



28-June-2010 – Transcript

- Moderator:** USM professor Gordon Cannon has been a prominent feature over the past few days here at USMNEWS.net. What do you make of this situation?
- 31st & Pearl Columnist:** The whole Cannon ombudsman theater is another black eye for USM and the [Martha] Saunders administration. Some of his testimony is incredible. Not doing any investigation is sort of the way things seem to be done at USM. It's reminiscent of the past coverage of faculty grievances on this website.
- Duane Cobb:** Cannon is a piece of work. I spent some time recently looking into his academic background. The citation count on his most popular paper is lower than that for [Tom] Lindley, [Leisa] Flynn, [Donna] Davis, [Ernest] King and other CoB faculty. I wonder what other CoST faculty are thinking about Cannon after reading some of his deposition. It can't be good.
- Moderator:** In light of this and other CoB-related scandals, how do you two feel about USM's b-school at this point in its history?
- Duane Cobb:** Former [b-school] dean Tyrone Black looks almost mythical at this point. Given the state of the CoB today, and its recent record with deans, most would find it difficult to believe Black is even real after hearing about how good the USM business college was during his tenure as dean. Dean [Lance] Nail doesn't yet have a real accomplishment to point to at present, and if he's planning on resting his case on a new building, he's going to have to raise loads of money. I just don't see it happening. The building will come, though it will be forged by public monies. Nail can't claim credit for that. It's possible he's looking for AACSB reaccreditation, but that's nothing really.
- 31st & Pearl Columnist:** I'm not sure what dean Nail's vision is at this point. I'm not sure he's hoping to count the new building as his crowning achievement. He seems to be leaning heavily on the new CoB Honors House, but I'm not convinced that's nearly enough. Let's see . . . he may have something up his sleeve no one is counting on. He needs it at this point.
- Moderator:** Predictions of the week?
- 31st & Pearl Columnist:** Look for some CoB faculty terminations from the FY2012 budget cuts, and they won't come from the most discussed areas.
- Moderator:** Duane?
- Duane Cobb:** Saunders will ask [USM provost Robert] Lyman to step aside once the current budget crisis abates.

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*.