NEW RESIDENCE HALL
STUDENT SUCCESSES
ALUM WINS PULITZER
UNVEILING OF WEALTH MANAGEMENT CENTER AND STEM LAB
USF St. Petersburg: Where Discovery Shines

The launch of a STEM Inquiry lab and approval of a new residence hall. Top-rated faculty earning grants to study everything from climate change to Alzheimer’s disease. Students making a difference on campus and in the community. It’s just another day in the life at USF St. Petersburg.

This Year in Review offers a glimpse into the many different activities happening on our campus and in our community. It’s been a busy year, with even more opportunities on the horizon. There’s always something new to learn in a place where discovery shines.

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It’s been a busy and exciting year at our University. With so much happening, this Year in Review provides a valuable opportunity to reflect on all of the meaningful work being done by our students, faculty and staff.

You’ll read about interesting student initiatives, and learn more about the transformative research conducted by our faculty. Plus you’ll get a feel for the different personalities that make up our campus community.

Amidst all the activity, there are certain things that remain unchanged. Our commitment to student success. Our beautiful waterfront location. Our dedication to advancing and applying knowledge that makes a difference in the lives of others.

All of these factors contribute to our unique campus identity. Over the past year, we’ve worked to identify the elements that define us as a university. We call them our “three pillars:”

• Research and innovation – We seek to expand our understanding of the world and use new and surprising techniques to discover and share this knowledge.

• Inclusive community – We embrace diversity and are dedicated to making our university a welcoming place for all.

• Sustainability – We recognize the value of our precious natural resources and strive to be good stewards of the planet.

You’ll see stories throughout this publication that highlight these different categories. We’re proud of the work we’ve done in 2018 and look forward to building on these principles throughout the coming year.

Thank you for your continued support of USF St. Petersburg. We hope to see you on campus.

Regards,

Martin Tadlock, Ph.D.
Regional Chancellor, USF St. Petersburg
New Residence Hall to Increase Students Living on Campus by Nearly 70 Percent

USF St. Petersburg is moving forward with plans for a 375-bed residence hall that will give students more affordable housing options downtown while increasing the number of beds on campus by nearly 70 percent.

The Florida Board of Governors voted to approve the $33 million project, which is scheduled to open in July 2020. Once complete, it will expand on-campus student housing from approximately 550 beds to more than 900. It will also support efforts to further improve student success. The building will be approximately 125,000-square-feet and include a full-service dining hall.

“This is an important milestone in the continued upward trajectory of our university,” said Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock. “It’s a very affirming decision from the Florida Board of Governors about the bright future of our campus, as well as the city of St. Petersburg.”

UNIVERSITY INCREASES RETENTION RATE BY 10 PERCENTAGE POINTS IN ONE YEAR

A collaborative effort at USF Petersburg resulted in a 10-percentage point increase in retention rates for first-time in college students. Retention rates measure the percentage of students who attend college their freshman year and return to the same college the following year. In one year, the retention rate at USF St. Petersburg rose from 65.5 to 75.5 percent.

A team comprised of staff from departments spanning academic affairs, student affairs, finance, government relations and enrollment management initiated a collaborative strategy to identify the status of each student in an identified cohort – beginning with Fall 2016 freshman – and intervene proactively regarding obstacles to retention.

The University is now incorporating lessons learned from this effort to sustain programs offered to incoming freshman as well as develop sophomore and junior-year experiences.

UNIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS

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USFSP 2018 Year In Review
A PATRON OF THE ARTS LEAVES $2 MILLION LEGACY GIFT

The University received a $2 million legacy gift from the estate of Josephine Hall. Hall was a sweet and spunky lady who loved to travel the world and made friends everywhere she went. She lived in a condo across the street from USFSP and as a senior citizen auditor took history, art and psychology classes as well as regularly attended numerous campus events at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

In honor of Josephine’s passion for the arts, the University is allocating $1 million of the gift to support art programs, and the other to support the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library. The University is also now raising a matching $1 million for both the arts and the library to follow Josephine’s gifts.

MARTIN TADLOCK NAMED USF ST. PETERSBURG REGIONAL CHANCELLOR

In August, University of South Florida System President Judy Genshaft named Martin Tadlock as the Regional Chancellor of USF St. Petersburg through June 2021. Tadlock has been serving as Interim Chancellor since September 2017, and previously served as Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

“As the USF System moves closer to consolidated accreditation and becomes one unified university, stability of leadership is more important than ever,” said USF System President Judy Genshaft. “I have been impressed with the impact Chancellor Tadlock has made on USFSP through his focused leadership, his strong relationships with the community and his collaborative spirit as a member of the USF System.”

Tadlock came to USFSP in July 2016 from Bemidji State University and Northwest Technical College in northern Minnesota, where he served as provost and vice president for academic and student affairs. He previously served as dean of the College of Professional and Graduate Studies from 2001-2006. He has also served as assistant vice-chancellor at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and as provost at Northeastern State University in Oklahoma.

UNVEILING OF LA FLORIDA: THE INTERACTIVE DIGITAL ARCHIVE OF THE AMERICAS REVOLUTIONIZES EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY

La Florida: The Interactive Digital Archive of the Americas was unveiled in front of dignitaries, international media and the public at receptions in Washington D.C. Through short videos, interactive maps and digital reconstructions, La Florida brings to life the diverse melting pot of people that made up early Spanish Florida, from Spanish conquistadors and Native Americans to free and enslaved blacks and Europeans from Germany, Ireland and Eastern Europe. It weaves together in fascinating detail the lives and critical events of America’s earliest beginnings – such as the founding of the first permanent European settlement in the continental U.S. at St. Augustine in 1565; the original St. Patrick’s day celebration that was discovered through this project to have taken place in Florida in 1601; and the first free black settlement anywhere in the colonies at Fort Mose in 1738.

Overall, La Florida produces an engaging narrative and comprehensive vision that fundamentally alters the way we look at Florida, America and world history.

BANK OF AMERICA HALF MILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT SUPPORTS VENUE FOR STUDENTS TO ANALYZE STOCKS, ASSESS INVESTMENTS

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation awarded the University of South Florida St. Petersburg a $500,000 grant to support a state-of-the-art venue for students to analyze stocks, assess investment opportunities and apply skills learned in class to manage wealth. The venue, named the Merrill Lynch Wealth Management Center, is within the Kate Tiedemann College of Business.

Half of the $500,000 grant will go towards operating the Merrill Lynch Wealth Management Center. The other half will support financial literacy initiatives. These include a finance academy for high school students, programs on budget management for college students and social security and retirement workshops for the greater St. Petersburg community. The initiatives will be modeled after Bank of America’s Better Money Habits® curriculum.

“Finance students want to get hands-on experience with investments while in school so they are fully prepared to assist clients when they enter the job market,” said Sridhar Sundaram, Dean of the Kate Tiedemann College of Business. “This investment will allow us to operate a program that will do just that and is a very significant commitment by Bank of America to our current students and future graduates.”

As St. Petersburg continues to grow, we continue to grow with it, providing our students with the knowledge and skills for success and our community with a partner in developing future leaders who will continue to make an impact on our region and world.

– Martin Tadlock, Regional Chancellor of USF St. Petersburg

“Bank of America and USF St. Petersburg share a mission of supporting the development of young people in the business world. This new initiative will allow students to take control of their personal finances – and good financial planning equals a bright future.”

– Bill Goede, Tampa Bay president, Bank of America
Imagine transporting students studying Shakespeare back to 16th century England through the use of virtual reality or helping a geography class understand changes to Florida’s topography by printing a 3-D map.

All of this and more are possible with the new STEM INQ lab in the College of Education. The state-of-the-art space allows aspiring educators and current faculty to infuse the latest in Science, Technology, Education and Math (STEM) into their teaching methods.

The lab is rich with multidisciplinary tools, including a plethora of 3-D printers in addition to one state-of-the-art laser printer, VEX IQ and First Lego Robots, AutoCAD and virtual and augmented reality. It is designed to encourage experiential and inquiry-based models of learning, which means more hands-on experimentation and less time reading textbooks.

The cost of domestic violence in Pinellas County is $132 million a year, or roughly $21,000 per victim. These are the findings from a new study out of USF St. Petersburg that sought to quantify the economic impact of rape, physical assault, stalking and other acts of domestic violence to individuals, families and the community.

Partnering with Community Action Stops Abuse (CASA), researchers from the Kate Tiedemann College of Business analyzed local and national economic data on costs of medical care, emergency housing and lost wages as a result of domestic violence. They calculated and combined those figures with the 6,228 incidents of domestic violence that were reported in Pinellas County in 2017 to end up with the overall figure.

“We at CASA, we believe that violence can only thrive in silence. To change the domestic violence paradigm, we must erase the stigma and silence that protect it; we’re hopeful that this study will help to do just that,” said CASA CEO, Lariana Forsythe.

New initiatives, scholarship opportunities and the expansion of existing programs are increasing higher education access for all students in Pinellas County. Representatives from the Florida Legislature, USFSP and St. Petersburg College are collaborating to create greater pathways for students from middle school through graduate school to attain their educational goals.

“A major priority of the Pinellas County delegation this legislative session was to secure critical funding that will expand educational access and begin to provide every student in our county the resources to earn a college degree,” said FL. State Representative Chris Sprowls. During the last legislative session, FL. State Senator Jeff Brandes, Representative Sprovis and the Pinellas County delegation were instrumental in securing new funds for both USFSP and SPC.

Some of these funds will be dedicated to providing scholarships and programs that create a more seamless transition for SPC students and recent graduates who attained their associate’s degree to attend USFSP and earn a bachelor’s degree.

The Neighborhood News Bureau launched a Black History project, which chronicles the storied past of St. Petersburg’s African-American communities. Through multimedia, oral histories, digital story mapping and a searchable database, students are creating a comprehensive resource to document a vital chapter in the city’s history.

“This project will be a place for the entire community to go to and see their history and take pride in that history,” said Cynthia Swisher, a senior journalism major who is part of this effort.

Moving forward, the Neighborhood News Bureau is working to make the database fully searchable. They will continue to develop oral histories and investigative pieces that fill in the gaps in St. Petersburg’s African-American history. And through collaborations with K-12 schools and journalists, USFSP students hope to make this vital history more accessible and understood by school children and the public.
USFSP’s Military and Veterans Success Center and Open Partnership Education Network helped to kick-off the Veterans Transition Task Force, a nationwide initiative established by U.S. Congressman Gus Bilirakis, through the event “Becoming Civilian: A Warrior’s Perspective.” Joined by Rep. Bilirakis, who represents Florida’s 12th Congressional District and is Vice-Chairman of the Veterans’ Affairs Committee, five local veterans shared their stories of transition from military to civilian life.

The galvanizing event was the first in a year-long series established by the task force to promote ongoing dialogue, education for civilians and military service members and research around the veteran transition phenomenon. The current task force is made up of a small team of eight nationally recognized leaders in veteran transition based out of Tampa Bay.

The university’s first Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan seeks to create synergy and collaboration with every individual in the campus community through unique initiatives and study circles to inspire and ensure a welcoming environment. The final plan was approved by the USF St. Petersburg Campus Board in February, 2018.

Its goals are to create a welcoming environment for all individuals; recruit, retain and promote more women and individuals from underrepresented backgrounds in faculty, staff and administrative roles; recruit, retain, and graduate more diverse undergraduate and graduate students; and provide high quality diversity education and training for all members of the university community.

USF St. Petersburg has installed a new roof that incorporates an artificial habitat for the colony of nesting Least Terns, a threatened Florida species. The goal of the artificial habitat is to ensure when the birds return to Florida to breed, they will continue to nest on the Poynter Library rooftop.

“The general consensus military service men and women express when they are getting ready to transition into civilian life is that it is the scariest mission they have ever faced.”

– Ben Smet, Director of USFSP’s Open Partnership Education Network and co-chair of the Veterans Transition Task Force

“ This is the first instance of a building owner choosing to create a habitat for the terns that I am aware of in the Tampa Bay area. What USF St. Petersburg is doing is unique and forward thinking.”

– Jeff Liechty, Rooftop Nesting Coordinator with Audubon Florida

Beneath a 100kW solar array and in front of dozens of community members and press, USF St. Petersburg and Duke Energy unveiled and demonstrated a Tesla battery solar storage system—the first of its kind in Florida.

This battery system manages the energy captured by the array, situated on top of the University’s parking garage. Measuring approximately 7,100 square feet and consisting of 318 individual panels on a freestanding canopy with space beneath for parking, the solar array was constructed three years ago through a $1 million grant from Duke Energy. Now the powerful battery system will ensure additional solar energy not used by the parking garage is stored or used for immediate service through the power grid.

The parking garage’s elevator, lights and electric vehicle charging stations are powered by the energy collected by the solar array. Solar energy that is not used by the garage is stored in the 250-kilowatt Tesla battery system, to be used at night when the sun has set or during a power outage as a backup power source.
WAREHOUSE LABORATORY EARNS LEED PLATINUM CERTIFICATION

The Warehouse Laboratory, which houses biology, chemistry and physics labs, received LEED Platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Platinum is the highest and hardest certification to earn from the most widely used green building rating system in the world. Only about 10 to 15 percent of buildings worldwide have earned this pinnacle of distinctions in sustainable design and construction. The Warehouse Laboratory is the first building in the USF System to receive this recognition.

This is the fourth building at USF St. Petersburg to earn LEED certification. The Science and Technology building, the University Student Center and Lynn Pippenger Hall all received LEED Gold Certification in recent years.

GREEN ENERGY FUND POWERS SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS ON CAMPUS

A unique sustainability initiative at USF St. Petersburg is the Student Green Energy Fund (SGEF), which directly involves students with sustainability, alternative energy and other projects that are benefiting the campus and the planet.

SGEF has the largest operating budget of any student-run organization, funded with around $120,000 – $160,000 per year mainly from a nominal student fee of $1 per every credit hour taken. Working on a budget this size, SGEF is able to implement large-scale sustainability projects while providing students direct experience in managing and investing funds.

SGEF members have been hard at work improving energy usage and reducing reliance on fossil fuels at USFSP through projects such as a 40 kW solar array carport that powers 15 percent of Biology and Chemistry Labs; the installation of water bottle refilling stations throughout campus; and bikes for a bike-share program, that students can rent, even for an entire semester.

I COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The College of Arts and Sciences is USF St. Petersburg’s largest college, offering a wide range of academic programs. The College has a legacy of providing programs of excellence in a student-centered atmosphere. World-class research and creative activities are carried out in one of the most beautiful metropolitan campuses in the U.S.
While Arthur Ashe gained fame for his brilliance on the tennis court, it was his commitment to advancing causes such as civil rights, education, AIDS awareness and ending apartheid in South Africa that cemented his status as an American icon.

Acclaimed historian and USF St. Petersburg professor Ray Arsenault has written the first comprehensive biography of Ashe, charting his transformation from a shy African-American boy from segregated Virginia to a cosmopolitan figure who transformed the world of sports and activism. This revealing look at Ashe’s life is based on nine years of extensive research, including more than 150 interviews with the tennis star’s family, friends and tennis rivals. Released on August 21, the book coincides with the 50th Anniversary of Ashe’s victory at the first U.S. Open, when he became the first African American man to win a Grand Slam tennis title. “Arthur Ashe: A Life” was named a Best Book of 2018 by NPR and the Boston Globe, and was selected as one of the 100 Notable Books of 2018 by the New York Times.

Magali Michael Named Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Magali Cornier Michael began her tenure as the new Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences on July 1, 2018. As the top administrative officer in the College, Michael oversees faculty and works closely with them and the university’s leadership team to support, grow and develop distinct programs and strategies that achieve USF St. Petersburg’s academic goals.

Michael came to USFSP from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, where she was a professor and served as Chair of the English Department and Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. In the latter role for the past three years, she oversaw 12 departments that housed 22 majors and included 1,500 undergraduate students and approximately 500 graduate students. After spending 26 years at Duquesne, she was drawn to USF St. Petersburg for its growth potential, community feel and how faculty and staff are genuinely invested in the academic success of students.

“They believe in the mission,” Michael said. “They support our students. They are very passionate about teaching and about the students.”

USF St. Petersburg (USFSP) and the Florida YMCA are partnering to create a new Civics Fellows Program set to launch in the summer of 2019. The new program, made possible by the Florida Legislature, will provide scholarships for 75 Florida high school students. Participants will earn up to six college credits in politics and leadership at USFSP, while gaining hands-on experience in government and public service.

“We believe that all Florida students should have essential knowledge about how their government works to become truly engaged citizens,” said FL. State Representative Chris Sprowls. “Even more, this program will show the next generation that public service is an honorable field and mold the future leaders of our state.”

Improving civics literacy in Florida has been a longtime goal of the Florida Legislature. During the 2018 legislative session, state leaders approved funding to support the new program, which aims to enhance civic education among high school students.

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“Moving forward, predictions are that having one career will no longer be the norm. Students will be looking for interdisciplinary degrees, which will prepare them for a number of positions. Creating these interdisciplinary degrees is a focus for our College.”

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The Kate Tiedemann College of Business at USF St. Petersburg is partnering with Accendo Leadership Advisory Group to offer executive-level training for women leaders in Tampa Bay. The goal of the program is to prepare participants for leadership success, equipping them for advancement while also narrowing the gender gap in executive roles.

According to the big data software company PayScale, men are 70 percent more likely to be in executive roles than women by the middle of their career. Later in their careers, men are more than 140 percent more likely to be in VP or C-suite roles. The executive-level training seeks to address this disparity.

Cohorts for the training will be composed of 10-15 women who typically have 15 or more years of professional experience, proven leadership ability and are seeking to advance their careers by 1-2 levels. Roundtable meetings will help participants define personal vision and build emotional intelligence and executive presence.

"USF St. Petersburg, a respected institution of higher learning, shares our dedication to helping women leaders succeed and organizations narrow the executive leadership gender gap."

– Karen Dee, Managing Partner at Accendo
The College of Education seeks to prepare exemplary teachers and school leaders for roles in a diverse and changing society.

The College offers graduate and undergraduate programs that are recognized for accomplishing defined learning outcomes, supported by a foundation of applied research and dedicated to meeting the needs of the diverse communities it serves.

ONLINE PROGRAM LAUNCHES FOR ONE OF FLORIDA’S MOST IN DEMAND DEGREES

A new online program is giving students the flexibility to complete a bachelor’s degree on their schedule for one of the most in demand majors in Florida.

The online program in accounting launched this semester in the Kate Tiedemann College of Business seeks to address the growing demand for skilled accounting graduates. The initial response from students shows the program is a welcome addition.

“Since this is the first year, we were hoping to get 15 entering students this Fall, but we ended up with 25,” said Teresa Conover, Professor and Director of the Program of Accountancy. “We are beyond excited that we met and exceeded our goal.”

BITCOIN AND FUTURE OF FINANCE TALK BRINGS LARGE CROWD TO USFSP

Lynn Pippenger Hall auditorium was packed to capacity on March 1 for a hot topic discussion called Bitcoin, Blockchain and the Future of Finance.

“We are at a point of a financial revolution. We are creating a better system for financial freedom around the world,” said Charlie Shrem, Bitcoin pioneer and Aresty keynote speaker for the event.

Shrem, who launched BitInstant, one of the first Bitcoin trading exchanges, shared his story with the crowd while exploring the basics of bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies.

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By the Numbers

$34,800 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO COE STUDENTS IN 2017-18

FACULTY PRODUCTIVITY

24 FACULTY CREATIVE WORKS

14 FACULTY AWARDS & HONORS

20 NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

STUDENT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

157 LOCAL SCHOOL INTERNSHIPS

1,000 STUDENT VOLUNTEER HOURS

NEARLY HALF A MILLION DOLLARS INVESTED IN THE STATE-OF-THE-ART STEM INQ. LAB
USF ST. PETERSBURG RECEIVES $2.2-MILLION GRANT TO BOLSTER STUDENT SAFETY THROUGH MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING

Faculty and staff at Florida’s K-12 schools will receive training on how to recognize and assist students with emotional or mental health difficulties thanks to a new $2.2-million grant awarded to USF St. Petersburg’s College of Education.

The grant from the Florida Department of Education establishes the Youth Mental Health Awareness and Training (YMHAT) Administration Project. It’s part of a larger legislative initiative developed from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, which was passed in the wake of the tragic school shooting in south Florida earlier this year.

USF St. Petersburg will work with the Florida Department of Education to facilitate the statewide training program to help school personnel identify and understand the signs of emotional distress, mental health difficulties and substance abuse disorders. The program will also provide teachers and other school staff the skills necessary to help students who are experiencing a crisis or mental health difficulties and connect them with resources.

INAUGURAL ROBOTICS CAMP INSPIRES NEXT GENERATION OF STEM LEADERS

The USF St. Petersburg College of Education hosted its first annual STEM Robotics Summer Camp for local fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth graders in June. The camp was designed to inspire young students while promoting critical thinking and problem-solving skills through diverse activities in computer science, engineering, robotics and applied math—as well as a bit of marine science.

“This is one way we are showing how important the community is to us and how we can truly impact our students in the critical grades of fifth through eighth,” said College of Education Dean Allyson Watson.

Experiential and inquiry-based models of learning were emphasized and designed to trigger students’ curiosity. That means campers weren’t sitting at desks following step-by-step instructions. Instead, they were given a series of challenges—like building a robot that can complete a household chore, creating a roller coaster or making ice cream.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION DEAN NAMED 2018 GIRLS INC. OF PINELLAS STEM WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Allyson L. Watson, Dean for the College of Education at USF St. Petersburg, was named the 2018 Girls Inc. of Pinellas STEM Woman of the Year. She was presented with the award at a celebration luncheon on September 14 at The Club at Treasure Island.

Watson was recognized for her many contributions to educating children in the fields of science, technology, education and math (STEM) locally. Recently, she helped launch USF St. Petersburg’s inaugural STEM robotics summer camp for 5th through 8th grade students as well as a state-of-the-art innovative STEM lab on campus. She believes that her job as an educator is to empower others to believe in themselves and their capacity to reach their true potential.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION LISTED IN TOP 5 ON STATE EXAMS

Education students at USF St. Petersburg are consistently performing at the top of their field in the state. The College of Education is in the Florida Department of Education’s (DOE) Top 5 Highest Performers in four categories among all 4-year state-funded colleges and universities.

Based on state-wide tests, COE students rank first on the Florida Education Leadership Examinations for organizational development and second in system leadership in written performance. They rank second overall on the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations in middle grades English and are fourth in professional education, based on results from the Exceptional Student Education K-12 exams. The Florida Department of Education requires education students to pass these exams before they can teach in the state.
As college costs from tuition to course materials rise, novel solutions are needed to make earning a college education accessible while reducing the burden of debt. A textbook affordability initiative launched just last year at USF St. Petersburg is already reaping benefits, as it is on track to save students nearly $420,000.

Spearheaded by staff at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, the initiative is using a combination of textbooks on reserve, e-textbooks and promoting affordable options to provide faculty with course materials that sustains academic rigor while lowering costs to students.
USF St. Petersburg alumna Monica Edwards has been recognized by the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Program as a 2019 Rangel Fellow. Edwards is the second Rangel Fellow in the University of South Florida history. This prestigious graduate fellowship aims to promote greater diversity and excellence in the Foreign Service of the U.S. Department of State. Fellows receive $37,500 annually for a two-year graduate degree in a field of their choice related to the Foreign Service, paid summer internships with a member of Congress in Washington, D.C. and at embassies abroad, professional development training and mentoring from senior Foreign Service Officers. Rangel Fellows who successfully complete their graduate program and Foreign Service entry requirements receive guaranteed appointments in the U.S. State Department Foreign Service.

USF St. Petersburg alum awarded Pulitzer Prize in history for the Gulf
Jack E. Davis, a University of South Florida St. Petersburg alum and University of Florida professor, was awarded the 2018 Pulitzer Prize in history for his engrossing book “The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea.” “The Gulf” interweaves geologic, environmental, cultural and political history to tell the story of the critical natural and man-made events that shaped the Gulf of Mexico. “I conceived the book a few months before the [2010 BP] oil spill, which really robbed the Gulf of its true identity,” said Davis. “I wanted to restore its identity, showing the Gulf as more than an oil resource or just a sunning beach.” “The Gulf” is more than a book to Davis. He had an intimate relationship with the region growing up in Pinellas County, Florida and over the decades witnessed the rapid transformation of Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico as a whole. He wanted to tell the story of change that took place over those decades and the centuries before.

USF ST. PETERSBURG ALUM AWARDED PULITZER PRIZE IN HISTORY FOR THE GULF

ALUMNIA SELECTED AS RANGEL FELLOW, SECOND IN SYSTEM HISTORY

GRADUATES NAMED AS 2018 CLASS OF USF OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI
Two USF St. Petersburg graduates were among seven USF Alumni age 35 and younger who were recognized as 2018 Outstanding Young Alumni for their exceptional professional and charitable contributions. The honorees are:

Hannibal L. Baldwin, Finance '11
Co-founder and co-CEO of award-winning tech company SiteZeus; co-founder of the popular Yogurtology franchise; and co-founder of B3 Ventures private equity and venture capital fund.

Reuben Pressman
Entrepreneurship '11
Founder and CEO of Presence, an education technology platform used by more than 100 higher educational institutions to increase student engagement, graduation rates, and workforce readiness; deeply involved in community nonprofits and economic development.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Hannibal L. Baldwin, Finance ’11
Co-founder and co-CEO of award-winning tech company SiteZeus; co-founder of the popular Yogurtology franchise; and co-founder of B3 Ventures private equity and venture capital fund.

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USF St. Petersburg alum awarded Pulitzer Prize in history for the Gulf
Jack E. Davis, a University of South Florida St. Petersburg alum and University of Florida professor, was awarded the 2018 Pulitzer Prize in history for his engrossing book “The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea.” “The Gulf” interweaves geologic, environmental, cultural and political history to tell the story of the critical natural and man-made events that shaped the Gulf of Mexico. “I conceived the book a few months before the [2010 BP] oil spill, which really robbed the Gulf of its true identity,” said Davis. “I wanted to restore its identity, showing the Gulf as more than an oil resource or just a sunning beach.” “The Gulf” is more than a book to Davis. He had an intimate relationship with the region growing up in Pinellas County, Florida and over the decades witnessed the rapid transformation of Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico as a whole. He wanted to tell the story of change that took place over those decades and the centuries before.

USF ST. PETERSBURG ALUM AWARDED PULITZER PRIZE IN HISTORY FOR THE GULF

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Students Noah Miller, Galina Gorelenkova, Melanie Olmo, Joanne Rivera and Sarah Stanaland set out to create a proposal that would establish a safe space for food collection and distribution; raise awareness about food insecurity; and encourage other students to get involved with the food pantry.

EX LABS BOOT CAMP PROVIDES UNIQUE AND EMPOWERING TRAINING
After weeks of intense training sessions and countless hours of work, Sara Rocks and her team presented their award-winning business plan called Art Assist, in front of industry leaders, peers, faculty, family and friends. Rocks, a sophomore psychology and marketing major and 19 other students were part of the first ever Ex Labs class hosted by USF St. Petersburg. Experioratory Labs Boot Camp (Ex Labs, for short) is a collaborative effort between USFSP, Tech Data and Gehant and Associates.

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BY THE NUMBERS

27 UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS WITH 34 CONCENTRATIONS

TOP MAJORS: BIOLOGY, BUSINESS, EDUCATION & PSYCHOLOGY

17 GRADUATE PROGRAMS

19:1 STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

87% OF USFSP FACULTY HAVE EARNED THE HIGHEST DEGREE IN THEIR FIELD

$5M+ IN RESEARCH FUNDS AWARDED, 2017-18

300+ DAYS OF SUNSHINE PER YEAR

FEATURED IN THE PRINCETON REVIEW’S 2019 GUIDE TO 399 GREEN COLLEGES

Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

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