

March 1, 2007

Dear Dean Doty,

If you have something to say about usmpride.com and/or me, why don't you say it in writing to our readers? I believe the written word is more carefully considered and usually better reasoned than two people standing in the hallway calling each other "idiots". (If you had any sense of humor we should have been laughing together over calling each other idiots, like a couple of kids. Of course, you called me an idiot first.)

If I am "spreading lies" what are they? With the exception of our new section called "Speculation Station" our articles are all based on facts or are clearly satire. While reporters and contributors may draw conclusions with which you disagree, the underlying facts are well-established. As always, you are invited to correct any of the facts or explain why you disagree with the conclusions. However, almost since you arrived at CoB you have elected (to use your own words) "pretend I don't exist". That's your choice.

If you are upset about problems with AACSB accreditation, administrative plagiarism in CoB, a department chair who says he can't stand to be in your presence because of the kind of person you are, I expect you will fall back on claims that everything is "confidential" rather than addressing the underlying problems. However, being upset doesn't change facts. Unfounded claims of secrecy and confidentiality only lead to more problems.

Contrary to what you seem to believe, disagreement in an academic environment is positive; not treachery and not disloyalty. Facts that you do not want made public are not lies. Obtaining and considering the broadest range of ideas, rather than excluding and punishing dissent would make this a better College and University. If you acted to include the entire faculty, perhaps CoB would not have problems with accreditation and plagiarism. As you should know, AACSB encourages diversity – not just of race or gender – but diversity of ideas.

Unlike you I'm not job hunting. This is my school. I have taught here for some 20 years and expect to teach here for ten to fifteen more years. Therefore, you can expect that I, and others like me, will continue to say what we believe to be in CoB's and USM's best interests. We will be here long after you are gone.

Sincerely yours,

Chauncey M. DePree, Jr., Professor