

Special Report

We Get by with a Little Help from Our Friend

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

This *Special Report* adds to other reports on the CoB's 2007-08 journal ranking process that have been appearing on the pages of USMNEWS.NET in recent days. As those reports indicate, this process was led by *untentured assistant* professor of economics, Sami Dakhliya, who chaired the CoB's journal ranking committee during the 2007-08 academic year. This particular report examines how the EFIB favorites benefited (or not) from Dakhliya's position on the journal ranking committee. All of the publications data presented in this report come from the EconLit database.

Let's start with Dakhliya, the chairman of the journal ranking committee. The data below show that, since receiving his PhD in 1998, Dakhliya has published seven journal articles (found by EconLit). Using the CoB's mid-1990s journal ranking, Dakhliya has 3 As, 1 B, 1 C and 2 unlisted publications. When the 2008 ranking is used, Dakhliya has 4 As, 2 Bs and 1 C. Thus, Dakhliya's journal ranking committee worked to improve Dakhliya's A-level portfolio by 33%. Not to be outdone, Dakhliya's B-level portfolio grew 100%.



Sami Dakhliya

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Unlisted</u>
Mid-1990s Ranking	3	1	1	0	2
2008 Ranking	4	2	1	0	0

As sources point out, after securing an improvement for himself, Dakhliya would have likely wanted to take care of EFIB chairman George Carter. Carter's data, shown below, cover the past 10 years only (given Carter's lengthy career). Based on the mid-1990s journal ranking, Carter has published 6 Cs and 2 unlisted (from 1999-2008). However, Carter shows a marked improvement using the 2008 CoB journal ranking. With that one, Carter has published 4 Bs, 2 Cs and 2 Others.

According to sources, Dakhlia's journal ranking committee produced a result that actually makes Carter look somewhat like a *real* researcher.



George Carter

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Unlisted</u>
Mid-1990s Ranking	0	0	6	0	2
2008 Ranking	0	4	2	2	0

If USMNEWS.NET sources are accurate, Dakhlia would not have wanted to forget about former CoB associate dean Farhang Niroomand. The EconLit data for Niroomand shown below indicate that Niroomand was anything *but* forgotten when the CoB's journal ranking committee sat around the bargaining table. Niroomand's publications date back to 1988, and using the mid-1990s journal ranking Niroomand has published 1 A, 8 Bs, 3 Cs and 3 unlisted. The 2008 journal ranking improves Niroomand's portfolio, giving him 2 As, 9 Bs and 4 Cs. For those keeping score, that's a 100% increase in As and a 12.5% increase in Bs.



Farhang Niroomand

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Unlisted</u>
Mid-1990s Ranking	1	8	3	0	3
2008 Ranking	2	9	4	0	0

Next come Dakhlia's friends, starting with Akbar Marvasti. Marvasti's publications data are shown below. Using the mid-1990s journal ranking, Marvasti has 1 A, 2 Bs, 3 Cs and 1 unlisted. The 2008 CoB journal ranking gives

Marvasti a big boost. Now he has 2 As, 3 Bs and 2 Cs. Thus, Marvasti got a 100% boost in the As column, and a 50% boost in the Bs column.



Akbar Marvasti

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Unlisted</u>
Mid-1990s Ranking	1	2	3	0	1
2008 Ranking	2	3	2	0	0

Another Dakhliia friend is assistant professor Daniel Monchuk. Although there aren't much data for Monchuk in EconLit (see below), there is enough to show that he benefited from a friendly presence on the CoB's journal ranking committee. Using the mid-1990s ranking, Monchuk has 1 C and 1 unlisted, while the 2008 journal ranking gives Monchuck 1 B and 1 C.



Daniel Monchuk

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Unlisted</u>
Mid-1990s Ranking	0	0	1	0	1
2008 Ranking	0	1	1	0	0

Another EFIB favorite is assistant professor of finance Farooq Malik. Long-time readers of USMNEWS.NET will recall that Malik, who has a PhD in economics, was an assistant professor of economics before the 2007-08 academic year. Without consulting the finance unit, Carter moved Malik from ECO to FIN just before the 2007-08 academic year. The move bumped Malik's salary from \$74,754 to \$95,000.

Using the mid-1990s journal ranking, Malik has published 2 As, 5 Bs, 4 Cs and 1 unlisted. The 2008 journal ranking moves Malik up to 3 As, 7 Bs, 1 C and 1 unlisted. As such, the 75% cut in Malik's Cs afforded increases in Malik's As and Bs of 50% and 40%, respectively.



Farooq Malik

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Unlisted</u>
Mid-1990s Ranking	2	5	4	0	1
2008 Ranking	3	7	1	0	1

Finally, we examine the publications data for Matthew Hood, assistant professor of finance. Like Monchuk, Hood is relatively new to academia. Even so, he's been around long enough to have benefited from Dakhli's work on the CoB's journal ranking committee. Based on the mid-1990s journal ranking, Hood has 1 C and 1 unlisted. The 2008 journal ranking gives Hood 2 Bs.



Matthew Hood

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Unlisted</u>
Mid-1990s Ranking	0	0	1	0	1
2008 Ranking	0	2	0	0	0

Based on the data above, Dakhli's presence atop of the CoB's 2007-08 journal ranking committee appears to have benefited a number of so-called EFIB favorites. Past and present administrative roles seem to have helped Carter and Niroomand, while friendship likely played a role in advancing the records of a number of other EFIB faculty (Marvasti, Monchuk, etc.). Whether it's through deans or committee chairs, the EFIB shows time and again that it's easier to get by with a little help from a well-placed friend.