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Louise and Wally Bishop Endowment for Ethical Leadership : 2009-2010

University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Wally and Louise Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership & Civic Engagement.

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PA6001 – Louise and Wally Bishop Endowment for Ethical Leadership : 2009-2010

USF St. Petersburg offers distinctive graduate and undergraduate programs in the arts and sciences, business, and education within a close-knit, student-centered environment. As the first regional institution within the USF System to earn independent accreditation, USF St. Petersburg distinguishes itself by its urban waterfront location in downtown St. Petersburg and a focus on undergraduate research, civic engagement and small classes. USF St. Petersburg retains a separate identity and mission while contributing to and benefiting from the associations, cooperation, and shared resources of a premier national research university.

The Wally and Louise Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership remains staffed by one full-time USF St. Petersburg funded administrative employee whose responsibilities include teaching, research, and service, in addition to direction of the Bishop Center. This assignment is appropriate given the fund purpose "to teach and to engage in research on ethical leadership." Accordingly, the academic program core of the Bishop Center is the Leadership Studies program and minor.

During the 2009/2010 academic year, nine leadership studies courses, including the community leadership practicum (internship), were taught to a total of 128 individual students. The number of students who indicated that they were pursuing the leadership studies minor increased from 31 to 48. Student evaluations of faculty were very good to excellent. This met and actually exceeded the target set in the assessment plan for 2009 - 2010.

The Bishop Center director contributed to writing the successful $395,000 Lead Learn Serve (LLS) federal grant. The Bishop Center committed $10,000 in annual cost share funds, and Leadership Studies offered two sections of LDR 2010 Leadership Fundamentals, specifically for the freshmen in the LLS leadership learning community. The Bishop Center director participated as a member of the LLS coordinating committee to set program policies, procedures and provide oversight to the LLS student philanthropy board processes. Ten $5,000 grants from federal monies were awarded to area nonprofit agencies in 2009-2010.

The Bishop Center designed and produced a program for the Lead Learn Serve leadership learning community that introduced students to non-adversarial methods of consensus building and the theories and practices of Margaret J. Wheatley. This innovative intergenerational program brought representatives of area nonprofit agencies and USF St. Petersburg faculty and staff together with the LLS learning community to develop a list of priorities for sustainable communities.

This major program concluded with a public address by Margaret J. Wheatley that was attended by 400.