

The 2009 CoB Retreat: A Brief Review

Despite all of the early indications that the 2009 CoB Faculty and Staff Retreat (CFSR) would be sparsely attended, a large crowd (relative to the total CoB roster) turned out for CoB dean Lance Nail's show. That show consisted of breakout sessions covering (1) assurance of learning, (2) "learning enhancement," (3) job search protocols [held by USM EEOC Director Becky Woodrick], (4) a meet-and-greet for new CoB fundraiser Shannon Woodward, among others. The CoB's "major" committees also held meetings during the day.

Interestingly, there were sign-up sheets at the "check-in" desk, as well as in every breakout session room throughout the day. Sources indicated that these sheets will reveal the *absences* of Farooq Malik (FIN), Robert Smith (ACC), Chang-Tseh Hsieh (DS), Daniel Monchuk (ECO), Kuo Lane Chen (DS), Mary Anderson (ACC), John Lambert (IB), Stanley Clark (ACC), and Edward Nissan (ECO), among others. As reports here at USMNEWS.net have pointed out, some of these absentees have a lengthy record of service dereliction in USM's business school.

Finally, during the day CoB faculty and staff learned that Nail is preparing for a 5% budget cut for 2009-10, that job searches will from now on entail the use of *real* search committees, not chair-appointed small groups consisting only of members from an individual unit, and that the Mississippi IHL has approved the proposed reorganization of the CoB (for 2009-10). As prior reports here at USMNEWS.net have indicated, the reorganization plan put forward by Nail on 31-Oct-08 calls for an increase in the number of CoB departments from four to six.