

“...[I]t’s easy to see the arc of the institution’s trajectory and priorities...”

An August 15, 2011 Chronicle of Higher Education article entitled, “[Strategic Thinking](#),” by Gene C. Fant Jr., in part reports,

For those of you pondering a move into an administrative position, from department chair up or in any kind of staff position with supervisory functions, it’s important to scout the institutions where you are applying before going too far in the process... [a] document that is exceptionally helpful [is] the institution’s strategic plan. The higher level the position, the more important it is to access this information.

Many institutions now post electronic copies of strategic plans; if you are able to access more than one plan for the university, it’s easy to see the arc of the institution’s trajectory and priorities.”

My comment invited readers to our analysis of President Saunders’/USM’s Strategic Plan:

Interesting report, Mr. Fant. Thank you. A strategic plan can be quite revealing. We, at usmnews.net, recently ran a series of reports about our strategic plan at the University of Southern Mississippi. They began with the following paragraph: “An intriguing book by Benjamin Ginsberg, *The Fall of the Faculty*, occasions a review of USM’s most recent ‘Strategic Plan.’ First and foremost, USM’s Strategic Plan is noteworthy for what has been omitted as much for what is included. Part 1 of this series begins with a glaring omission. And, the omission echoes throughout the Plan and signals the status of ethics at USM and of President Saunders and the administrators with whom she surrounds herself. A number of readers and contributors have commented that the omission is stunning. Whether it is an unintentional omission says as much about USM and the status of its ethics as if it was an intentional omission...”

<http://www.usmnews.net/usmnews...>

Chauncey M. DePree, Jr., DBA, Professor, School of Accountancy, College of Business, University of Southern Mississippi, m.depree@usm.edu