

Whither productivity?

Dr. Lyman has been dutifully informing the Southern Miss constituents that he, Martha, and the school itself will no longer actively defend low-productivity academic programs. Because of the economic issues in the State and the budget concerns at the University, there will no longer be a continuation of these types of programs. Like many of their moves with the cuts under the guise of the APG recommendations, any phrase such as "low-productivity academic programs" is never defined. Low-productivity or low enrollment or under-producing is in the eye of the beholder, and the dome inhabitants seem to view all the College of Arts and Letters programs as not being in this category. Isn't it amazing that the college with the largest budget is the leanest, meanest, and most efficient? That is certainly news to anyone who works for or attends Southern Miss. It is one thing to have such a glaring bias, it is certainly another to so freely exercise it at the expense of other colleges at Southern Miss. We wish the University Programs Committee (UPC) - the next iteration of the APG - the best of luck with the struggle with this impediment to progress and fairness.