

The Past 30 Years: J. Tom Lindley Meets E. Ray Canterbury

After reading the column posted here the other day about the CoB's hiring of Dr. Ray Canterbury, it appears as though he *is* being brought into USM for the sole purpose of AACSB re-accreditation public relations. I found the quotes from George Carter, the department chair, very insulting to some of the members of the economics and finance department. At that time I sought to obtain possession of the e-mail from Carter. Shortly after getting it, a similar e-mail from Doty, Dean of the CoB was sent out. I have that one as well. I am pasting these into this file, see below:

[8/11/2006]

Dr. Ray Canterbury will be joining us next year as a visiting scholar in the Econ group. As you can see from his vita, he has had an outstanding career, and remains very active in his profession. This is an honor for Southern Miss and we will be using Dr. Canterbury's visit to generate as much good publicity for the University and the EFIB department as possible. Kudos to Dr. Carter and our econ faculty for attracting a scholar of this caliber. I encourage everyone to visit with Dr. Canterbury after he arrives and make the most of this opportunity.

hd

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[8/10/2006]

To EFIB Faculty:

I take pleasure in informing you that Ray Canterbury has accepted an offer as Scholar-in-Residence in this Department for the 2006-2007 academic year. Ray is an accomplished scholar with twenty books and seventy-five other publications, including articles in AER and JPE. He is currently Professor Emeritus of Economics at Florida State University.

Ray will work with the Dean's office in a variety of activities directed toward raising the image and profile of this Department, the College, and the University. While these duties will usually take him off the campus, he will teach ECO 672, International Trade and Finance, in the MBA program this fall, and maintain office hours. Consequently, he will be available to our faculty as a colleague of distinction for at least several days each week.

The move back to Greene Hall is near but the third floor is still a construction zone. Once we have made the move, and the move may not be complete until after classes start, Ray will be in office JGH 309B. Please make every effort to visit with him and make him welcome as a colleague and friend.

George

The e-mail from Doty is understandable. Some would say he's just a boy trying to be a Dean. It is highly insulting to Professor Canterbury, who has had, and continues to have, an outstanding career. It is sad to read that the CoB "will be using Dr. Canterbury's visit to generate as much . . . publicity . . . as possible. . ."

Carter refers to Canterbury as a "colleague of distinction," as if there are none in the department at the present time. He also defers to the Dean's plans to use Professor Canterbury as a public relations tool. Some would expect nothing less to be sent from a political appointee.

It seems to me that a comparison of the journal publication records of Tom Lindley and Ray Canterbury is in order. See below for a comparison taken from EBSCOhost that spans Lindley's (the younger) 30-year career timeline (CoB journal ranking list used in table below).

J. Tom Lindley, 1976-2005

<u>Year</u>	<u>Premier</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>
2005				
2004				
2003		1		
2002				
2001				1
2000				
1999				
1998				
1997		1		
1996				
1995		1		
1994		1		
1993				2
1992		2		
1991				
1990				
1989		1	2	
1988				
1987		1		
1986				
1985		1		
1984	1			
1983				
1982				1
1981				
1980				
1979		1		
1978				
1977	1		1	
1976				
Totals	2	10	3	4

E. Ray Canterbury, 1976-2005

<u>Year</u>	<u>Premier</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>
2005		1		
2004				
2003				
2002			1	
2001				1
2000				
1999			1	1
1998				
1997		1		
1996		1		
1995				
1994			1	
1993				
1992				
1991				
1990				
1989			1	
1988				
1987				
1986				
1985		1		
1984			1	
1983			1	
1982		1		
1981			1	
1980		1		
1979		1		
1978				
1977		1		
1976		1		
Totals	0	9	7	2

As you can see, the economics and finance professors have had a “colleague of distinction” for some time. I’m sure many of them realize this. They wouldn’t need an e-mail from Carter or Doty to recognize it. What some of you may not realize is that Carter and Doty would be thrilled if Lindley packed up his belongings and exited the CoB today. Not only would their relative positions in the CoB improve, they would have one less critic to face as they, in my view, use the CoB for personal gain. That’s the beauty of Canterbury, he’s a *non-tenure track* means to an end (AACSB re-accreditation).

I have also heard that when Lindley's research record is mentioned in the presence of our esteemed Associate Dean, that Niroomand criticizes relentlessly Lindley's record, based on his idea that Lindley is a "has been." Some would say that Niroomand is a "never was."

The fact of the matter is that both Lindley and Canterbury are colleagues of distinction. Canterbury has "premier" level hits on his record as well, appearing before the first dates on my table above. Let's hope his stay in Hattiesburg is a smooth one, and he never has to hear that Niroomand thinks he's a "has been."