

University Administrators Part 2

President Saunders is the Princess of Puffery



[\(http://www.usm.edu/president/blog/\)](http://www.usm.edu/president/blog/)

President Saunders revels in the art of puffery, claiming that the University of Southern Mississippi is “The Premier Research University of the Gulf South.” Of course, we expect puffery and misinformation from commercial diet peddlers, hair growth barkers, or cigarette manufacturers, but we expect better from universities and university representatives. Not so, for President Saunders.

Here’s the truth:

“Scientists get \$112M to study Gulf after BP spill

NEW ORLEANS -- A science board overseeing \$500 million in funds BP set aside to study the company’s catastrophic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico has awarded \$112 million to independent researchers. The Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative awarded the money Tuesday. The funds have been split up for eight research projects, each one led by a

university based in a Gulf state.

Those universities are: the University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University at College Station, Florida State University, the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, the University of South Florida, the University of Miami, Tulane University and the University of Mississippi. The science board said researchers will look at the fate of petroleum in the environment, come up with new tools and technology for dealing with future spills and improving methods for restoration the ecosystem damaged by the spill, the largest offshore spill in U.S. history.

BP set aside \$500 million to fund 10 years of independent research into the spill, which was caused when the Deepwater Horizon exploded on April 20, 2010.”

http://m.sunherald.com/sun/db_97695/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=W4t3x6e5

Independent proof that the University of Southern Mississippi is not “The Premier Research University of the Gulf South.” If any university in the Gulf South has claim to the title “The Premier Research University of the Gulf South,” it is one of the following universities: the University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University at College Station, Florida State University, the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, the University of South Florida, the University of Miami, Tulane University and the University of Mississippi.

Of course, facts will not discourage President Saunders from embarrassing herself and USM by claiming USM is a “World Class University” and is “The Premier Research University of the Gulf South.”