# **Still Going?** A Look at New Journal Publications in the CoB

There is little argument with the notion that much of the CoB's former research talent departed since former CoB dean Harold Doty took the reins of the organization back in July of 2003. At this point, with the arrival of new CoB dean Lance Nail, the CoB is barely hanging on when it comes to the research front. One problem Nail seems to be running into now is that many of the CoB's faculty vacancies -- and there have been many in the past few years -- were filled by the outgoing administration of former interim CoB dean Alvin Williams. As a number of reports here at USMNEWS.net have indicated, some of these late hires under Williams were questionable at best. Sources are guessing that much of this outcome might be attributed to the fact that Williams had little incentive to care about the *quality* of the job searches that were taking place between April-07 and August-08. In fact, some argue that if he cared about the CoB, Williams would have called off many, if not most, of the more recent searches so that Nail could have a more immediate impact on the future of the CoB. That was not to be.

Amidst of all the difficulties confronting the Nail administration and the CoB, there is still some research being done by a few of the veterans among the CoB's faculty. This report takes a look at some of the 2008 journal publications that have not heretofore been discussed at length. All of the publications mentioned below are found in EBSCO*host*.

## Jon Carr -- Management

Our examination begins with Jon Carr, an associate professor of management in USM's business school. Carr is having what appears to be a productive 2008. So far Carr has two hits. One of these is in the *Journal of Management*, an **A** journal in USM's CoB.



Carr's other journal publication comes via the *Journal of Managerial Psychology*, an unlisted journal in the CoB. While this output from Carr is quite good, the problem for the CoB is that Carr has only about 8 weeks left in Hattiesburg. After that Carr departs for a new position in the business school at Texas Christian University, a Tier 2 institution (2009 *U.S.* 

*News & World Report*). It has been almost three years since Doty published a journal article. It is plain and simple: MGT will have a difficult time overcoming the loss of Carr.

# Babu George -- Tourism Management

Next, we visit the recent record of assistant professor tourism management, Babu George. According to a search, George has a 2008 hit in the *Journal of Travel Research*. The *JTR* is an **A** journal in the CoB's journal rating lists.



Though his hiring may have been controversial (see usmnews.net), George's 2008 research record is excellent. And, it couldn't have come at a better time for the CoB, or for TM in particular.

#### Matthew Hood -- Finance

Recent reports here at USMNEWS.net have indicated that assistant professor of finance Matthew Hood has recently published in the *Journal of Wealth Management*, a **B** journal in USM's CoB.



Hood's *JWM* is important for his upcoming 3rd Year Review application (spring 2009). It also helps maintain some visibility for the CoB's floundering EFIB department. The only rub may be that Hood now needs some *quality* in his portfolio, which may be a tough call given that the CoB is in desperate need of *quantity*, and fast. It will be interesting to see whether Hood

chooses to pursue internal or external recognition. That choice will go a long way in deteriming Hood's mobility, and perhaps his professional future.

### Chang-Tseh Hsieh -- Management Information Systems

Next is the ever dependable MIS professor Chang-Tseh Hsieh. While Hsieh does not always provide quality, he usually comes through with quantity. Fortunately for Hsieh, the CoB's overall research portfolio has sunk to a point where quantity might lead to extraordinary rewards. So far in 2008 Hsieh has a single journal publication. This one is in the *International Journal of Mobile Communications*, which is rated as a **B** in the CoB.



Though Hsieh does provide the CoB with the additional journal publication above, the CoB may still need for him to do more in the near future.

#### Fujun Lai -- Management Information Systems

The only remaining CoB faculty found to have provided recent journal publications is MIS' Fujun Lai. Numerous reports here at USMNEWS.net have described Lai as a rising star, and at least one of these went on to claim that Lai is the frontrunner for the 2009 Louis K. Brandt Faculty Research Award. If the list of 2008 publications credited to Lai is any indication, he will win, and hands down. Lai already boasts 2008 publications in *Supply Chain Management, Industrial Management & Data Systems, Transportation Journal, Journal of Supply Chain Management, Communications of the ACM* and *Total Quality Management & Business Excellence.* In all, Lai has already provided the CoB with six 2008 journal publications, an amazing and much-needed feat.



Lai's 2008 collection offers the CoB (and himself) much more than quantity. These six journals are classified as --, **B**, **B**, **A**+ and -- journals, respectively. Thus, even with two unclassified journals (*SCM* and *TQM&BE*), Lai's list still offers a **premier** (*CACM*) and three separate Bs (*IM&DS*, *TJ* and *JSCM*). Simply outstanding.

The CoB's research pipeline is not completely dry. It has, however, lost a lot of pressure in recent weeks and months. Given the coming loss of Carr, this report is only able to dig up nine new journal publications across a faculty roster of dozens. Nail has his work cut out for him. USMNEWS.net and others will be there to see just how he copes with his current circumstances.