of academic scholarship.

Charles Jordan, 23 years

Stanley Clark's collaborator, Charles Jordan, has had his doctorate about 23 years, and so far he has two unique A-level journal publications to show for that time. These are in

two of Clark's three -- *The CPA Journal* and *Journal of Accountancy*. If former CoB associate dean Farhang Niroomand had been in that position back in the days Clark and Jordan were hired, one of them wouldn't have gotten the job. As sources indicate, Niroomand is not into one-for-two hiring deals, unless they benefit him (Niroomand) in some way. This one never has.



Gwen Pate, 18 years

CoB associate professor of accounting, and current assistant dean for Undergraduate Services, Gwen Pate looks like a Clark-Jordan clone. When you publish with one-another exclusively, this is bound to happen. The Clark-Jordan-Pate trio really looks like a one-for-three scenario in Niroomand's terms. As it stands, Pate currently has two unique A-level journal publications.



Paula Diane Parker, 6 years

New hire Paula Diane Parker came to USM from the University of South Alabama with nothing, at least in terms of unique A-level journal publications. With six years since earning her doctorate, she still has nothing. Tell me again, how was this a good hire?

Roderick Posey, 29 years

Twenty-nine years with a doctorate and there are still zero unique A-level publications for former SAIS director (and CoB associate dean) Roderick Posey, the current holder of the CoB's *Morgan Distinguished Professorship in Accounting*. Posey's abysmal record also indicates that having the highest CPA exam score in Mississippi, and one of the highest scores in the nation, doesn't translate too well when it comes to having success as an academic. With "more than 100" accounting publications, one would think there might be *at least one* A-level journal in there. It appears that producing one of those would have consumed too much of Posey's time, time he needed to lead his flock.

Robert Smith, 21 years

Former SPA director Robert Smith has three unique A-level journal publications. The often-derided CoB academic Smith has, therefore, as many unique As as two past holders of the *Morgan Professorship in Accounting* (Clark and Jordan), and two more than

another (Posey). This simply goes to show just how wacky things are in CoB's SAIS. Now, Smith lives in Atlanta, Georgia. Talk about packing it in.



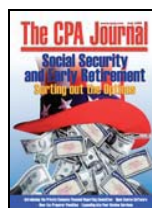
In all, we're looking at **1.80** unique As per-person (10) in current ACC, mostly due to DePree. This number is not great, especially considering they have **192 combined years since PhD** in that quarter.

They Have USM's CoB in the Rear-View Mirror

There is only former CoB ACC faculty who departed USM's b-school for other academic environs since 2003. This is Robert Rambo, who has been terminally qualified for **15 years**, or slightly below the average of his current CoB counterparts.

Robert Rambo, 15 years

Former CoB SAISer Robert Rambo is now affiliated with Providence College in Rhode Island, one of the top-ranked master's level institutions in the United States. Rambo has one A-level journal publication (*The CPA Journal*), which is infinitely more than at least four of his current CoB counterparts. That group includes current SAIS director Steven Jackson.



In all, we're looking at **1.00** unique As per person (1) in former ACC. This number is not bad, especially considering that the only member has only **15 years since PhD**.

Like so many other USMENWS.net reports, Part 4 in this series shows just how much damage current/former CoB administrators (e.g., Jackson, Posey, Doty, and Niroomand) and their faculty sycophants (e.g., Dakhliia and Marvasti) have done to the organization since 2003, if not before that.