

31st & Pearl

Been There, Done That

At least one member of the Department of Economics, Finance & International Business must be muttering “*déjà vu*” over and over after reading the recent “Special Report” on George Carter’s new “Literature Presence” reach. To us, not only does the whole episode reek of “Handbook violation,” it would be problematic even if it were legitimately being considered for inclusion in *Enhancing Faculty Productivity*. For instance, with what we are told is a scale with just three categories, little useful information is gleaned from the new evaluation category. Are we supposed to believe that Ed Nissan and Charles Sawyer are the same simply because Carter states that they both maintain “literature presence?” A recent document at usmpride.com points out that Nissan lags well behind Sawyer in terms of A- and B-level publications. But, tightening up the evaluation standard to reflect quality would mean that Carter would have to make a judgment about Nissan, vis-à-vis others in his department, that, as we see it, Carter has never made before. There are other comparison issues that could, and should perhaps, be delved into at another time and place. Then there is the issue of the “asymmetry” discussed in “On the Folly of . . .” here at usmpride.com, given that the standard is reportedly not being applied in the other CoB departments.

Doty must be salivating at the prospects for Carter’s little adventure. From what we are told, Doty would like nothing more than to have the opportunity to recreate EFIB in his own image. The other chairs surely understand that the raise process is a zero sum game — less money given to EFIB means more is available for them. Isn’t it interesting that, at the same time Carter is finding his “Literature Presence” religion, it is being reported that Barry Babin is arguing for Proceedings to count the same as B-level journal articles. Talk about two units moving in opposite directions. At least Babin is trying, though perhaps in the wrong way, to represent the faculty in his department. Carter, on the other hand, seems to be representing the misguided interests of Doty and a faction of others in the CoB. “Dr. *déjà vu*” must be wondering who is in Carter’s crosshairs.