

Updated – See Below!

*Special Report*

## Old Rivals Collide, and a Clock Gets Cleaned

An Investigative Series on CoB Faculty Research Credentials

A look at CoB Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand's research record has been requested by a number of usmpride.com readers. Our investigators put together a *Special Report* that compares Niroomand's research career at USM to what finance professor Tom Lindley published over the corresponding period. Publication data for Niroomand are taken from the College of Business' webpages at usm.edu. Lindley's publication records are taken from a recent report ("The Past 30 Years: E. Ray Canterbury meets J. Tom Lindley") that is available at usmpride.com.

Table 1 below presents the results, using the journal rankings from *Enhancing Faculty Productivity*. The time frame examined, 1987-2005, corresponds (roughly) to Niroomand's tenure at USM.

**Table 1**  
**Niroomand v. Lindley: Research Output, 1987-2005**

Year	<i>Farhang Niroomand</i>		<i>Tom Lindley</i>		
	A-Level	B-Level	A-Level	B-Level	
2005	0	1	0	0	
2004	0	0	0	0	
2003	0	0	1	0	
2002	0	0	0	0	
2001	0	0	0	0	
2000	0	0	0	0	
1999	0	0	0	0	
1998	1	1	0	0	
1997	0	1	1	0	
1996	0	1	0	0	Niroomand promoted to full
1995	0	0	1	0	Niroomand submits dossier
1994	0	0	1	0	
1993	0	0	0	0	
1992	0	0	2	0	
1991	0	1	0	0	
1990	0	0	0	0	
1989	0	2	1	2	
1988	0	2	0	0	
1987	0	0	1	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	

The two EFIB professors produced 10 total articles each (in the A-level and B-level journal categories), as shown in the table above. However, from a quality point-of-view, there is little comparison between the two. Niroomand has a single A-level article, along with 9 B-level publications. On the other hand, Lindley has 8 A-level articles, along with 2 B-level publications. Thus, the records are not even close; Lindley's record exceeds Niroomand's by a wide margin.

### Commentary

CoB faculty may be surprised to learn that Niroomand has produced only a single A-level journal article over the past 20 years. That article was published in 1998, or after the 10<sup>th</sup> year of Niroomand's tenure at USM. From Table 1 above, it appears as though Niroomand may have used only 4 B-level articles to qualify for tenure/promotion to associate professor of economics. Beyond that, it's difficult to determine, using the A- and B-level publications data above, how Niroomand qualified for promotion to full professor. Niroomand was promoted to full professor at the end of the 1995-96 academic year. Thus, he had not added any in-print A- or B-level articles to his record at the time he submitted his promotion dossier in August/September of 1995.

**Updated on 11/8/2006**

This report sparked the interest of many readers. One reader has pointed out some omissions in our analysis above (see Table 1 above), though the general gist of the report remains unchanged. That table is amended below:

**Table 1**  
**Niroomand v. Lindley: Research Output, 1987-2005**

Year	<i>Farhang Niroomand</i>		<i>Tom Lindley</i>	
	A-Level	B-Level	A-Level	B-Level
2005	0	1	0	0
2004	0	0	0	0
2003	0	0	1	0
2002	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0
1998	1	1	0	0
1997	0	1	1	0
1996	0	1	0	0
1995	0	0	1	0
1994	0	0	1	0
1993	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	2	0
1991	0	1	0	0

Niroomand promoted to full  
Niroomand submits dossier

1990	0	0	0	0	Niroomand promoted to assoc.
1989	0	2	1	2	Niroomand submits dossier
1988	0	2	0	0	
1987	0	0	1	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	

The period highlighted in yellow indicates the period used by Niroomand “to qualify” for a promotion to associate professor of economics. The period highlighted in blue indicates the period used by Niroomand “to qualify” for promotion to full professor of economics. Thus, our original report was incorrect in pointing out that Niroomand had not added any A- or B-level publications to his record between receipt of promotion to associate and submission of his promotion-to-full dossier. Niroomand did add one B-level article to his record in 1991. That error occurs in the last sentence of the original report, which is now underlined in the font color used in this update. Finally, as a reader suggests, our investigators will look into Niroomand’s research productivity prior to 1997 in order to expand the table if necessary.