

# Seriously, What Could Go Wrong Now?

A Guest Column

With the institution now being led by an *interim* President and an *interim* Provost, and with Farhang Niroomand heading up the institution's business school, how could anything go wrong now at the University of Houston-Victoria? Seriously, it's difficult to imagine things at UH-V in greater disarray than they are now. The missing President is Tim Hudson. The missing Provost is Suzanne LaBrecque. Of course, Farhang Niroomand is the Dean of the UH-V business school. Two of these three – Hudson and Niroomand – are transplants from the University of Southern Mississippi, where, as I understand it, they were, at best, *iffy* executives. Hudson hired Niroomand, and Hudson hired LaBrecque. Hudson and LaBrecque are gone. Niroomand remains.

System Chancellor Renu Khator has her hands full now. One would think they were full before. Now she is running *both* the UH System *and* the University of Houston-Victoria. This is certainly *not* what she signed up for, but it is, in a sense, a problem of her own making. Stories making the rounds say that Hudson was removed as President over some sketchy foreign travel. Versions of these stories say Niroomand was also involved, but he skated. If so, that's one up (the removal of Hudson) and one down (the continuation of Niroomand) for Khator. She should be doing better than that. Now the big talk is about whether UH-V will remain in the UH System, or go over to Texas A&M University, I guess as TAMUV. That ("TAMUV") sounds more like some kind of birth control pill than an institution of higher education, which alone should give Texas A&M pause. For Khator, this could be a golden parachute of sorts. My guess is that she *won't* pull the reserve cord. She'll hang on to UH-V, administration warts and all.