

***usmpride.com News* DEVELOPING STORY**

October 9, 2006

HATTIESBURG --- EFIB Chair George Carter has struck once again, dealing economics professor Franklin Mixon a 5-day per week, 2-location, 3-prep teaching load for spring semester 2007. Sources tell usmpride.com News that Carter's move is another attempt to retaliate against departmental dissent, this time lashing out at Mixon for challenging Carter's attempt to subvert faculty governance on 19 September 2006. Readers will recall from earlier reports in this series that Carter assigned departed Scholar-in-Residence Ray Canterbury's ECO 672 to Mixon three weeks into fall 2006 semester, another retaliatory move.

During Carter's second stint as chair, Mixon is averaging 2.5 preps per semester across an average of 3.75 days per week. News readers will want to stay tuned as this story develops further.

September 25, 2006

HATTIESBURG --- In an effort to fill in some of the missing pieces of the earlier story on Scholar in Residence Ray Canterbury's departure, investigators at usmpride.com have received teaching load information from economics professor Frank Mixon. At our request Mixon sent the information in text form and our investigators have tabulated that information, as shown in the table below.

Mixon's Teaching Schedules at USM, 1994-present

Semester	Chair	BA/ECO Courses	# Courses	#Preps	# New Preps	# Days	# Unique Preps
Fall 1994	Carter	202, 435, 435	3	2	1	3	2
Spring 1995	Carter	302, 302, 330	3	2	2	2	4
Fall 1995	Carter	330, 330, 340	3	2	1	4	5
Spring 1996	Carter	202, 435, 435	3	2	0	3	5
Fall 1996	Carter	330, 330, 340	3	2	0	4	5
Spring 1997	Carter	202, 202, 202, 492	4	2	1	3	6
		means	3.17	2.00	0.83	3.17	
Fall 1997	N'mand	330, 330, 340	3	2	0	4	6
Spring 1998	N'mand	202, 202, 202	3	1	0	3	6
Fall 1998	N'mand	330, 330, 340	3	2	0	4	6
Spring 1999	N'mand	202, 202, 202	3	1	0	3	6
		means	3.00	1.50	0.00	3.50	
Fall 1999	Hamwi	202, 202, 340	3	2	0	3	6
Spring 2000	Hamwi	202, 202, 330	3	2	0	3	6
Fall 2000	Hamwi	202, 202, 340	3	2	0	3	6
Spring 2001	Hamwi	202, 202, 330	3	2	0	3	6
Fall 2001	Hamwi	202, 202, 340	3	2	0	3	6

Spring 2002	Hamwi	202, 202, 330	3	2	0	3	6
Fall 2002	Hamwi	202, 340	2	2	0	3	6
Spring 2003	Hamwi	sabbatical					
		means	2.86	2.00	0.00	3.00	
Fall 2003	K'dinst	202, 340	2	2	0	3	6
Spring 2004	K'dinst	202, 202	2	1	0	3	6
Fall 2004	K'dinst	202, 340	2	2	0	3	6
Spring 2005	K'dinst	202, 202	2	1	0	3	6
		means	2.00	1.50	0.00	3.00	
Fall 2005	Carter	202, 340	2	2	0	3	6
Spring 2006	Carter	202, 202, 202	3	2	0	3	6
Fall 2006	Carter	202, 340, 672	3	3	1	4	7
		means	2.67	2.33	0.33	3.33	

As the data above indicate, George Carter seems to put forth an effort to make Mixon's teaching schedules as difficult on Mixon as possible. Over the course of his first six semesters at USM under Carter's Chairmanship (i.e., 1994-97), Mixon averaged a 3.2 courses per semester teaching load, with two preps each semester, almost one which was a new prep, and all of this was spread over a 3.2 days per week teaching schedule. Amazingly, the "number of unique preps" that Carter assigned Mixon rose from 2 to 6 over just six semesters.

When current Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand took over as Chair of economics in Fall of 1997, Mixon's course load went down to three courses per semester, with the number of preps per semester falling from 2 under Carter to 1.5 under Niroomand, none of which were new preps. However, Mixon's weekly load increased to 3.5 days per week. Niroomand did not add any "unique preps" to Mixon's teaching load over four semesters.

The next chair of economics, Alex Hamwi, succeeded in reducing Mixon's course load to 2.86 courses per semester, although the number of preps rose back up to 2.00 under Hamwi. Hamwi maintained the average number of new preps at 0.0 per semester, and was able to "fix" Mixon's Fall teaching schedules so that Mixon averaged 3 days per week of teaching.

The next Chair, Mark Klinedinst, improved upon Hamwi's treatment of Mixon by reducing Mixon's course load even further, down to 2 courses per semester, as well as reducing the number of preps Mixon faced (from 2/semester to 1.5/semester). The number of new preps/semester and days/week were maintained at 0.0 and 3, respectively.

The current Chair, George Carter, has (after three semesters) succeeded in increasing Mixon's course load to 2.67 --- almost a full course increase. Carter has also increased Mixon's preps/semester almost a full prep, from 1.5/semester under Klinedinst to 2.33 thus far under Carter's second stint as Chair. Carter has also effected upward movement in the final three columns above, increasing (i) the number of new preps per semester to 0.33, (ii) the number of days/week teaching to 3.33, and (ii) the number of unique preps

to 7. It's amazing to think that Mixon averages 0.67 new preps per semester under Carter, and that his average weekly teaching load is 3.22 days per week when George Carter serves as Chair. (And, even after 1.5 decades Carter still can manage to find new preps for Mixon to teach.)

Look for more reports on this matter as new information continues to surface.

September 17, 2006

HATTIESBURG --- New details are emerging on the story that usmpride.com broke yesterday concerning the sudden and quiet departure of newly hired Scholar-in-Residence Ray Canterbury. Sources today confirmed that George Carter, the Chair of EFIB and the CoB administrator who brought Canterbury to USM, informed Professor Frank Mixon at about noon on Wednesday, September 13, 2006, that he (Mixon) was to take over Canterbury's ECO 672 course on Tuesday, September 19, 2006, the fourth class meeting of the semester. As it is being reported to us, Carter then departed from his office for the remainder of the afternoon, thus adding Wednesday afternoon to a planned 4-day weekend wedding trip that was to take place from September 14-17, 2006.

Sources indicate that Mixon has made repeated attempts to have Carter, Niroomand, and/or Doty provide him with the course materials and the plans that Professor Canterbury had made and completed thus far. Reports are that Lola Ingram provided Mixon with Canterbury's syllabus at about noon on Wednesday (9/13/2006), but repeated attempts by Mixon to communicate with Carter, Niroomand and Doty have not produced anything, even though Mixon is about to convene his first meeting of a course that is out of his area of expertise and that he has never taught.

Our investigators have confirmed that, at Mixon's request, Carter placed a letter in Mixon's office mailbox that reiterated Carter's verbal instruction to him (Mixon) to complete Canterbury's teaching assignment. That letter arrived about six hours after Mixon requested it. Sources indicate that the last verbal exchange between Carter and Mixon occurred on Wednesday (9/13/2006) at about noon.

We have also confirmed that Carter responded to two letters that Mixon sent on Thursday and Friday (9/14/2006 and 9/15/2006) --- letters that requested (from Carter) a text and teaching materials --- with a short statement made through Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand. That statement told Mixon that (paraphrasing) “. . . the assignment stands . . . you are to complete the course . . .” Carter's brief response made no mention of the course text, Canterbury's assigned materials, or other items mentioned in Mixon's two written responses.

A tip from a usmpride.com reader instructs us to obtain copies of Mixon's prior teaching assignments under George Carter's chairmanship, dating back to the mid-1990s. We have requested that information from Mixon and are awaiting his response.

Another tipster suggested that we look into the role that new EFIB hire Akbar Marvasti played in bringing Canterbury to campus. We intend to do so. Please stay tuned as this story continues to unfold.

September 16, 2006

HATTIESBURG --- It is being reported to usmpride.com that Ray Canterbury, the CoB's new "Scholar-in-Residence," is no longer affiliated with USM. CoB administrators are saying that Canterbury has an unnamed illness that has prevented him from serving in the CoB during the 2006-07 academic year.

As reported earlier at usmpride.com, Canterbury was brought to USM by EFIB Chair George Carter just days before the beginning of Fall semester 2006. Sources are now telling usmpride.com that Carter's decision to hire Canterbury in the Scholar-in-Residence capacity was done without consultation from EFIB faculty, and that EFIB faculty were as surprised as faculty in other CoB departments to receive the e-mail from CoB Dean Harold Doty announcing the hiring of Canterbury. Investigators at usmpride.com also confirm that Canterbury's employment line is not presented in the newly printed 2006-07 USM Budget.

It was also reported earlier at usmpride.com that EFIB recently selected, by a vote of 7-5, a three-faculty governance committee to handle personnel issues for the department. However, yesterday sources confirmed that George Carter assigned Canterbury's sole teaching responsibility – ECO 672, International Economics – to Professor Frank Mixon without consulting others on that committee.

Reporters at usmpride.com have confirmed that Mixon is not an international economist. Our staff has also confirmed that a number of other CoB economists are specialists in international economics. These include Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand, who studied under famed international economist Mordechai Kreinin at Michigan State University (Niroomand recently served as host to Kreinin for a Boardman Series lecture at USM). Investigators indicate that Niroomand, who has presented numerous papers on international economics at the Central Bank of Iran, and who currently serves as Editor of the *Journal of Current Research in Global Business*, is not teaching any courses in the Fall of 2006. Another qualified faculty is Charles Sawyer, author of *International Economics 2e* by Prentice Hall. Sawyer has reportedly taught ECO 672 on numerous occasions in the past.

Sources indicate that EFIB Chair George Carter has been unavailable for communication with the other members of the EFIB governance committee. Carter took Wednesday afternoon off and left town on personal business (what is being reported as a social engagement) over the Thursday-Friday, September 14-15, 2006, period. Two sources have independently confirmed that Carter's Friday morning classes did not meet.