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PART 13

The facts and documents provided in this report were and continue to be independently verifiable. For example, internet addresses were often cited and documents were provided first to University of Southern Mississippi's involved faculty and administrators then, when USM refused to discuss the documents, to AACSB for its consideration. Based on the evidence presented in previous PARTS of this research, one conclusion is clearly demonstrated: Interim Dean **Alvin Williams's** assertion that Research Professor **Marc DePree** "contacted the AACSB office and made allegations about our (University of Southern Mississippi's) programs and processes that were not based on facts" is false. Interim Dean **Alvin Williams** had, and still has, knowledge of and access to all the documents and facts provided in this research. Therefore, his false claims were made in bad faith. **Dr. Williams** consciously and willingly used his good offices to harm colleagues who were honestly asking legitimate questions and had reliable documentation to support the questions.

That USM and its College of Business administrators and involved faculty—those who had "skin in the game") refused to entertain a discussion of an idea, plagiarism in this case, demonstrates a failure of diversity of ideas. That University administrators chose to punish Research Professor **DePree** for his speech clearly demonstrates failure to protect speech. After all is said and done, plagiarism is a complex issue and all could have benefited from a discussion (For details, see the previous series of reports on USMNEWS.NET, "AACSB Accreditation: A Reliable Authority On Academic Quality?")

What seemed to be called for was a dialogue so that the interlocutors could discuss differences and learn from each other. The College of Business' and USM's administrators did not allow any dialogue with regard to the documentation and evidence presented to them and provided in this research. Furthermore, not only did they not protect different views and evidence, they punished speakers, not just Research Professor **DeFree**. AACSB was also fully apprised of the documents supporting USM's failure of its diversity standard and its actions to punish faculty for their speech. Alas, AACSB also refused to entertain a discussion of ideas and supporting documentation.