RFSA's Year in Retrospect

Projects both scholarly and social have been the norm for RFSA once again this past year. Here is a short recap:

RFSA’s Scholarship Committee reviewed applications from talented USFSP students and awarded Alicia Gangi its 2013-14 scholarship. Ms. Gangi, a student in the College of Arts and Sciences, majored in mass communications and political science. The scholarship recipient for 2014-15 is Melia Hawley, a marketing major in the College of Business.

Special thanks to the Scholarship Committee for its ongoing good work.

In November, the annual RFSA wine-and-cheese social was held on campus in the pleasant ambiance of the Snell/Williams Courtyard. Over 25 friends and colleagues attended and enjoyed catching up.

In February, nearly 50 gathered in Davis Hall for the annual RFSA Luncheon. Co-chairs Winston Bridges and Steve Micklo provided an update on RFSA activities. Dr. Vivian Fueyo, Interim Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, shared news regarding USFSP’s current initiatives, including its strategic planning process.

May brought a productive meeting with Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska and several members of the RFSA Board. The main focus of the session was to explore how the university and its retirees can better support one another. Mike Killenberg compiled a comprehensive list of agenda items for discussion. Winston Bridges reports that among the subjects discussed were: developing a campus culture that recognizes the contributions of retirees; expanding the HR website to include a section for retirees; revising the USFSP emeritus policy; building connections between USFSP constituent groups (such as RFSA, alumni, Town and Gown, SAPL, advisory boards, etc.); and capitalizing on the Library’s digital collection of archival material, including updating oral histories and improving accessibility.

In Memoriam - Celebration of Life: NANCY TEETS

Please join the family and friends of Nancy Teets, SATURDAY, SEPT. 20, 2104
3:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Davis Hall, Room 130
Complimentary parking in Lot 2 (by the Tavern at Bayboro)

(See page 2.)
Your Help Needed in Preserving USF St. Petersburg’s History

Preliminary plans are underway to celebrate USF St. Petersburg’s 50th anniversary year, July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016.

Your favorite stories, memories, and general highlights about the life and times of USF St. Petersburg are very important to our shared Institutional history. Please take a moment to jot down your thoughts and mail/email to Sudsy — or call her and leave a voice message.

YOUR recollections count. PLEASE share them!

Contact Sudsy at: tschider@mail.usf.edu or (727) 873-4842.

Format is not important - handwritten items are just fine. Don’t delay!

Check Out the Tuition Waivers for Florida Seniors

USF St. Petersburg welcomes Florida residents who are 60 years or older to discover course enrollment opportunities and lifelong learning. This program allows you to register for up to three courses, tuition-free, on a “space available” basis. Courses are available in the liberal arts (College of Arts and Sciences). Additional information on this program may be obtained at: www.usfsp.edu/records/ tuition-waivers-for-florida-seniors/

Our Colleague and Friend - Nancy Douglas Teets

It is with great sadness that we share news of the passing of NANCY DOUGLAS TEETS on June 24 in Lakeland.

Nancy was a beloved staff member for many years at USF St. Petersburg where she is remembered for her compassion, wisdom, and commitment to students, in addition to her superior professional expertise. She shared her natural wit with everyone and laughed often.

Nancy was raised on Staten Island, NY. As a young woman during WWII, she worked as a member of the Western Union staff and volunteered time and talent to the war effort. In 1946 at war's end, she married veteran Warren W. Teets, moved to Maryland/West Virginia and later to Miami where, together, they raised four children.

A consummate professional, Nancy worked for many years in the admissions office at Miami-Dade Junior College, and the information technology department at Florida International University. Later, she moved to St. Petersburg and served in both the admissions and student affairs offices at USF St. Petersburg where she was a member of the USF Ambassadors and the USF St. Pete Singers. At age 55, she fulfilled a life-long goal, earning a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from USF. After retirement from USFSP, she moved to Lakeland to enjoy her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Throughout her purposeful and generous life she volunteered time and service.

Nancy loved Franklin Roosevelt and Frank Sinatra and David Price. She never forgot a birthday or special event in the lives of those she loved. Her favorite things included traveling with family and friends, reading, watching the Tampa Bay Rays, attending the sporting events of her grandchildren, family holiday gatherings, and Henry, her constant canine companion.

Her university friends and legions of alumni will not forget Nancy and her impact on their lives.
RFSA Board Meeting  
March 4, 2014 in USFSP Williams House  
Minutes of Meeting - by Jackie Shewmaker


Called to order by Winston Bridges at 1:30 p.m. Announced that Eleanor Guetzloe had passed away last night. (3/3/14)

Sudsy - Legacy Book progressing nicely. 50th Anniversary - 2015-2016. July 1, 1965 was the date property was transferred to USF.

Jim Schnur - Digital Archives - been working for last three years to digitize our campus history. Has over 9400 items. Complete Crow’s Nest. Student theses, both Honors theses and Master’s theses. Demonstrated use and access to the Archives. Asks for memories for 50th Anniversary history.

Secretary (J. Shewmaker) - Minutes of 1/14/14 meeting perused and accepted.

Treasurer (J. Grant) - As of 3/4/14 Foundation Account has $35,341.59, and Operating Account has $1,017.75. Report accepted.

Alexis - Cost of lunches will be going up - includes set-up fee, linen fee, AV fee. February luncheon went over budget because of these extra fees. Feedback on luncheon was positive - no complaints. 40 reservations, 38 came.

Steve Micklo - Scholarship Committee needs another person to replace Eleanor, Jerry volunteers. Committee currently is Steve, Jerry, Herm, Les and Sonia.

Mike Killenberg - Retiree Benefits. HR sends a very nice letter to retirees outlining the available benefits. Mike would like to have a statement issued by Chancellor’s Office, rather than HR Office. Perhaps have a joint Alumni - RFSA event. Chancellor is willing to meet with a subcommittee from RFSA in regard to what we want and what we contribute to USF. Investigate Emeritus status for non-faculty. Subcommittee is Mike, Winston, Steve, Margaret. They will pursue several issues in retirement benefits.

Next meeting is January 15, 2015. Wine and cheese event is November 6, 2014.

Housekeeping . . .

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

- RFSA wishes to keep in contact with our colleagues and friends. Please advise us if your address, phone or email address has changed. Email this info to Alexis: asearfoss@usfsp.edu or Sudsy: tschider@mail.usf.edu
- You may also leave a voice message at: (727) 873-4519.

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JACKIE SHEWMAKER  
BOB SIWIK  
SUDSY TSCHIDERER

USFSP RFSA Liaison: ALEXIS SEARFOSS  
University Advancement - Assistant Director of Constituent Development  
asearfoss@usfsp.edu  
(727) 873-4519
RFSA Endowed Scholarship - Fuelling the Future

The RFSA Endowed Scholarship has helped several deserving students. The fund supports scholarships for undergraduate, degree-seeking students at USF St. Petersburg who hold at least a junior or senior classification at the time of the award. This scholarship is restricted to first-generation students, defined as neither parent having earned a bachelor’s degree.

While this is an endowed scholarship, RFSA wants to continue developing funds to increase the amount we are able to provide each scholarship recipient. We are seeking donors to help us continue to provide support for this fund. You can use the pledge card included with this newsletter to make your gift. We are also looking for those who would like to be designated as “Sustaining Members” through a pledge of $100 annually for five years. Please consider supporting this fund and also consider becoming a sustaining member of the scholarship fund.

ANY gift to the RFSA Endowed Scholarship can be made by returning the enclosed donor card to:

USFSP University Advancement
Attn.: Alexis Searfoss
140 7th Avenue South, WMS-200
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Gifts of any amount are welcome and appreciated.

For additional information, contact Alexis Searfoss, Assistant Director of Constituent Development, at (727) 873-4519 or asearfoss@usfsp.edu.

RFSA Legacy Book . . . FINAL CALL

The RFSA Legacy Book is an ongoing project—and needs YOUR help. This volume is a directory of USFSP retirees, including a short biographical note and photo of each person. When completed, the book will be displayed in the Poynter Library. SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE SUBMITTED INFORMATION TO DATE. Here is a sample of the format:

HERMAN BRAMES
Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance
1964-2003

Mr. Brames joined USF in 1964 as a Resident Instructor on the Tampa Campus, transferred to the year-old Bayboro Campus as Center Administrator in 1966, and concluded his 39-year career at USF as the Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance at USF St. Petersburg in 2003.

Please share your information and photo with Sudsy by mail to: USFSP, 140 7th Avenue S., SNL-100, or email tschider@mail.usf.edu. Questions? Call Sudsy: (727) 873-4842.