

Town Meeting Highlights:

Like Saunders through the Hourglass

How long will Martha have her liberal arts support base with her airplane? As the much lower paid liberal arts faculty, who desperately want to support one of their own, continue to travel less, teach more and bigger classes, and serve more, when will they tire of the President? She demonstrated her lack of understanding of the classroom trenches when Dr. Bill Scarborough asked a question about the huge money and time-intensive student retention efforts at Southern Miss. Paraphrasing Dr. Scarborough, he asked given the virtual open admissions at USM, given how many students do not attend class regularly, and do not study or seem to care about their grades, why do we want to retain them? The question was greeted with applause. Clearly, Dr. Saunders was upset by this question being asked, especially with the television cameras recording it all. She stated that only about 14% of students lost were due to grades, but she would not respond where the other larger group went. More students = more money. Don't you get it? Quality, like transparency and integrity, seem to be a victim of cuts at Southern Miss.