

SEDONA Files

In an effort to shed more light on the annual evaluation process in the CoB, this is Part XVI in a series of examinations of CoB faculty SEDONA materials, as they appeared on 2 May 2006, or just after the time of the CoB's annual evaluation. Previous exhibits have pointed out that CoB faculty are responsible for maintaining their CV items on SEDONA, an electronic database. As stated in an e-mail by Dean Doty, SEDONA materials **only** are to be evaluated by CoB administrators at the annual review hearing.

This issue of SEDONA Files examines the SEDONA vita of Farhang Niroomand (Associate Dean/Professor of Economics). A curious entry was found by usmpride.com investigators in the **Awards** section of Niroomand's SEDONA file. That entry is presented below, as it appears in Niroomand's records:

Awards:

2005: Best Paper Award Certificate for presenting my paper: Determinants of Income: A Probability Approach, Association of Global Business.

There are a number of curiosities here. First, the entry uses the term "for presenting my paper . . ." Did everyone who showed up to the 2005 AGB Conference to present their paper get one of these Certificates? In other words, are all papers finalists for the Best Paper Award, so that everyone gets at least the Certificate? Or, did Niroomand's paper win the Best Paper Award?

Let's assume that Niroomand's paper was chosen the Best at the 2005 AGB Conference. That means that neither being Editor of the *Journal of Current Research in Global Business* (one of two journals affiliated with the AGB) nor being an "Amigo" in the AGB hierarchy disqualifies one from participating in the AGB Best Paper Award process.

This finding raises a big question: Just how much mileage is Niroomand getting out of this Association for Global Business business? Given that his 2006 merit raise was almost \$10,000, everything he does must count, and a lot. It's a sure bet that his AGB endeavors are carrying a significant amount of weight in the annual evaluation process.

Niroomand's association with this Association that few are familiar with deserves more attention from usmpride.com investigators.