

### Part 34

Questions directed to President Martha Saunders at her deposition on April 12 and 13, 2010--Q is question; A is President Saunders' answer.

Q. Dr. Saunders, have you reviewed Dr. Jackson's 2007 evaluation of Dr. Depree?

A. If it were included in the packet, I did.

Q. Would you go to the exhibit attached to Dr. Jackson's deposition, and I believe that's Exhibit 3 to his deposition.

A. (Saunders reviews the exhibit.)

Q. Do you see where it says service professional development?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you continue [reading Interim Director Jackson's evaluation of DePree's service]?

A. [Saunders reading Interim Director Jackson's evaluation of DePree's service]  
Your decision to not participate in a constructive manner has led other members of those committees to simply not wish to work with you in committee or team activities given your insistence that you record meetings and use transcripts in a manner that presents a negative representation of other members of the committees and teams.

Q. And would you have relied on this in making a decision whether to affirm the 2007 appeal that you undertook?

A. If it was were in there, yes...

[It was "in there." Saunders was also well aware that "in there" was documentation that DePree had been elected by his colleagues in the CoB to serve on the university grade review council.

From: Dr. Donna Davis [mailto:[Donna.Davis@usm.edu](mailto:Donna.Davis@usm.edu)]

Sent: Monday, May 14, 2007 10:39 AM

To: 'Benito Velasquez'

Cc: '[Marc.Depree@usm.edu](mailto:Marc.Depree@usm.edu)'

Subject: grade review council

Ben – Marc DePree has been elected to the grade review council from the College of Business. The alternative is Ernest King.

Donna Davis]

Q. Did Dr. Jackson say in his sworn testimony that Dr. Depree recorded anyone?

A. I have not read the entire deposition, but the items that you just pointed out, he said no.

Q. If he never saw Dr. Depree record, what would be the basis for the statement?

A: I don't know.

Q. And if he said that no one wanted to work with Dr. Depree because he recorded and Dr. Depree did not record and he had no evidence for that, would that be a false statement?

A: I don't know.

Q. Do you have any reason to believe based on your review of any materials before you that Dr. Depree ever recorded anyone?

A. I don't know to be honest.

Q. Do you have any evidence?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you have any knowledge?

A. I don't know.

Q. Let me see if I can't phrase this better: If Dr. Depree did not record and Dr. Jackson said he did not record, would it be proper for Dr. Jackson to include in an evaluation a downgrading of Dr. Depree's service based on that false statement?

MR. HOOKS: Object to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: Would you repeat that?

BY MS. JUDE: Q. Surely. You have reviewed Dr. Jackson's evaluation of Dr. Depree?

A. Yes.

Q. Does he say there that faculty do not want to work with Dr. Depree because he insists on recording?

A. He says that.

Q. Do you know what he relied on in making that conclusion?

A. I don't.

Nevertheless, to this day President Saunders relies on statements that Interim Director Jackson (and others) recanted under oath. Is Dr. Saunders dishonest? I will leave the answer to that question with the readers. Dishonesty is defined as behaving or prone to behave in an untrustworthy or fraudulent way.

What can you do, dear colleagues with a dishonest administrator? Some of Dr. Saunders' decisions may be honest. Some, we know from her own sworn testimony, may not be. What is the basis for her decisions during this period when faculty positions are being eliminated? You will be left to guess whether her decisions are honest, because it is unlikely that you will be able put her under oath to testify about the basis of her decisions.

What is your hard earned tenure really worth?