

Taking it on the Chin

A LOOK AT HOW PARTS OF USM'S BUDGET CUT WERE COMPLETED

Now that the details of the 2009-10 USM budget cuts have been released by the Martha D. Saunders administration, USMNEWS.net staffers took a moment to summarize some of the data. Table 1 below shows how cuts in *actual personnel* were made across USM's five academic colleges.

Table 1: 2009 Personnel Cuts at USM

COLLEGE	Filled T Lines	Filled TT Lines	Filled NTT CI Lines	Filled NTT NCI Lines	Filled Staff Lines
CoAL	0.00	0.00	1.00	6.00	1.00
CoB	5.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
CoEP	2.00	1.00	0.00	4.25	2.75
CoH	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	2.00
CoST	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Totals	7.00	5.00	1.00	14.25	6.75

Key: T=Tenured; TT=Tenure-Track; NTT=Non Tenure-Track; CI=Corps of Instruction; NCI=Non Corps of Instruction

As the Table 1 data show, the CoB will be eliminating 5 tenured faculty and 4 on the tenure track. The CoEP is the only college joining CoB in eliminating tenured faculty, with 2 being cut loose there. Thus, the CoB is responsible for about 71% of the tenured faculty eliminations at USM. And, with 4 of the 5 filled tenure-track line eliminations, the CoB is contributing 80% of the total filled tenure-track lines eliminated at USM. These numbers are interesting, given that CoAL dean Denise von Herrmann indicated to Ed Kemp, *The Hattiesburg American's* higher education reporter, that she was having to cut multiple departments, involving a mix of tenured and tenure-track faculty. According to the data released to date, the CoAL is losing only 1 member of its corps of instruction, and that comes via a filled non tenure-track line. Where the CoAL is hitting hard is with filled non tenure-track non corps of instruction lines, with 6 being cut. That total is 42% of the 14.25 filled lines in this column that are being cut at USM. Both the CoEP and CoH are hitting this area hard as well, with cuts of 4.25 (30% of the total in the column) and 3 (21% of the total in the column). Finally, as far as staff is concerned, the CoEP is cutting 2.75, followed by the CoH with 2. Both the CoAL and CoB are contributing 1 staffer to the total of 6.75 in this column. In terms of personnel of any kind, the CoB and CoEP are each cutting 10, followed by the CoAL at 8 and the CoH at 5. Interestingly, the CoST met its budget cuts by firing only 1 individual, who falls into the Filled NTT NCI column. It is possible that CoST was able to meet its goal with vacant lines, not occupied ones like those the CoB was forced to cut. That may have also been partially true for CoAL and CoH as well.