

# Special Report

## Two for #1?

### An Investigative Series on CoB Faculty Research Credentials

A USMNEWS.net reader recently commented that the list of CoB faculty who have exited the CoB since 2003 contains the names of individuals who are arguably the best scholars to have ever represented their particular units in USM's business school. That comment inspired the idea for a new series on the greatest scholars to have graced the suites of each unit in the CoB. Interestingly, the common thread among these individuals is that they were generally brought to USM under the business school leadership of former CBA dean, Tyrone Black. And, among the ones who have left the business school for other pastures (usually greener ones), most of them departed under the leadership of either former CBA dean, William Gunther, or former CoB dean, Harold Doty (usually the latter).

The situation in the CoB's School of Professional Accountancy has been a quite interesting one. Let's start with former CoB associate professor of accounting, Terry Grant. Like so many other past and present CoB *scholars*, Grant came to USM's business school during the Black administration. Over the course of his career, which has taken him to the *Steven G. Mihaylo* College of Business and Economics at California State University (Fullerton), Grant has published in at least five separate A-level journals (see below).



On the accounting side, these include *Issues in Accounting Education*, *Strategic Finance* (formerly, *Management Accounting*), the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*, and the *Journal of Accountancy*. Additionally, Grant has delved into cross-disciplinary research at the A-level with a couple of publications in the *Financial Analysts Journal*. Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net will recognize this record, which consists of *five separate A journals*, as far superior to almost every record from the CoB's current group of accountants.

Like that of others examined in this *Special Report* series, Grant's record also includes some second-line output. In his case that includes the journals below.



Again, Grant shows a knack for cross-discipline success, with publications in the *American Business Law Journal* and the *Journal of Financial Service Professionals*.

Not to be outdone by Grant is accounting professor, Marc DePree, who also came to the USM business college during Black's administration. DePree, who is still on the faculty at USM, has published in six separate A-level accounting journals (see below). Four of these -- *Issues in Accounting Education*, *Strategic Finance* (formerly *Management Accounting*), the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*, and the *Journal of Accountancy* -- match the outlets covered above for Grant.



Where DePree separates from Grant, at the top level, is with publications in *The CPA Journal* and *Abacus*, which is arguably the best of the bunch. And, DePree's publication in *Abacus* is a **solo-authored** piece. Where Grant adds some cross-discipline output (*Financial Analysts Journal*), DePree more than makes up for that with (1) numbers (6 A outlets, vs. 5), (2) quality (*Abacus*) at the top, and (3) solo-authorship.

If anything, DePree increases his lead slightly (or more) when the second-line journals are included. Not only does *The CPCU Journal* add some cross-discipline flavor to DePree's profile, *TCPCUJ* is a solid, B-level journal on the CoB's finance journal classifications lists.<sup>1</sup>



Though DePree gets the nod here, the data above show how both Grant and DePree have separated themselves from the rest of the all-time pack in the CoB's School of Professional Accountancy. Interestingly, according to sources, Grant would not likely speak positively about USM's business school, if asked. Similarly, sources tell USMNEWS.net that accounting faculty have attempted to isolate and marginalize DePree over the past several years. The data above show that the CoB is fortunate that DePree has remained on board. They also indicate that Grant's departure was unfortunate for the CoB's Gulf Coast operation, where Grant was located during the 1990s. Faculty in that division are in dire need of someone to look up to.

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<sup>1</sup> Not shown in DePree's second-line portfolio are *The Ohio CPA Journal* and *National Public Accountant*.