

Special Report

Williams Professorship Now Occupied CoB's Jennifer Sequeira Inaugural Holder of New Entrepreneurship Chair

The new *Alvin J. Williams Distinguished Professorship in Minority Entrepreneurship* has its inaugural holder in CoB associate professor of management Jennifer Sequeira. In receiving [the title](#), Sequeira becomes the third *junior CoB professor* to hold a professorship, joining associate professor of marketing Michael Wittmann, [who is the](#) *Max Draughn Distinguished Professor of Healthcare Marketing*, and associate professor of management Fujun Lai, who is the *McCarty Distinguished Professor of MIS*. Sequeira was hired during the Harold Doty administration of the CoB (2003-07), after completing her PhD at the University of Texas – Arlington.



Sequeira, third from left, is awarded the *Alvin J. Williams Distinguished Professorship in Minority Entrepreneurship* by former CoB marketing professor Alvin Williams, second from left, current CoB dean Lance Nail, far right, and USM supporter Beverly Dale. [Photo Credit: USM Foundation]

With the naming of Sequeira to this professorship, sources tell USMNEWS.net that the CoB rejoins a [previous trend](#) of elevating *current* CoB faculty to its available distinguished professorships. Examples of this [include](#) current CoB management chair David Duhon, [who was](#) (relatively) recently [named](#) the *Kaetsu Distinguished Professor of International Business*, and [many previous holders](#) of the *Morgan Distinguished Professorship in Accounting*. The only break in this [tradition](#) was the CoB's 2010 hiring of Michael Dugan from the University of Alabama [to hold the](#) *Horne Distinguished Professor in Accounting*.

Finally, sources tell USMNEWS.net that the Fall-2010 selection of Sequeira to hold the *Williams Professorship* only [heightens concern](#) over the current status of the CoB's *Parham Bridges Distinguished Professorship in Real Estate*, one that has gone unoccupied for a number of years. Despite [posting an ad](#) for the position in Nov-2009, the CoB has yet to hire for this important professorship. During previous years there was speculation, according to sources at least, that *Parham Bridges Professorship* funds were being used to support other, unrelated (and unadvertised) activities.