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Fueyo Bringing Innovation and Vision to USF St. Petersburg College of Education

May 16, 2003 (St. Petersburg, Fla.) - Take an extraordinary history of excellence in education, add notable scholarly achievements plus diverse research projects and you’d get something really exceptional. That is just what USF St. Petersburg is confident it has found in Dr. Vivian Fueyo, who was recently named founding dean of the College of Education.

Several aspects of USF St. Petersburg appealed to Fueyo and contributed to her considering the move from Tallahassee to the Suncoast. “I was impressed with the campus-wide vision of excellence and innovation in an urban setting,” said Fueyo. “I have a professional history of developing innovative and collaborative educational programs with strong links to the community in urban settings. The urban location of USF St. Petersburg was intriguing as was the very good reputation of the superintendent of schools and the Pinellas County Schools,” she said.

“I was also drawn to the opportunities and possibilities inherent in serving as the first dean of the College of Education,” she continued. One of my visions for the College of Education is to establish a reputation for providing innovative and challenging graduate and undergraduate programs designed to positively impact learners of all ages.”

Fueyo comes to USF St. Petersburg from Florida State University in Tallahassee where she is a professor and chair of the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education. Prior to going to FSU in 1993, Fueyo was an associate professor in the Department of Teacher Education and the coordinator of San Juan Unified School District Teacher Preparation Program at California State University in Sacramento. Her earlier positions include serving as a curriculum specialist in Novato, California, and as associate director for public services and parent teacher training at the University of Kansas.

Fueyo is a prolific scholar who has had an exceptionally large number of papers published in leading educational publications including Teacher Educational Quarterly and Teacher Education and Special Education. She has administered a large number of grant-funded projects and programs including a $1-million Summer Reading Development Grant from the Florida Department of Education, Office of “Just Read, Florida.”

Being bilingual, Fueyo has demonstrated a special interest in programs that reach language-minority children teaching them English as a second language. She is a highly sought after public speaker who has made numerous presentations coast to coast. She has made presentations to various professional and community-based groups such as: Growing up Hispanic in 20th Century America, Teacher Training for Tomorrow, and Who’s Winning the 30-Year War?: Children of Poverty in American Schools.

Fueyo attended the University of Kansas where she received both her bachelor’s degree and master’s in human development and her doctorate in philosophy, majoring in developmental and child psychology.