



# The University of Mississippi

---

*Interoffice Memorandum*  
**PROVOST AND VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**  
University, MS 38677  
Phone: (662) 915-5974 Fax: (662) 915-5280

---

**TO:** School of Business Administration Faculty

**FROM:** Carolyn Ellis Staton  **DATE:** April 15, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Department of Economics

First, I want to thank all of you for your patience and for providing feedback to me both as to the substance of Dean Harvey's recommendation to move Economics to Liberal Arts, and to the process that has been suggested by the Faculty Senate. I particularly appreciate visiting with you individually and receiving your opinions about a proposed move. Based on the input that you have individually given me, it is clear the majority of the faculty in the School of Business favor a move of the Department of Economics from the School of Business Administration to the College of Liberal Arts. In arriving at this conclusion, I included as supporting the status quo all of the persons who did not give me their opinion. The information provided to me gives me far greater and more valuable insight than does a mere vote. A conclusion is very clear—a majority wish for the transfer to happen.

As the Faculty Senate correctly states, this should also be a matter of faculty involvement. Therefore, I am sending forth a proposal initially created by Dean Harvey which contains some amendments requested by Dr. Shughart on behalf of the Economics faculty. The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and I have both seen this proposal. I now put this proposal to you and ask for a request for comments on this particular proposal. You will have until April 29 to give me written comments (electronic mail is fine) regarding the proposal. It is not necessary to vote on the proposal, but it would be helpful if you would indicate to me whether the proposal should be approved or disapproved. Having received all of these comments, the Dean of the School of Business Administration and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, working with my office, will prepare a revised version attempting to incorporate suggestions. If, after receiving comments, I determine that the proposed move should go forward, I will transmit simultaneously details of the proposal to the Undergraduate Council, the Graduate Council, the Council of Academic Administrators, the University Research Board, and the External Academic Review Committee. I will ask these committees to consider the proposal in their May meetings or no later than their June meeting.

It is important that all faculty members in the School of Business have an opportunity to review the proposal, talk with each other and offer thoughtful advice to the Dean of the School of Business Administration and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and to me.

I think it is important that we engage in this process in an extremely professional manner. We need very much to get “back on track” in terms of our work and helping our students. These requests for comments will give me far more information than a simple vote would do. It allows people to be accountable for their position, and it gives me greater discernment about the will of the faculty. Additionally it minimizes the potential for any adverse personal consequences for individual faculty members or the perception of such.

Thank you for your attention.

bb

cc     Dean Michael Harvey  
       Dean Glenn Hopkins