

## **Perks for Buds VII Centers**

The CoB must be in the top tier of business schools for the number of “centers” that are meaningless. Under ousted dean Doty, he wanted to virtually litter the CoB with them. The idea would be they would all be – somehow – revenue generators. This is where it got fuzzy, and for the most part, ceased to exist as a concept. The true reason for centers or bureaus is to benefit the director or directors of the centers, and to hide salaries, benefits, work loads, cash flows, and anything else that is not desired to be seen in the light of day.

Doty helped set up his wife in one – the Center for Economic Education – but to foil the plan, Susan Doty actually holds classes to teach the school teachers about economic concepts. It is a nice way to boost her salary and reduce her teaching load above a normal instructor level since she is the director of the Center.

Bill Gunther’s opt-mentioned, mainly theoretical bureau keeps him at a six-hour load, in big offices, and with an absurdly high salary. In other words, he is the epitome of what CoB centers are designed to be for: personal gain. Perhaps the new dean will not see such great benefits when he does a cost-benefit analysis of the bureau.

Probably the biggest waste of space and resources, even out-doing former dean Gunther’s operation, is the inherited John Clark Center for Financial Services. Not only does Clark get the Gunther-esque goodies, he gets scarce graduate assistant hours to staff the room for show, in case people ever walk by and wonder about it. Even better, he gets – apparently – high service score ratings on his evaluations because of this (non-)job. This is truly a gift that keeps on giving. This flies in the face of his Chair, George Carter’s, past comments that he expects much greater output from any faculty member who receives release time for something; using that stated and not followed “rule”, since Clark has a one course teaching reduction *every* semester, he should be doing a lot of service beyond the normal requirements because of the release time. That does not happen. Nor does it appear he uses this extra time on research. It must be too much time walking the halls, sucking up, and whining about being over-worked and under-paid. It works for him; it just doesn’t for the rest of the CoB. Let’s not lose sight of what is important for Clark and Gunther: perks for buds.