

## **Perks for Buds VIII**

### **Former CoB Deans**

Former deans littering the halls are a problem for any college, but it is especially acute in the CoB. Not only are there too many of them, but also they do far too little for their extravagant salaries. Mississippi taxpayers should be outraged at footing the bill for the way over \$100,000 salaries, especially when they realize they are teaching only 2 classes a semester; that translates to over \$30,000 a class. If the “formers” brought any “added value” to the classroom that would be one thing, but that does not seem to be the situation here.

The more revolting situation is Harold Doty, the last ousted dean that Alvin Williams has been replacing on an interim basis. He has no positive legacy as dean in the CoB – though plenty of cascading negative problems – and only served for a short period of time. He was given the rank of “professor” when he was hired as dean, so he brings no deep history of research productivity, teaching skills, or laudable service accomplishments. What makes him deserving of such a teaching load? Recall that his ouster came not just before the June 30<sup>th</sup> end of a contract period, but came within a spring semester; in the academic world that is a signal of a situation in need of immediate attention. Readers can draw their own conclusions concerning the reasons for his ouster (newer readers may want to see the many posts on that topic, and/or Doty in general). If someone believed in a “transition period”, that should surely be long over; further, such a period should be to reward a job well done not be given to an ousted employee. One conclusion from this is Doty received this minor work load (given the totality of his production compared to his salary drain on the institution) as part of a deal to get him quietly out of the dean’s office. There are other explanations. This pampered, apparently unwarranted treatment does not encourage the formers to depart or be productive. Whatever the reasons, one thing is without question: former CoB deans have a deep and wide trough filled with perks for buds.