

High-Flying Faculty

A Look at High-Dollar Travel Years in the CoB

This report examines “high-dollar,” or “extreme” travel years (behavior) among faculty in USM’s College of Business. The figures presented here come from Employee Travel Voucher forms, spanning (primarily) from 1995-2005, or roughly a 10 year period. In order to provide some comparison numbers, we provide the following figures for the (approximate) pro-rata share of travel money available in the CoB over time:

1995 --- \$600
2000 --- \$750
2005 --- \$900

In this report, we present travel expenditures that exceed \$1,250 in a single academic year. Table 1 below contains travel expenditures for nine CoB faculty, all exceeding \$1,425 in a single academic year. Barry Babin, Professor of Marketing, is represented four separate times in Table 1, while Chang-Tseh Hsieh, Professor of Management Information Systems, appears twice. The largest single-year reimbursement in Table 1 is \$6,241.87. This amount is applied to Hsieh for the 2003-2004 academic year.

As the Table indicates, Babin averaged about \$2,000 per year across the 1995-1996 and 1996-1997 academic years. This amount is more than three times the annual travel allowance for CoB faculty in the mid-1990s. In all, Babin amassed about \$11,000 in expenditures in just the four academic years represented in the Table below, with the largest single amount being \$4,297.93 in 2001-2002. Hsieh accumulated over \$9,000 in travel spending in just two academic years.

TABLE 1

Name	Unit	Academic Year	“Spent”	Reimbursed
Babin, Barry	MKT	2002-2003	\$3,499.29	\$2,897.40
Babin, Barry	MKT	2001-2002	\$6,323.99	\$4,297.93
Babin, Barry	MKT	1996-1997	\$1,915.06	\$1,447.20
Babin, Barry	MKT	1995-1996	\$2,639.00	\$2,533.00
Babin, Laurie	MKT	2001-2002	\$1,813.51	\$1,774.00
Carter, George	ECO	2002-2003	\$2,751.11	\$1,788.00
Chen, Kuo Lane	MIS	2002-2003	\$1,933.21	\$1,933.21
Hamwi, Iskandar	FIN	2002-2003	\$4,093.70	\$4,093.70
Hsieh, Chang-Tseh	MIS	2003-2004	\$7,373.51	\$6,241.87

Hsieh, Chang-Tseh	MIS	2002-2003	\$3,118.64	\$3,107.07
Nissan, Edward	ECO	2002-2003	\$2,693.44	\$1,959.83
Posey, Roderick	ACC	2004-2005	\$2,543.50	\$2,543.50
Williams, Alvin	MKT	2002-2003	\$2,803.88	\$2,724.12
Williams, Alvin	MKT	2001-2002	\$1,784.06	\$1,706.09

Another interesting feature of the Table above is the number of times the 2002-2003 academic year is represented among the 14 “high-dollar” travel years. That academic year appears seven times across the nine faculty. It appears as though the transition from the Gunther administration to the Doty administration was a costly one for the CoB in terms of travel. It’s almost as if CoB coffers were raided in anticipation of tighter future control that was expected from the hiring of an “outside” Dean. Any fears in this regard were apparently unfounded, as documents at usmpride.com show.

Investigators at usmpride.com continue to sort through boxes of data. This is by no means an exhaustive listing (above). In fact, the totals in the Table above for the 14 academic years represented there may be revised, pending future data discovery. Please stay connected to usmpride.com for further information.