Get Involved: Open House and Our First Summer Commencement

On July 21, USF St. Petersburg opens its doors to students and their families for Open House. Prospective students will be able to chat about academics with college deans and professors, get information on Admissions and Financial Aid and tour our waterfront campus. Interested in getting involved?

- Faculty are invited to share information with prospective students and their families about their programs, student involvement opportunities like research and Honor societies and career paths after graduation. To sign up or learn more, contact Summer Finck.
- Campus departments and student organizations are invited to mingle with prospective students and their guests during the Check-In period. Register for a table today.

Two weeks later, the University will be hosting its first Summer Commencement. Join the celebration on August 5 as we congratulate our students on this momentous day. Learn more about Summer 2018 Commencement.

Critical Thinking Conference
Being a critical thinker involves cultivating intellectual traits of mind, such as humility, courage and perseverance. USF St. Petersburg is hosting a Critical Thinking Conference August 13-14, which will teach participants how to employ the elements of reasoning and critical thinking to hone and improve skills in their own disciplines and lives, as well as overcome the natural obstacles or challenges in thinking critically. USFSP faculty, staff and students can now register for this free conference.

Museum of Fine Arts "The Beer Project"
This year the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) is putting a new twist on their annual "Beer Project." Celebrating their Antioch Reclaimed: Ancient Mosaics exhibition, the museum is teaming up with students from USF St. Petersburg's Brewing Arts Program and the area's top craft brewers to create beers inspired by 2,500 year-old mosaics and the ancient city of Antioch. In addition, experts will lead discussions on beer anthropology and take a look at the enduring influence of beer through the ages.

Learn more about "The Beer Project."

Joint Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies
USF St. Petersburg and the St. Petersburg Innovation District invite you to learn about and provide feedback on a concept for a Joint Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies. This new initiative would provide a mechanism for stakeholders in academia, government and industry to collaborate in the areas of Marine and Life Sciences related to the Gulf of Mexico. If interested, please RSVP.

Faculty, Staff and Student News & Publications
The Family Study Center was named as one of the most impactful organizations for families in the city of St. Petersburg in its 2020 Plan, an initiative to reduce the poverty rate in south St. Petersburg by working with parents to increase their income above the poverty line. The Family Study Center also received a Healthy Start Hero Award from the Healthy Start Coalition of Pinellas in recognition for dedicated services to families with young children in Pinellas County.

Dwayne Isaacs, Director of Student Life and Engagement, was voted as the new Regional Director of Region III for the Association of College Unions International.
This organization brings together college union and student activities professionals from hundreds of schools in seven countries to build campus community.

Thomas Hallock and Julie Buckner Armstrong, Professors of English, are profiled on the subject of Florida literature by Sarah Viren, in "Everything Went Wild," in the Oxford American.

Joan Herrera, Instructor in Biology, co-authored a paper titled "Morphological Comparison of Astropecten Cingulatus and a New Species of Astropecten (Paxillosida, Astropectinidae) from the Gulf of Mexico," in the journal Zootaxa. Specimens from the study were donated to various museums including the National Museum of Natural History.

Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan, Associate Professor of Political Science, was elected to be on the Board of Trustees for South East European University (SEEU) in Macedonia. SEEU is uniquely positioned to have an independent voice in political dialogue and to serve as a model for good governance.

James (Jim) Weed is USFSP’s new Emergency Management Coordinator. Jim has 40 years of experience in Emergency Management, Fire-Rescue and Public Safety. He most recently served as the Director of Emergency Management & Homeland Security in Maryland. Jim will be working with Witt O’Brien, USFSP emergency management consultant, to implement recommendations following the completion of their program assessment.
Conferences & Events

The Kate Tiedemann College of Business and Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital teamed up for a discussion on data analytics this month. The "Data Analytics and Life Sciences" event included a presentation from the Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospitals Data Science team for a behind-the-scenes look at their cutting-edge, predictive analytics model and its impact on industries beyond healthcare.

Incoming first-year students and their family members joined USFSP faculty and staff for Summer Convocation on June 24; the official welcoming celebration for new students to our University. The Convocation ceremony symbolizes the start of a new journey and affirms a commitment to success, culminating in graduation in four years.

The second Ex Labs boot camp took place in June at USFSP, exposing students to the latest trends and strategies used in the technology industry during intense and engaging training sessions. Ex Labs is a collaborative effort between USF St. Petersburg, Tech Data Corporation and Gehant & Associates, LLC. Past participants have credited their training at Ex Labs with the confidence to approach new internship opportunities and expand on ideas while honing their own skill sets for what they can bring to various businesses.

Anthropology faculty and students are on the move, busily attending and presenting at conferences this summer. Anthropology faculty John Arthur and Anna Dixon, and Max Houck, Director of the Forensic Studies and Justice Program, along with students Shana Boyer, Alec Colarusso and Bethany Brittingham presented various research and posters at the Florida Anthropological Society meetings held at USF St. Petersburg back in May. Dixon also presented at the joint meeting of the Society for Economic Botany/Society of Ethnobiology at the University of Wisconsin on research in ethnobotany. Also at this joint meeting were students Boyer, Colarusso, Brooke Hayes and Lukas Desjardins, who presented research posters of their own.

Julie Buckner Armstrong, Professor of English, participated in "We Who Believe in Freedom: A Symposium on Teaching the Civil Rights Movement" at The Ohio State University June 2-3.

Janet K. Keeler, Instructor in Journalism and Digital Communication and a doctoral student in Education Development at USF Tampa, presented a paper "Inhospitable Chairs: Everyday Insults that Negatively Impact the Overweight" at the Sixth Annual International Weight Stigma Conference in Leeds, U.K., on June 19.

Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan, Associate Professor of Political Science, organized a Think Tank session about "Civic Engagement in the Online Classroom" at the 2018 Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement meeting in early June.

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