

Dear USM news,

I have been following debates that our economics colleagues have been trying to engage the Southern Miss community in over at the [USM Forum](#). There they are trying an emergency appeal to their Southern Miss comrades. Now they are over at some website called [Econ Job Rumors](#), trying some sort of half-hearted appeal to a larger community, most of which could care less about Southern Miss. They are writing some pretty nasty things there about COB Dean Lance Nail and some of their other COB colleagues. It looks like this will be their tactic over the next year, which means that life in Greene Hall is going to be really ugly over the next several months.

Their arguments now about student credit hours and being cash cows are humorous. They have forgotten that the college eliminated the requirement that all students take ECO 336. As that change takes hold their SCH numbers will begin to fall substantially. The next thing the COB will do is move instruction of business statistics away from ECO and put them somewhere like management or marketing. When that happens their SCH will plummet again. Finally, when the IB degree is stripped of all the economics courses, which are courses you won't find in an IB degree at any other school, and replaced with management and marketing courses, then units like management and marketing will look like the cash cows and major SCH producers that the economists think they are now, only more so. The whole argument they are making is silly, especially insinuating that there are AACSB issues from removing a social science major from business. It only gets them worked up, so that life in the COB will be bad for everyone, which is really, really bad for them.

Finally, they are now rallying it seems for a move to some other college. They seem to have forgotten that Dean Nail and Dean Von Herman tried to work that out for them several months ago, but the COAL faculty voted overwhelmingly not to have them. A move is out of the question now. They had their chance and lost it. Being bad citizens has taken its toll so that even colleagues in liberal arts want no part of them. Seeing what they are saying about Dean Nail and perhaps President Saunders on these and perhaps other websites should help anyone understand the situation they find themselves in now.

Thanks for listening.

<name withheld on request>