

# *Special Report*

## **Local Brew**

### **An Investigative Series on CoB Faculty Research Credentials**

The recent *Special Report* installment, [Slipstreaming Away](#), gave USMNEWS.NET readers a window into the kinds of co-authorship practices that are prevalent in USM's College of Business. That report dealt with associate professor of finance John Clark's research in marketing and related areas. Other reports, particularly [two on](#) assistant professor of accounting Mary Anderson, show that the so-called slipstreaming practice crosses departmental (unit) boundaries. Not only that, one of the CoB's most contentious episodes -- the double-counting (of research) benefits received by associate professor of accounting, Marvin Albin, in the 1990s was, at its core, also an example of [slipstreaming](#).

Whether or not CoB administrators, past and present, want to admit it, the CoB's history of academic slipstreaming (or drafting) has had a corrosive effect on the organization. As sources put it, CoB faculty working hard to earn their place are more than discouraged when they see others use a so-called "second avenue," with the tacit permission of administrators, to advance within the organization. And, when the activity directly involves CoB administrators, its deleterious effects are compounded.

This report examines what appears to be an example of the latter situation, wherein a CoB administrator is in the so-called academic slipstream of a subordinate faculty member. This particular case is the well known one of EFIB chair George Carter, and his long-time friend, colleague, and *subordinate*, economics professor Edward Nissan.



**George Carter**

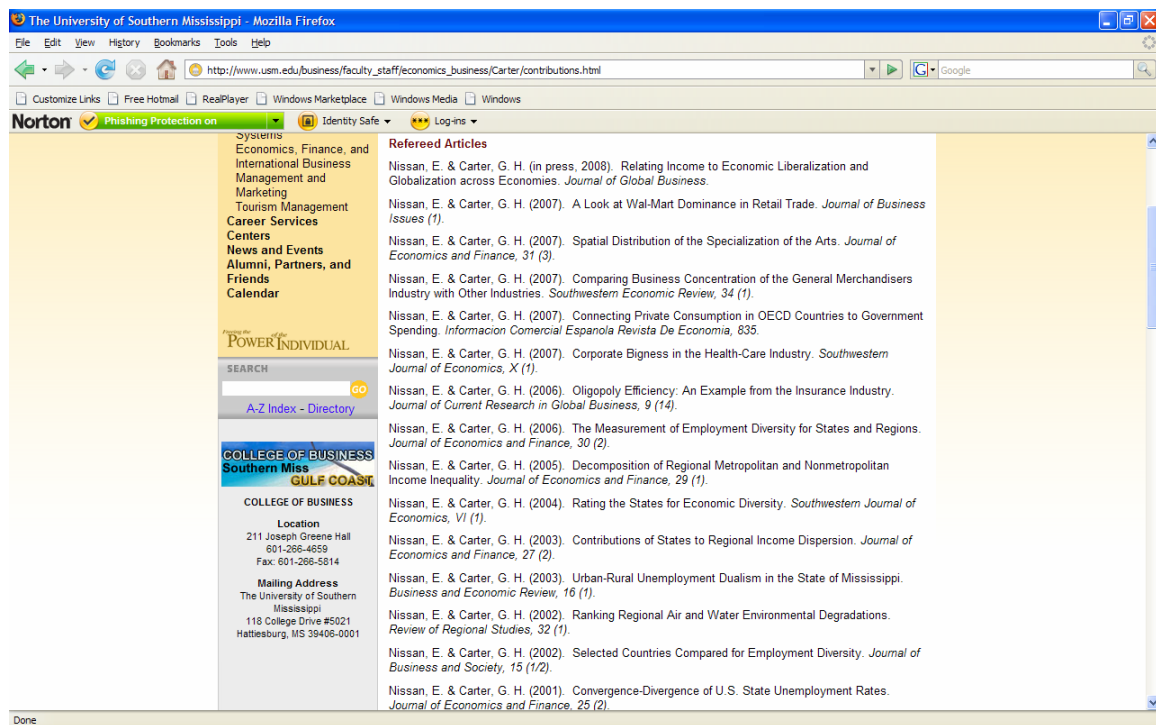


**Edward Nissan**

CoB faculty have long considered the relationship between Carter and Nissan to be a problematic one. Sources state that faculty close to the two of them reported

that Nissan, the highest paid economist in ECO, would remain the highest paid as long as Carter (and/or former CoB associate dean, Farhang Niroomand) had administrative authority in the CoB. And, Nissan's position would be maintained by Carter et al. without regard to relative merits in ECO. As sources put it, Carter's (and Niroomand's) desire to "reward" Nissan in this way comes from Nissan's efforts to "prop up" Carter's research profile.

What do those efforts consist of? The screen below contains the top portion of the "Intellectual Contributions" tab of Carter's web page at USM.edu. The first 15 of Carter's journal publications are listed there, and each one lists "Nissan" *before* "Carter" on its by-line.



By venturing onto that [web page](#), USMNEWS.NET readers will encounter a virtual sea of "Nissan and Carter" scholarship, encompassing 18 refereed journal articles, 2 refereed book chapters, 3 refereed international presentations, and 20 refereed national presentations. There are only three entries on Carter's page that don't begin with "Nissan and Carter." These include a solo-authored invited article in the *Delta Business Review*, a solo presentation in Hattiesburg, and a dissertation. One can't help but wonder what Carter's scholarly activities profile would look like had Carter and Nissan never met.