I’d like to thank the University of South Florida St. Petersburg for taking the initiative and working with our team to help bring this innovative and clean technology to campus, that will benefit its students, faculty, staff and visitors.”

– Jeff Baker, Government and Community Relations Manager for Duke Energy, during the unveiling of new electric vehicle charging stations on campus

SUSTAINABILITY

Becoming Florida’s Sustainability Campus

SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES DEGREE PROVIDES TRAINING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

A new Sustainability Studies program will immerse students in hard science, social science and business to prepare them for careers discovering and implementing solutions that benefit the environment.

UNIVERSITY GETS ELECTRIFIED WITH NEW VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS

Six electric vehicle charging stations were unveiled on campus during an event highlighting the growth of alternative energy transportation options in St. Petersburg. All were installed at no cost to the university by Duke Energy as part of its Park and Plug pilot program.

STUDENTS INSTALL COMPOSTING SYSTEM TO REDUCE FOOD WASTE

Food waste is a major environmental issue that can largely go unnoticed. Students are tackling the problem by investing in an innovative composting system that will naturally break down food waste on campus. USF St. Petersburg is the first university in the state of Florida to house such technology.
Creating a Welcoming Campus for All

BUILDING RENAMED IN HONOR OF BILL HELLER, FORMER DEAN AND COMMUNITY LEADER
Bill Heller has been a transformative figure at USF St. Petersburg. The university recognized his many years of devoted service by renaming Coquina Hall, which houses the College of Education, as H. William Heller Hall.

TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM SAVES STUDENTS THOUSANDS
A textbook affordability initiative led by staff from the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library saved students an estimated $528,495 in textbook costs in 2018-19, a 26 percent increase in savings from the previous year.

Building Civic Engagement

HOSTING 100 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE STATE TO IMPROVE CIVICS LITERACY
USF St. Petersburg and the Florida YMCA hosted a Summer Civics Institute to instill a better understanding of state and local government by giving high school students hands-on experience in government and public service.

INNOVATION SCHOLARS PROGRAM PAIRS INCOMING FRESHMEN WITH MENTORS
Thirty-three incoming first-year students were matched with 29 community organizations as part of a new job shadowing program that gives freshmen a head start in exploring their interests and finding the right career path.

FAMILY STUDY CENTER HONORS COMMUNITY PARTNERS AT 15TH ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY
Celebrating its 15th anniversary, the Family Study Center brought together more than 100 community leaders and collaborators to recognize the achievements of four recipients whose contributions in support of babies and families in St. Petersburg have had enduring influence and impact. The Center also received $338,551 from the Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg in 2018-19 to continue its pioneering work.

SHORT & SWEET THEATRE WEEK BRINGS PROFESSIONAL THESPSIANS TO CAMPUS
Featuring seven performances that were free and open to the public, the week-long event showcased works written, directed, choreographed and performed by local and professional artists.

Expanding Knowledge through Research

CLINICAL TRIAL SEEKS TO REDUCE RISK AND DELAY EFFECTS FROM ALZHEIMER’S
What if solving brain games and puzzles on a computer could reduce the chances of developing dementia? That’s the question researchers from USF St. Petersburg and USF Tampa are seeking to answer through a pioneering new study that will test a training regimen designed to improve brain function.

CROSS-CAMPUS TEAM USES DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY TO MAP HISTORIC CEMETERY
Researchers from USF St. Petersburg and USF Tampa are employing 3D imaging technology to develop a digital recreation of the historic Tolomato Cemetery in St. Augustine, Florida. This marks the beginning of the scientific partnership between USF St. Petersburg’s La Florida project, which uses interactive maps and digital reconstructions to bring to life early Spanish Florida, and IDEaS, which uses digital tools to preserve cultural heritage for future generations.

MARINE BIOLOGY PROFESSOR ON FIRST TEAM TO FILM GIANT SQUID IN U.S.
Heather Judkins helped to identify the giant squid, whose discovery made news waves around the world. It was only the third time a giant squid has ever been filmed and the first in U.S. waters.

Training Future Generations to Make a Difference

NEW COMPETITION TO HELP STUDENTS REFINE BUSINESS PITCHING SKILLS
Students from the Kate Tiedemann College of Business will get the opportunity to promote their ideas for a start-up to a panel of judges during a series of three pitch competitions. The Duke Energy Foundation provided $10,000 to support the initiative.

ROBOTICS SUMMER CAMP RECOGNIZED FOR INSPIRING DIVERSITY
A camp created by the College of Education and funded by a $80,000 gift from the Duke Energy Foundation received the 2019 Inspiring Programs in STEM Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine.

USF ST. PETERSBURG AWARDED $5.5 MILLION TO SUPPORT K-12 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS
Thousands of K-12 school personnel will be trained on how to recognize and refer students with emotional or mental health difficulties thanks to a $5.5 million grant awarded to USF St. Petersburg’s College of Education. The funding was part of a larger legislative initiative developed from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, passed in the wake of the tragic school shooting in south Florida.