

Special Report

Personal Service . . . Unparalleled An Investigative Series on the Use of the CoB for Personal Gain

While engaging in a public relations campaign for the CoB's forthcoming reorganization, new CoB dean Lance Nail recently released data on the number of majors in each of the CoB's 10 units. Combined with unit-level data on the number of full-time faculty above the rank of instructor which are available throughout the pages of USMNEWS.net, reporters are able to calculate unit-level statistics on the number of CoB majors per faculty.¹ These figures, some of which are quite alarming, are shown below in Table 1.²

Table 1
Majors, Faculty and Majors/Faculty in the CoB, 2008-09

Rank	Unit	Majors	Faculty	Majors/Faculty
1	IB	105	1	105.0
2	ACC	491	9	54.6
3	MGT	364	10	36.4
4	MKT	361	11	32.8
5	FM	84	3	28.0
6	FIN	179	9	19.9
7	TM	99	5	19.8
8	MIS	57	7	8.1
9	ECO	15	11	1.4
	BA	<u>705</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>
		2,100	67	31.3

As indicated in Table 1 above, there are 2,100 majors in USM's business school. Combined with 67 full-time faculty above the rank of instructor, there are approximately 31 CoB majors per CoB faculty. The per-faculty numbers in four of the nine CoB units for which there are complete data come in above the 31.3 average. These are international business (105.0), accounting (54.6), management (36.4) and marketing (32.8). One unit, fashion merchandising, comes in at 28 majors per faculty, slightly below the CoB average.

¹ Faculty holding ranks above instructor, even if *visiting*, were chosen due to the fact that, even if *visiting*, the CoB is currently devoting job market-level resources (dollars) to faculty lines in each of these cases.

² Associate professor of legal studies Ernest King is included only in the faculty total figure in Table 1.

At the bottom of the CoB is economics. With 11 faculty, the highest number in the CoB, combined with only 15 majors, the CoB's lowest total, ECO comes in at a disturbing 1.4 majors per faculty. Even more alarming is the fact that ECO not only hired Deniz Gevrek in August of 2008 (3 months ago), another new economist, Yosef Bonaparte, is set to arrive in January of 2009. Without these two additions ECO's per-faculty count is still a paltry 1.7. With Mississippi and the nation in the grips of serious economic problems, one can only question USM president Martha Saunders' stewardship of MS taxpayers' funds.

Just above ECO, at only 8.1 majors per faculty, is management information systems. Like ECO, MIS brought in two new faculty for 2008-09. Without these two (Barry Cumbie and Dale Lunsford), MIS' per-faculty count remains as low as 11.4. Finally, it is worth noting that the faculty count in finance has risen at an alarming rate in recent months. With the additions of Kimberly Goodwin, Francis Laatsch, Farooq Malik, and Ty Perry, FIN's per-faculty count has shrunk to just 19.9. The recent news that the *one new faculty* Nail plans to hire during the 2008-09 hiring season will be in FIN only makes this situation more troubling.