

The Boys are Back in Town

“Things Change, Things Stay the Same”

When it comes to the USM circle of influence, little has changed since the administration of former USM President, Shelby Thames. So little has changed, it seems, that former MGT & MKT chair, Barry Babin’s research phrase – “Things Change, Things Stay the Same” – seems appropriate for describing the ushering in of USM’s latest era under first-year President Martha Saunders (shown below).



Martha Saunders

Unfortunately for some USM constituents, such as those who call the [USM Forum -- To build trust, a team and a campus -- Message Board](#) home, the Saunders administration continues to cozy up to many of the same figures (see photo and captions below) that Thames made welcome during his administration of the multi-campus university, and figures who are/were often despised by the constituents mentioned above.¹

“Queen Martha” & Her Royal Court



Krandall Howell

Bobby Dews

Martha Saunders

Richard Giannini

Paul H. “Bud” Holmes

Readers are invited to search the pages at [USM Forum -- To build trust, a team and a campus -- Message Board](#) for stories about these and other figures close to USM administrations.

¹ Long-time readers of USMNEWS.NET may recognize this message board by a former name, *USM Forum – No Quarter Message Board*.