

Special Report

A Jury of Your Peers?

An Investigative Series on the CoB Advisory Committee's Role in the Grievance Process

This report represents part 3 of our look at the CoB Advisory Committee's role in the Faculty Grievance process. This subject has sparked interest in usmpride.com readers since the filing of two separate Grievances in recent weeks – one by professors Marc DePree and Tom Lindley, and another by professor Franklin Mixon. Both of these Grievances were initiated against the actions of EFIB Chair George Carter, and the details of both are available at usmpride.com.

In the Mixon Grievance, the CAC met and voted unanimously against Mixon's Grievance (see documents at usmpride.com). Among the members of the CAC (from the traditional business disciplines) for the 2006-07 academic year, those participating in the Mixon hearing were:

Stephen Bushardt	Professor of Management
Jim Henderson	Professor of Accounting
Tony Henthorne	Professor of Marketing
Chang-Tseh Hsieh	Professor of MIS
Elizabeth LaFleur	Professor of Marketing

As has become customary during CoB Dean Harold Doty's Deanship, the Department of Management and Marketing – Doty's home department – dominates this group in terms of representation (60%) much like it does others.

Investigators at usmpride.com examined some of the teaching data regarding Chang-Tseh Hsieh, professor of management information systems. A recent visit to

pick a prof

revealed recent grade histories for Hsieh's MIS 320 (e-Bus App Strateg) course. Pickupprof states the following, regarding grade histories, on their website:

All of our grade histories are (painstakingly) obtained directly from university records, we do NOT rely on individual students telling us their grades.

The following data for Hsieh's MIS 320 course were found:

<u>#Students (2 classes)</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>GPA</u>
42	13 (31%)	16 (38%)	13 (31%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3.00

The following data for Hsieh's MIS 412 (Proj Life Cycle Mgt) course were also found:

#Students (1 class)	A	B	C	D	F	GPA
11	2 (18%)	5 (45%)	4 (36%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2.82

Again, our investigators are left wondering about the recent University-wide UG course data that suggest that the CoB is the one College at USM holding the line on grade inflation. Does the type of grading histories shown in this *Special Report* series have any relationship to the performance of CoB undergraduates on the ETS tests that are used for assessment purposes? And, what will be found as we continue to examine the academic credentials of the principals in the CoB's two active Grievances? These questions will be explored in future installments.