

What if Dave Duhon became the dean?

Assuming Lance Nail, Dean of the CoB at Southern Miss, is looking for another dean position, what if Dave Duhon, Chair of Management, was named interim dean? There is some speculation growing that Dave is trying to position himself to be asked. He is on some university committees as a chair, he has been allowed to hang on as a chair – defying all odds, and he is reportedly even dressing more professionally now and again. Does he *know* his London-buddy Lance is departing or trying to depart? It would certainly be a boost to Dave's retirement check, and that would be reason #1 for him to take the job if offered.

While many would laugh out loud at this suggestion, let's recall that Dave had full professor given to him in the Doty days without benefit of sufficient research to earn it; he was given the chair position(s) mainly by default all the while protesting he did not want the position but never took step one to quit the position; and he was named the successor to Alvin Williams as the "study abroad" professorship holder, again without an announced search, any form of transparency, or any faculty input. Given all this, why not add "dean" or "interim dean" to his vita?

On the positive side, he would surely be in the JAG more than Dean Nail, but there are many people who regularly walk through the JAG on their way to another location that are in the building more than Lance Nail. He would be a good choice for Martha in that he would never disagree with her for any prolonged period of time, and probably not publicly. He would strive to improve the CoB brand by requiring study abroad programs that he would surely still lead. He would not be confrontational. He would most likely be not much at all.

On the negative side, can you even imagine the negative synergy of Dave and Joe Peyrefitte? Neither would want to leave their office for any reason. Dave might ease the current no coming by policy because he loves to chat and gossip. He would never make a decision, he would not have any ideas, and he would appoint more do-nothings in administrative and other leadership roles. Dave would try to complete the destruction of the CoB that the Gunther-Doty-Williams-Nail dean's clique began.

We will keep you updated on Dave Duhon's progress, if any, in this project. This has a certain Stephen Bushardt smell to it, so usmnews.net asks its many loyal readers to be looking for these two buddies plotting and planning Dave's career path. Stay tuned.