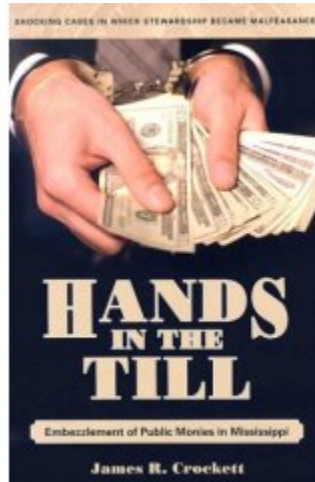


## *Special Report*

# **Hands in the CoB**

## **An Investigative Series on the Use of the CoB for Personal Gain**

With the April 2007 publication of his latest book, *Hands in the Till: Embezzlement of Public Monies in Mississippi*, accounting professor James R. Crockett is once again in the spotlight. The book (see cover below) marks the second from Crockett in the past few years, both dealing with public sector corruption in Mississippi.



As the header on the book cover states, Crockett's book reports on "Shocking Cases in Which Stewardship Became Malfeasance." There have been a number of reports made available by usmnews.net that question Crockett's stewardship, in his former role as SAIS Director (and beyond), of MS taxpayer-provided funds. In fact, these reports are so numerous that Crockett has a dedicated spot in the usmnews.net "Archives" section (see <http://www.usmnews.net/Archives.html>).

With Crockett's recent retirement, following a failed stint as the CoB's AACSB Accreditation Consultant (for SAIS' separate AACSB accreditation effort), usmnews.net reporters are wondering how much Crockett's relationship with the CoB will diminish. Will he stick around in a semi-formal or informal manner, advising Interim Deans Alvin Williams and Joseph Peyrefitte on administrative matters? Will he continue to be an integral figure in the CoB's "Continuing AACSB Review?" Or, will Crockett actually "retire," as former CBA Dean Tyrone Black has done? Reporters at usmnews.net will be following this (potential) story to see just how much Crockett's hands remain inside USM's College of Business.