

Top Stories of 2008

by Duane Cobb

15. 2009 Louis K. Brandt Award Race -- 2008 saw a number of USMNEWS.net reports focused on predicting the outcome of the race for the 2009 Louis K. Brandt Research Award. The most recent [one](#), published about one month prior to the 31-Dec-08 deadline for the LKBA portfolios, showed how far ahead of most other CoBers' portfolios that Fujun Lai's portfolio stands. It will be interesting to compare the actual outcome with this prediction.

14. "How do We Know?" -- Though he hoped to go out showing other CoB faculty just how brilliant he (thinks he) is, EFIB charman George Carter's Nov-08 [presentation](#) of "How do We Know?" served only to reinforce all of the bizarre stories that have been told about him since he joined USM's b-school back in 1979. With this presentation, those current (e.g., Farhang Niroomand) and former (e.g., Charles Saywer) CoBers who have stood up for Carter over the years had yet another occasion to turn their heads away from the train wreck that has been Carter's "academic" career.

13. Boise State Rejects Doty -- Shortly after 2008 began, Boise State University named former CoB dean Harold Doty among the finalists for its opening to lead the b-school at BSU. Shortly after that, however, [BSU eliminated Doty](#) from contention for its top business school position. BSU's rejection of Doty marked yet another in a [growing list of rejections](#) for Doty since taking the CoB's top position in 2003.

12. Duhon Named Kaetsu Professor -- The 22-Sept-08 installment of *31st & Pearl* entitled [Kaetsu Kronies](#) pretty much said it all -- the selection of CoB research weakling David Duhon, an administrator and professor of management, to become the CoB's *Kaetsu Distinguished Professor of International Business* was "pretty much the last straw for those who were holding on to the hope that CoB cronyism was breathing its last breath." Yes, the selection of Duhon quashed that hope. Though to be fair to the new Lance Nail administration, this decision was another of the ill-advised actions taken by former interim CoB dean Alvin Williams.

11. Zantow Joins CoB Administration -- One of the CoB's weaker faculty members was surprisingly chosen by new CoB dean Lance Nail to fill the new spot of graduate programs director/assistant dean for CoB-GC. This person is [Kenneth Zantow](#), also of "4th Year Review" infamy. Sources consider this move to be one in the minus column of the new Nail administration.