

Special Report

"It Takes a Village . . ."

An Investigative Series on CoB Faculty Research Credentials

In light of recent reports on excessive numbers of co-authors and "academic slipstreaming," two issues that seem to plague the CoB's research profile of late, this *Special Report* takes a look at the number of co-authors that CoB faculty typically associate with in the process of completing their research projects. All of the data used in this report come from the individual CoB faculty webpages located at usm.edu, however those CoB faculty listing fewer than five journal publications on their individual intellectual contributions page are not included in this analysis.

Table 1 below contains the average number of authors on each faculty member's journal publications (including the CoB faculty members). Given the analysis in earlier reports, Table 1 ranks each faculty member, from fewest to most authors per paper.

Table 1
Authors per Journal Pub, USM's College of Business

Rank	Name	Unit	#Authors/Pub
1	Marvasti, Akbar	ECO	1.48
2	Nissan, Edward	ECO	1.73
3	Green, Trellis	ECO	1.89
4	Carter, George	ECO	2.00
	Dakhli, Sami	ECO	2.00
	Jackson, Steven	ACC	2.00
	Sequeira, Jennifer	MGT	2.00
8	DePree, Marc	ACC	2.07
9	Becker, Cherylynn	TM	2.10
10	Niroomand, Farhang	ECO	2.12
11	Burgess, Brigitte	FM	2.17
12	Lambert, John	IB	2.20
13	Malik, Farooq	FIN	2.29
14	Price, Catherine	TM	2.30
15	Hsieh, Chang-Tseh	MIS	2.38
	Smith, Robert	ACC	2.38
17	Clark, John	FIN	2.43
18	Klinedinst, Mark	ECO	2.50
19	Jordan, Charles	ACC	2.52

20	Clark, Stanley	ACC	2.54
21	Peyrefitte, Joseph	MGT	2.56
22	Lindley, James	FIN	2.63
23	Anderson, Mary	ACC	2.67
24	LaFleur, Elizabeth	MKT	2.75
	Wittmann, Michael	MKT	2.75
26	Davis, Donna	MIS	2.86
27	Pate, Gwen	ACC	2.93
28	Topping, Sharon	MGT	2.95
29	Zantow, Kenneth	MGT	3.00
30	Doty, Harold	MGT	3.11
31	Chen, Kuo Lane	MIS	3.12
32	Monchuk, Daniel	ECO	3.20
33	Carr, Jon	MGT	3.25
34	Lai, Fujun	MIS	3.35

Sources: Individual CoB webpages.

At the top of the list is newly promoted economics professor, Akbar Marvasti. Marvasti's research portfolio boasts just 1.48 authors per paper. Close behind Marvasti are economists Edward Nissan and Trellis Green, with 1.73 and 1.89 authors/paper, respectively. While Marvasti conducts quite a bit of solo-authorship, Nissan's number is kept low by his usual practice of restricting the number of co-authors he works with to two. Usually Nissan's papers are co-authored with EFIB chair George Carter only, which explains Carter's 4th place finish at 2.00 authors/paper.

Rounding out the Top 10 are Sami Dakhli (ECO), Steven Jackson (ACC), Jennifer Sequeira (MGT), Marc DePree (ACC), Cherylynn Becker (TM) and Farhang Niroomand (ECO). As in other cases, ECO dominates the Top 10, with six entries to its credit. ACC follows with two entries, with one being professor Marc DePree, who tends to rank highly in other reports that measure intellectual contributions quality.

The bottom of the list (of 34) is dominated by MGT, and the three lowest ranking MGT faculty are Jon Carr, Harold Doty and Kenneth Zantow. That there are only four CoB faculty below Doty might come as a surprise to readers who have been told that Doty is a stellar researcher. Other reports and series here at USMNEWS.net have indicated that there are some blemishes on Doty's record. The finding above in Table 1 seems to support those reports. Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net will recall that Zantow needed a so-called 4th Year Tenure Review in order to dodge a terminal contract. Doty, then dean of the business college, awarded that additional review period for Zantow.

Each of the bottom five CoB faculty above -- Doty, Kuo Lane Chen (MIS), Daniel Monchuk (ECO), Carr and Fujun Lai (MIS) -- have #authors/paper ratios that exceed 3.0. In the cases of Carr and Lai, the ratio is 3.25 or greater. Some of these faculty (e.g., Carr and Doty) are often ballyhooed as top-notch CoB researchers. The data presented here, however, point out that in their cases (and that of some others), "it takes a village" to get the project done.