



14-June-2010 – Transcript

Moderator: Well, \$15 million in budget cutting is almost upon us now. Comments?

31st & Pearl Columnist: I think the CoB will likely see some faculty eliminations. One or two in fashion merchandising, one or two more in decision sciences, and maybe some number from tourism management. Of course, some of these possibilities have been discussed many times before.

Victoria Tyler: The faculty are definitely dreading the upcoming process. Last year's process seemed to take some by surprise. This year's definitely will not. I also think some faculty eliminations will occur in the CoB. It may be that a retirement or two will be offered up to mitigate some of the cuts, though not likely as many as last year [with the five senior economists].

Moderator: Shifting gears, what about recent news that CoB dean Lance Nail is pushing for an east campus location for the new business building?

Victoria Tyler: It wasn't a great surprise, though I'm told that Nail's proposal was voted down in the campus planning committee's meeting. I think that [USM president Martha] Saunders is livid about it. That's not a surprise either.

31st & Pearl Columnist: I hadn't heard of the proposal's defeat, but can definitely see that, with the fact that Nail's plan moved the new building out of what they are calling the 'academic core.' What is it with these business deans and the location of a new business building? You may not remember, but former CBA dean William Gunther's plan for a new building originally set the location next to Wesley Medical Center, a good drive from campus. The whole idea was silly.

Moderator: These types of things are almost certainly slowing down the whole process, though I'm not so sure that getting a new building for the CoB will be any sort of panacea. Two straight years of faculty cuts has a way of dampening things. We'll see.

Credits – "last week w/ USMNEWS.net" is a roundtable discussion with various USMNEWS.net contributors that is patterned after the roundtable portion of the ABC News Sunday morning news magazine show *This Week*.