

Lost In Translation?

One of the most enlightening contributions from the USM-No Quarter! Message Board (formerly known as the USM AAUP Message Board, formerly known as FireShelby.com) was the innovative series of translated documents authored by various USM administrators. Translation was achieved via a proprietary translation program known as WindTalkers. The authors of the WindTalkers program have generously agreed to use the newest version of their software to help us read between the lines of a recent memorandum sent by CoB dean Harold Doty to EFIB chair George Carter. Original text appears in black font, while translations appear in blue. Other factual/opinion material (added after the WindTalkers translation was completed) appears in red.

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M E M O R A N D U M

To: Dr. George Carter, Chair

From: Dr. Harold Doty, Dean

Copy: Dr. Farhang Niroomand, Associate Dean

This is a courtesy copy to Niroomand, since he is rapidly becoming inconsequential in the CoB.

Subj: Economics Position

Date: October 12, 2006

You are authorized to undertake a faculty search for an additional faculty member with credentials that will support his/her being assigned as Director of the Center for Economic Education at this institution. Based on your penchant for following orders and to make sure I can effectively control the committee's every move, Please compose a search committee with yourself as chair, a faculty member from the economics discipline (preferably Sawyer, who can be counted on to do as he is told in exchange for a few more dollars), and a faculty member from the College of Education and Psychology. We need to include the CoEP in this hire so that we can shore-up our alliance with them. Remember that if we include the CoEP in our Center for Economic Education, we have a better opportunity to ride the coattails of their doctoral programs. I'm counting on getting access to doctoral courses and doctoral students to help me further reward my favorites in Management and further punish dissenters. Please contact the Dean of the

College of Education and Psychology. Ask for him to recommend a faculty member to serve on the committee. Dr. Pierce and I have already worked all this out, but we need to create a façade of propriety.

This appointment will be a nine-month, tenure-track appointment in your department, but the selected person will report to me as Director of the Center for Economic Education. I plan for the selected person to teach one course per semester while carrying out the extensive duties of establishing and operating an organized Center. In effect, I am seeking to assign a Tier I teaching load to someone who would not be considered for employment at a Tier III institution. I realize that the standard teaching load in the CoB is 12 hours and that the CoB's top scholars who are also in my good graces only receive a 6-hour reduction in teaching load, but this candidate will provide much needed cover so that my wife can continue siphoning more money into our joint financial accounts through her affiliation with the Center for Economic Education.

There is a substantial external interest in the University operating a Center for Economic Education. Most of this interest has been generated by me as a way to create a job for my spouse that requires her to do little work. Consequently, I request that the department faculty submit at least three unranked names to me as viable candidates for the position. I feel confident that I can create an environment in which my favorite candidate can make the "final three," but I want to avoid even the slightest possibility of anyone discovering a disagreement in preference between the economics faculty and myself. The most important consideration for me will be the ease of manipulation of the proposed candidate – my ability to control that individual through suggestion and/or coercion. I will confer with representatives of the Mississippi Council for Economic Education, the Dean of the College of Education and Psychology, and others in selecting one candidate for the position. I don't trust any of you to make a hire that will result in a suitable candidate. Quite a lot is riding on this hire – including my wife's salary, the CoB's relationship with CoEP, and the future opportunities for myself and others to have access to the IO Psych Ph.D. program – and EFIB's past hiring processes have produced far too many candidates that are hard to control and that speak out at inopportune moments. Marvasti is working out quite nicely and Dakhliya, Haggard, and Hood are showing promise, but the latter three have already exhibited a bit too much independence for my taste. I will make sure this hire goes according to plan.

As previously reported at usmpride.com, Susan Doty, wife of Harold Doty, is the lead educator for the Mississippi Council for Economic Education, a group whose board of trustees includes Harold Doty and several of Doty's Business Advisory Council members. The MCEE is, in effect, a shell organization organized to give the public the sense that the MCEE is less of a boondoggle than it truly is.

Also note that while the candidate will be a faculty member in the EFIB department, Doty will have final say in that person's hiring. Will Doty also author a letter of agreement for tenure and promotion for this individual? He'd better, because there is a great possibility that Drs. Carter, Niroomand, Sawyer, Klinedinst, Nissan, and others will have lost the ability to ensure the individual's tenure and promotion, since some will

surely retire before the individual's 6-year tenure clock expires. Without the usual suspects to watch his back, chances are that the individual will get a severely negative tenure vote at the department level.