

## *Revisiting History*

Earlier today I read an article from [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#). It is another example of a University using its position of power in an effort to silence a professor. It brought back memories of The University of Southern Mississippi's efforts to fire me because of my speech. It is also reminder of how far a university will go to punish faculty who disagree with the administration.

My comment is related to this article is as follows:

**[Marc DePree](#)** · 7 hours ago

It cost the University of Southern Mississippi \$2.5 million to try to fire me for my speech. See, for example, "University and AACSB Diversity" at [commons.aaahq.org/posts/3d4bfd...](#). It failed. Approximately \$750,000 was salary and benefits paid to me to stay off campus. USM also spent a small fortune on two big time Mississippi law firms, IHL attorneys, USM attorneys, and expert witnesses. For all their shortsighted and wasteful efforts, their move did not end my criticism of administrative waste and corruption. See, [usmnews.net](#), especially the millions of taxpayer and student money wasted on an airplane that was used for junkets for the president and her family, IHL members--the president's bosses, and local and state politicians to fly to sports events. usmnews supports its reports with FOIA requests, depositions, court testimony, etc.

It would have been a lot cheaper and more constructive for USM administrators to embrace a critic. "Hey, he's our critic." Not difficult to do and it would have been a demonstration that USM advocates speech. USM chose instead to try to fire a critic.

Chauncey M. DePree, Jr., DBA, Professor, (retired after 30+ years in higher education), University of Southern Mississippi (a school that punishes speech.)