

## *Special Report*

### **Top-Down Ethics**

#### **A Look at the Service Dereliction of the CoB's Former Dean**

Reporters at usmnews.net have received tips indicating that former CBA Dean William Gunther is not living up to his service responsibilities. Table 1 below presents data on the CoB's Faculty Senators' presence/absence at Faculty Senate meetings over the past two academic years (i.e., 2005-06 and 2006-07). This information comes from the USM Faculty Senate's website (see Minutes) -- <http://www.usm.edu/fsenate/>.

**Table 1**  
**William Gunther's Faculty Senate Service Dereliction, 2005-07**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>CoB Senators Present</b>	<b>CoB Senators Absent</b>	<b>CoB Senators' Proxies</b>
8-June-2007	Bushardt, Stephen Magruder, Scott Price, Catherine	Gunther, William	
4-May-2007	Magruder, Scott	Bushardt, Stephen Gunther, William Price, Catherine	Becker, Cherylynn
13-April-2007	<b>NO ATTENDANCE DATA PROVIDED IN MEETING MINUTES</b>		
23-March-2007	Bushardt, Stephen Magruder, Scott Price, Catherine	Gunther, William	Bushardt, Stephen
23-February-2007	Price, Catherine	Bushardt, Stephen Gunther, William Magruder, Scott	
19-January-2007	Price, Catherine	Bushardt, Stephen Gunther, William Magruder, Scott	
5-December-2006	Bushardt, Stephen	Gunther, William Magruder, Scott Price, Catherine	
10-November-2006	Bushardt, Stephen Magruder, Scott Price, Catherine	Gunther, William	
6-October-2006	<b>NO ATTENDANCE DATA PROVIDED IN MEETING MINUTES</b>		
8-September-2006	Bushardt, Stephen Magruder, Scott	Gunther, William	
9-June-2006	Duhon, David	Gunther, William Magruder, Scott	Henry, Myron
5-May-2006	<b>NO ATTENDANCE DATA PROVIDED IN MEETING MINUTES</b>		
7-April-2006	Duhon, David Gunther, William Magruder, Scott		
17-March-2006		Duhon, David Gunther, William Magruder, Scott	
17-February-2006	Gunther, William Magruder, Scott	Duhon, David	
20-January-2006	Duhon, David	Gunther, William Magruder, Scott	Duhon, David Duhon, David
9-December-2005	<b>NO ATTENDANCE DATA PROVIDED IN MEETING MINUTES</b>		

11-November-2005	Magruder, Scott	Duhon, David Gunther, William	Gregory, Brian Henry, Myron
7-October-2005	Duhon, David Magruder, Scott	Gunther, William	Duhon, David
16-September-2005	Duhon, David	Gunther, William Magruder, Scott	Duhon, David

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As Table 1 above points out, over the 2005-07 period former CBA Dean William Gunther (professor of economics) missed 14 of the 16 Faculty Senate meetings that he was expected, as an EFIB (CoB) representative, to attend. This translates into an attendance percentage of just 12.5 percent. Out of Gunther's 14 absences, only six of these (42.9 percent) were covered by a proxy representative. Among these six occasions, CoST Senator Myron Henry served as Gunther's proxy twice (33.3percent). Thus, on those two occasions CoB faculty were represented by a Senator from the College of Science & Technology instead of the one elected to serve by those same CoB faculty.

**Table 2**  
**CoB Faculty Senators' Attendance Percentages, 2005-07**

<b>CoB Faculty Senator</b>	<b>Attendance %</b>
Bushardt, Stephen	62.5
Duhon, David	62.5
Gunther, William	12.5
Magruder, Scott	53.3
Price, Catherine	71.4
All Combined	46.3

None of the CoB Faculty Senators' attendance percentages (over 2005-07) shown in Table 2 above is stellar. Only Catherine Price's (professor of tourism management) attendance surpassed the 70 percent mark. Former CoB Director of Graduate Programs and former Chair of Management Stephen Bushardt's attendance rate was just over 60 percent, as was management professor David Duhon's. The overall attendance percentage for the CoB's Senators (over 2005-07) was a disappointing 46.3 percent.

### **Commentary by Duane Cobb**

William Gunther earns \$125,000 per 9-month year. He teaches only two courses each semester, thanks to his appointment as Director of the CoB's Bureau of Business and Economics Research. He does next-to-nothing with the BBER. He lives on a half-million dollar estate in Baldwin County, Alabama. He spends a significant portion of each week driving back-and-forth between Hattiesburg and Josephine, AL. He's not doing academic research. And, as this report shows, he's not doing university service. The taxpayers of Mississippi are getting hosed by William Gunther. Plain and simple.