

SEDONA Files

In an effort to shed more light on the annual evaluation process in the CoB, this is Part IIIa 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 installment examines a number of items regarding service in the College of Business, along with some discussion of research, teaching, and academic background items.

We turn to first to Donna Davis (Professor of MIS). Davis' SEDONA records indicate that she was a member of USM's Academic Council during the 2005-2006 academic year, and that she will Chair that Council during the 2006-2007 academic year. There has been discussion in the CoB that Davis was forced to take this position when a full professor who was elected to serve in that capacity "quietly" refused to do so. **SEDONA Files** hopes to have more on that issue in an upcoming installment. **Please see below for an update!**

An interesting juxtaposition occurs in economics. Two full professors, Ed Nissan and Charles Sawyer, have vastly different service loads. These are:

<u>Ed Nissan</u>	<u>Charles Sawyer</u>
CoB Scholarship Committee	Department Faculty Recruitment Committee
	CoB Academic Suspension Committee
	USM Graduate Council
	USM Library Services Committee

If one adjusts for the relatively little time required for the CoB Scholarship Committee, the differential is even more significant than appears here. Of course, these two also earn different salaries and usually garner raises of differing magnitudes, which could explain the comparison above away. The 2004 merit raise data from another report on this site provides a comparison:

	<u>Raise</u>	<u>Ending Salary</u>
Nissan	\$7,772	\$99,930
Sawyer	\$4,412	\$86,922

The merit raise and salary comparisons don't offer an answer in this case. We turned to research to explain the financial disparities, only to find that Sawyer has published 3 times as many B-Level journal articles as Nissan (see 2000-2005 research link on this website) over the 2000-2005 period.

Finally, on the last page of Sawyer's SEDONA records he notes winning the 2005 "Faculty Member of the Year" Award, along with the 2003 Graduate Business Association "Faculty Member of the Year" Award. **SEDONA Files** is of the understanding that the first Award listed above is the one more commonly known as the *BellSouth Outstanding Faculty Award*. These two awards recognize superior teaching abilities. **SEDONA Files** must leave the construction of an explanation of the financial disparities involving these two economics professors to readers.

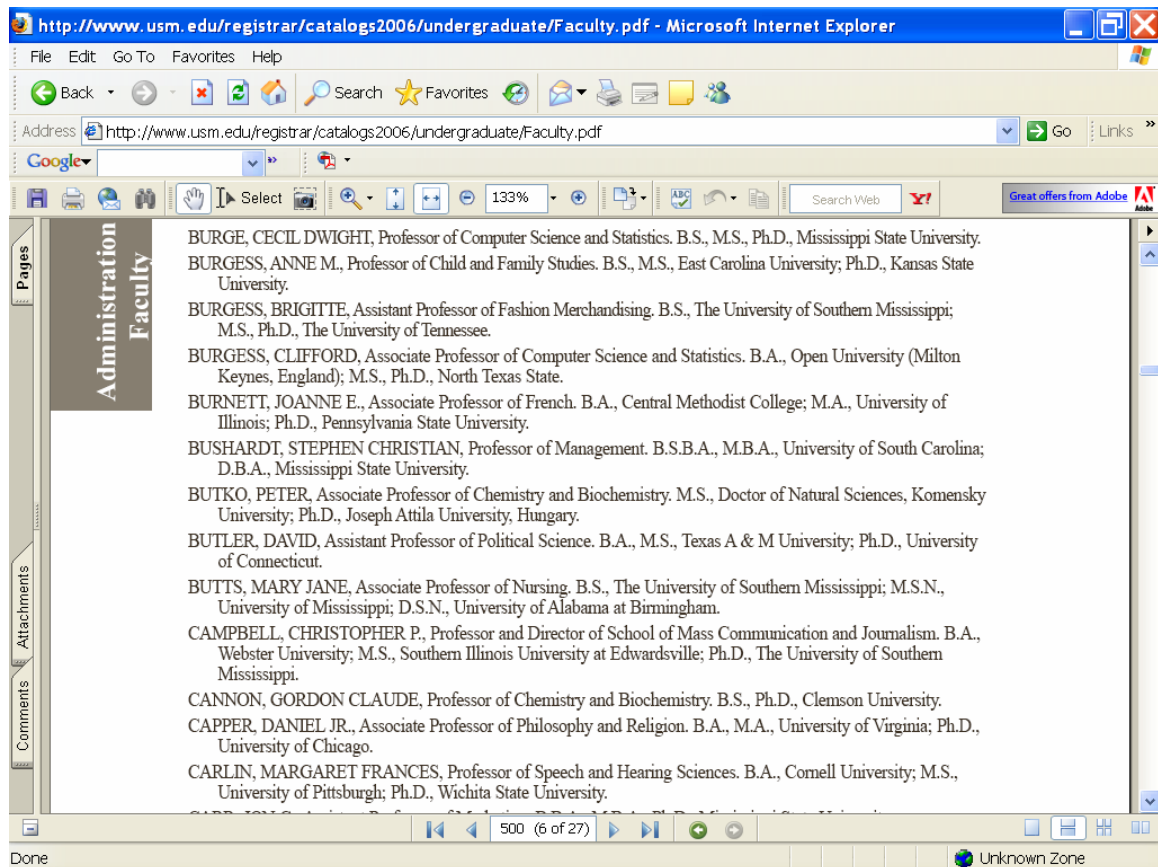
There have been a number of discussions on the USM Forum --- No Quarter Message Board that seem to criticize the D.B.A. degree. Though we at **SEDONA Files** do not plan to enter that fray, we do believe that whatever degree you have, it's one or the other. Unless, of course, you are Stephen Bushardt, Professor of Management.

Under **Academic Background** on page 1 of Bushardt's SEDONA records, he lists:

Academic Background

Ph.D. 1981 Mississippi State University Starkville, MS Management

However, perusal of the 2005-2006 USM *Undergraduate Bulletin* indicates otherwise, as the following screen clip illustrates:



This analysis suggests that in the CoB you can be whatever and/or whoever you want to be, and no one will ever know. Why? Everything is confidential.

SEDONA Files has learned that Professor Davis was indeed elected to serve on the Academic Council for 2004-2005. She was also nominated by the Council to be the chair-elect the ensuing year. However, we are also told that she voted Nissan's proxy for much of the first year.