

THA Reader Incorrect About USM Salaries

As expected, a recent (19-July-09) article in *The Hattiesburg American* about the budgetary crisis facing USM's athletics department sparked a lot of interest among *THA* readers. A number of them used the *THA*'s online comments feature to express their thoughts and opinions. Part of that discussion devolved into the usual "academics vs. athletics" battle that so often characterizes the USM community. One athletics supporter remarked that there are a number of USM faculty who earn \$100,000 or more who are not directly affected (salary-wise) by the current budgetary crisis facing the institution. A liberal arts supporter retorted by stating that there aren't many non-administrative faculty at USM who are earning \$100,000 or more. This reader cited a salary average (for USM faculty) at about half the \$100,000 level.

To help settle this argument, USMNEWS.net reporters visited the Archives here at USMNEWS.net to examine the 2008-09 salaries in USM's CoB. Those non-administrative faculty found to have earned \$100,000 or more are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1
High-Income Earners on CoB Faculty, 2008-09

<u>Name</u>	<u>2008-09 Salary</u>
Doty, Harold	\$127,086
Niroomand, Farhang	\$125,571
Gunther, William	\$124,059
Henderson, James	\$116,824
Lindley, James	\$116,398
Clark, Stanley	\$112,125
Clark, John	\$110,678
Jordan, Charles	\$110,094
Laatsch, Francis	\$110,000
Nissan, Edward	\$109,058
Posey, Roderick	\$105,494
Goodwin, Kimberly	\$105,000
Hsieh, Chang-Tseh	\$101,634
Hood, Matthew	\$101,003
Andrews, Melinda	\$100,000
Pollitte, Wesley	\$100,000

There are 16 CoBers listed above in Table 1. Among these faculty, there are four at the rank of *assistant* professor (Goodwin, Hood, Andrews and Pollitte). Neither this group, nor Table 1,

includes new ACC assistant professor Paula Diane Parker, who reportedly earned \$100,000 as well during 2008-09. Inclusion of Parker raises the Table 1 total to 17 CoBers, which represents about **31%** of all CoB faculty in 2008-09.

Harold Doty, Farhang Niroomand, James Henderson and John Clark are no longer part of the CoB heading into 2009-10. Francis Laatsch joins CoB administration for 2009-10. However, former EFIB chair George Carter joins the Table 1 crowd for 2009-10 (at about \$130,000/year), leaving the CoB with *at least* 13 faculty earning \$100,000 or more. One can easily imagine similar figures for USM's College of Science & Technology, as well as a healthy figure for the College of Education & Psychology. Clearly, the athletics supporter-reader of *THA* is correct in his/her assertion about USM faculty, as is often the case in such disputes.