

## SAIS News, April 2007

A number of interesting news items are coming out of the CoB's School of Accountancy and Information Systems (SAIS) these days. USMNEWS.NET reporters have been keeping readers informed about the SAIS' search for a Director to replace Interim Director Stanley X. Lewis. As we reported in early April of 2007, one of the two leading candidates for the position is Saeed Roohani, the current Chair of the Department of Accounting at Bryant University in Rhode Island. For more on Roohani's candidacy, see <http://www.usmnews.net/The%20Persianization%20of%20CoB.pdf> at usmnews.net.

### The CoB's new "Ethicist-in-Residence"

One item that may have escaped the attention of usmnews.net readers is the January 2007 arrival of Steve Jackson, a new associate professor of accounting in the SAIS. As reported in the Fall 2006 issue of *Joint Venture*, Jackson, who will be primarily located at USMGC, comes to USM from Loyola University in New Orleans, where he served as the Barry and Teresa LeBlanc Distinguished Professor of Business Ethics (see below, from *JV*).



Steve Jackson, associate professor of accounting at the Gulf Coast campus, received a doctorate from Arizona State University and received his bachelor's from the University of Montana. He most recently was on the faculty of Loyola University of New Orleans where he was the Barry and Teresa LeBlanc Distinguished Professor of Business Ethics. His specialties are accounting education research and auditing and ethics research, and he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in auditing and cost accounting.

As the insert above indicates, one of Jackson's specialties is "ethics research." These credentials establish Jackson as the CoB's *new* "ethicist-in-residence," a mantle Jackson takes over from EFIB Chair George Carter. As USMNEWS.NET readers recall, Carter was a self-anointed "ethicist-in-residence," whose tenure in the position was characterized by episodes that appear to have involved ethics lapses of one sort or another.<sup>1</sup> Reporters at USMNEWS.NET will be interested in Jackson's thoughts, over the coming weeks and months, about the CoB's ethics issues involving plagiarism and accreditation.<sup>2</sup>

### It's Tee Time Again

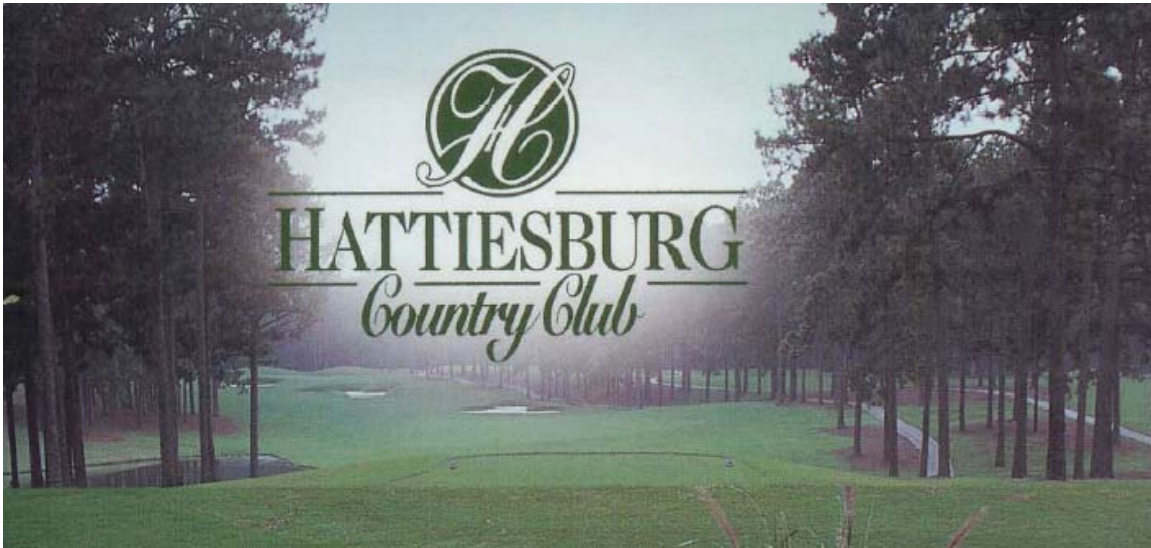
With the ushering in of a new spring season, it's once again time to follow the progress of the SAIS' own Jim Henderson, associate professor of accounting and one of the most accomplished amateur golfers in the Hattiesburg area. USMNEWS.NET readers who are not familiar with the Pine Belt region should

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<sup>1</sup> For more on Carter's ethics lapses, see the "George Carter" pages in the usmnews.net Archives. These pages contain numerous reports focusing on Carter as the former "ethicist-in-residence," and can be found by accessing <http://www.usmnews.net/Carter1.html>.

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.usmnews.net/plagiarism.html> and <http://www.usmnews.net/Accreditation.html>.

know that it is rich in golfing opportunities, which include nationally renowned golfing locations such as *Timberton*, *Canebrake Golf Club*, and *Hattiesburg Country Club*.



Jim Henderson's USM Office

Henderson (shown below), whose home course is *Hattiesburg Country Club* (see above), spends an enough time on the golf courses of Hattiesburg to maintain a 0 handicap (i.e., Henderson is a "scratch" or "par" golfer). Henderson is



Jim Henderson

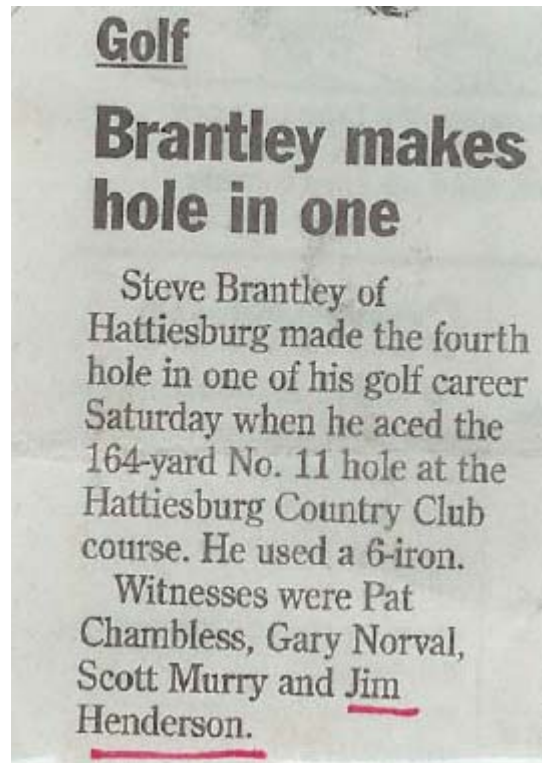
arguably the best example of all USM faculty when it comes to exhibiting the kinds of behaviors that give academics a bad name in the wider community.<sup>3</sup> Visit the *USM Forum - No Quarter Message Board*, type the word "golf" into the search engine, and references to Henderson's golfing exploits around Pine Belt are peppered across a number of threads and postings (for more, visit

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<sup>3</sup> One reader of USMNEWS.NET reports being asked by an acquaintance once – "So you're a professor . . . how much do you all work during the year? 1,200 . . . 1,300 hours?" Henderson exemplifies this behavior, only in his case the 1,200 – 1,300 hours estimate may be grossly overstated. One source we contacted stated that "Henderson has one of the lowest scholarly production levels, yet one of the highest melanin production levels, in the CoB." For an interesting report on Henderson's "academic" activities, see [http://www.usmpride.com/Special\\_Report\\_16.pdf](http://www.usmpride.com/Special_Report_16.pdf) (from the USMNEWS.NET Archives section).

<http://www.activeboard.com/forum.spark?forumID=24082>). Many of those posts seem to come from CoB students, who complain about USM and CoB faculty flaunting their freedom on local golf courses throughout the “working” week.

A visit to [www.ratemyprofessors.com](http://www.ratemyprofessors.com) reveals that Henderson’s golfing activities may even dominate his classroom discussions.<sup>4</sup> Some of Henderson’s recent golfing activities were written up in *The Hattiesburg American* (see below).



Look for future reports at USMNEWS.NET to following Henderson’s golfing excursions throughout the spring and summer of 2007.

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<sup>4</sup> One student rater indicates that Henderson spends most of class talking about golf (and his house). Henderson rates only a 2.5 (out of 5) in teaching quality (overall) at [ratemyprofessors.com](http://ratemyprofessors.com).