The Bishops

The Bishop Center is named for its founding benefactors, Wally and Louise Bishop. Wally, a syndicated cartoonist, and his wife Louise, were both actively engaged community philanthropists. Both giving of their time and money, the Bishops were avid supporters of the Arts and nonprofit organizations serving children and adults.

Their involvement in St. Petersburg’s many civic organizations enhanced and promoted their concern for the development of ethics and leadership in undergraduate college students. This concern was the impetus behind a substantial endowment for The Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership at USF St. Petersburg.
Good leadership is defined as being both effective and ethical. Challenges often occur when one or the other element — effectiveness or morality — is missing, or when these elements seem to be in conflict. In order to cultivate the growth of these “soft skills” in USF St. Petersburg students, the Wally and Louise Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership (a.k.a. the Bishop Center) develops and offers courses, workshops, and programs to help other program participants develop themselves as good leaders.

Dedicated to the premise that the experiential learning model promotes deeper learning and results in more engaged, productive citizens, the Bishop Center encourages the development of curricular programs, events, initiatives and partnerships that offer students opportunities for applied learning through community interaction.

In pursuit of its mission to produce good leaders, the following documents offers a sample record of the programs, initiatives and events with which the Bishop Center has been involved in 2014. Also included is a look towards some high level goals for the Center for 2015.

Table of Contents

1. Academic Programs
2. Co-curricular Programs
   a. Workshops
   b. Other Initiatives and Events
3. Meet Our People
4. 2015 Outlook
The Leadership Minor – **Enrollment is Growing**

The Leadership Minor is an 18 credit hour academic minor designed to help USF St. Petersburg (USFSP) students understand the challenges, opportunities, and rewards associated with ethical leadership. The university-wide minor challenges students to develop as both effective and ethical leaders; to ground their work in principles of practical and professional ethics towards accomplishing intentional, adaptive change in the areas they choose to pursue.

In 2014, the Bishop Center taught **19 leadership sections with a total duplicated student headcount of 221** – an average of 12 students per section.

**Enrollment has grown 116% since 2011.**

**2 NEW STATE APPROVED COURSES!**
Nonprofit Leadership and Outdoor Leadership were approved!

New “INDEPENDENT STUDY” offers student-centered learning. Students seeking research or practical experience can now develop their own research threads or action projects under the mentorship of one our leadership faculty.

Learn more about individual courses in the Leadership Studies Minor by [CLICKING HERE](#).
Community Leadership and Nonprofit Organizations

Universities can be powerful anchor institutions; a grounding force that activates faculty expertise and student energy towards solving real community needs. A great example of this is in the Bishop Center’s “Nonprofit Leadership” course, where Amy Kedron’s students learn the art of critical praxis: putting theory into action. The course assignments revolve around our students working to build lasting capacity in St. Petersburg area not-for-profits.

“This course is the hidden jewel of USFSP... Studying alongside community leaders, students get the best of both worlds – real world application and Grade A instruction from Dr. Amy Kedron... I would highly recommend this course to students of any major as the leadership skills gained through it are applicable in any field.”

Brittany Barefoot, Political Science

“This class was informative, interactive and entertaining. Dr. Kedron was knowledgeable...and demanded that her students not only become engaged in the community, but invest their hearts in the organizations they worked with. It worked and everyone loved the class!”

Dan McGarigal, Interdisciplinary Social Science, Leadership Studies Minor

“I have been working with the nonprofit community since I was 6 years old. I have the experience of volunteering with different organizations and working with different types of people. What that experience doesn’t give me, however, is the knowledge of how these types of organizations are run, and why the board and CEO make the decisions that they do. This course teaches all of that and more.”

Lexi Germaise, Marketing, Leadership Studies Minor
Leadership in the Great Outdoors

On May 10-11, 1996 several teams of climbers tried to scale Mt. Everest, the world’s tallest peak. Arrogance, greed and most of all, poor leadership, led to the deaths of eight climbers, making it the deadliest day in mountaineering history.

In contrast, nearly a century before, Ernest Shackleton saved the lives of the 27 men stranded with him in the Antarctic for almost two years. He was a failed explorer, but a legendary leader.

On a local level, just 10 short years ago, a school group from Atlanta ventured down the Suwannee River and into the Gulf of Mexico, a trip familiar to USFSP Outdoor Leadership students. Bad planning and a lack of sound decision making led to the deaths of two 15-year-old boys.

These are some of the stories used by Terry Tomalin to illustrate the characteristics of good and bad leadership in Outdoor Leadership. Students then apply those lesson while planning an adventure of their own.

Terry Tomalin’s students share their experience in the video below. Special thanks to Alexis Burch and USFSP Connect for producing the video.

I found that I am capable of so much more by taking this class...I would take it a thousand times over.

– Barbara Crouch, Biology

Learn [what] cannot be taught in the classroom...It’s truly one of a kind.

– Tekla Mayotte, Education
Workshops

Improvisation in Leadership

Partnering with Dr. Zheng “Chris” Chen, the Bishop Center sponsored a series of workshops that utilized improv games to teach leadership skills to management students. Toby Martini, entrepreneur and improv facilitator left a lasting impression on Dr. Chen’s students. Using successful models universities such as MIT and Stanford, the Bishop Center is working to develop the success of our 2014 “pilots” into a course in leadership studies.

Practical Ethics for a Modern Society

Faculty from the Bishop Center facilitated 50+ Florida Lobbyists through an ethical decision making framework designed to approach ethics from a real-world application. The workshop placed a special emphasis on the ‘grey-areas’ experienced by lobbyists when there are no laws and rules that govern a particular situation. The group examined useful principles and values for ethical decision making, and providing a practical model for systematic moral analysis.

Student Government Retreat

USF St. Petersburg’s Student Government Association (SGA) has had a tenuous two years. As chronicled in the Crow’s Nest here and here and here, SGA has fallen victim to squabbling, infighting, and outright controversy. Working with Student Affairs through the office of Student Life and Engagement, the Bishop Center facilitated two workshops at SGA’s Spring retreat.

The Bishop Center’s foundation was laid while supporting USFSP’s Student Government. The first iterations of financial support from Louise Bishop went to the Bishop Center to provide students in the organization with retreats, workshops, and mentoring. It was this program that built the trust and collegiality, leading to the large bequeath that supports the Center today.
Initiatives and Events

Sustainability and Leadership

There is perhaps no greater challenge of leadership than the issue of sustainability presents. Sustainability is inherently multi-disciplinary and often polarizing. Bishop Center staff and faculty have supported leadership studies students and alumni who have been key leaders in many of the sustainability efforts undertaken at USFSP, from the initial creation and implementation of the Student Green Energy Fund, to the signing of the Presidents’ Climate Commitment, to the recent completion of the Net Zero Parking Project (see video).

The Bishop Center supported the efforts of the USFSP Sustainability Work Group, a creative cross-disciplinary collaboration to assess the feasibility of a sustainability program at USFSP. You can read more about their group and their findings HERE. The Bishop Center also supported the development of the Net Zero Project video, advertising the joint venture LED project championed by student leaders. Watch the video here.

African American Male Summit

As a continued effort to close the Achievement Gap, increase the graduation rate, and decrease noted disparities among African American males, the Bishop Center and USFSP hosted the Pinellas County School and Broward County School Districts for a day of dialogue and creative thinking. Sponsored by the Pinellas Education Foundation and United Way Suncoast, the event’s purpose was to develop a course of action to address alarming statistics related to African American drop-out rates. Broward County School District has done an exceptional job with increasing the graduation rates while decreasing the out-of-school suspension and arrest rate of its students. The goal achieved through the event was to learn from the Broward County experience and listen to the concerns of 200 students from Broward and Pinellas counties, as they related to academic performance, future goals, parental involvement, and the community as a whole.
**FUTURE BULLS**

of Fairmount Park Elementary School

The Bishop Center has supported efforts by the College of Education and USFSP faculty working with Fairmount Park. In 2013, we sponsored the inaugural USFSP-Fairmount Leadership Canoe Trip. In the second annual trip, over 40 students from both schools took to the waters of Clam Bayou, with faculty and staff. Bishop’s Terry Tomalin and his Outdoor Leadership students lead the expedition that included 4th and 5th grade members of Fairmount’s Leadership Club.

**Teachers as Leaders Institute**

The Bishop Center and the College of Education, along with Pinellas County Schools and other community sponsors, conducted a two day institute for teachers with a focus on leadership skill development. The goal was to provide teachers the knowledge and skills to embrace and lead change from the classroom. The Institute brought to the campus outstanding leaders in education who have been successful in improving schools from within. More than 75 teachers from around the state of Florida attended the 2nd annual institute. There was an emphasis on teachers of math and science.
The Muggs and Skeeter Collection

For 49 years, between 1927 and 1974, Wally Bishop drew and published the cartoon Muggs and Skeeter. The cartoon was an informative and subtly provocative commentary on current events of the day. At a time when most comic strips—such as “Family Circus”—emphasized the family as a nuclear unit, “Muggs and Skeeter” offered a different approach to addressing the family, placing the grandparents as the primary caregivers to Muggs and Skeeter. The cartoon’s lifespan covers many major historical events such as the end of the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, World War II, the Korean War, the assassinations of both President John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, the Vietnam War, Civil Rights protests, White House sit-ins, the Watergate Scandal, and much more. While there are some conversations one might expect to take place between kids, the majority of the conversations actually comprise these current events, leading one to believe that the author’s intention was to keep his readers informed as to what was going on around them. For example, there are various conversations about littering, air pollution, noise pollution, the gasoline shortage, the Supreme Court’s ruling on the death penalty, wiretapping and the invasion of privacy, etc. Occasionally, Wally would provide subtle indications of his own political views towards an event.

To memorialize Wally Bishop’s work and make it accessible as an educational tool, over 450 panels from the Muggs and Skeeter collection has been digitally archived and preserved in Poynter Library’s Special Collections and University Archives. Find the full collection on the digital archive. Here is a sampling...
2015 Outlook

In order to work within the vision laid out in USFSP’s Vision 20/20 plan, the Bishop Center has begun a curriculum review and strategic planning process. Over the course of the summer and fall of 2015, we’ll be outlining revisions to our curriculum and action steps for the next 5 years, to align and coincide with the values, goals, and strategies of the University’s Vision 20/20 plan.

Collaborating with Student Affairs
The Bishop Center sees Student Affairs as a key partner in realizing the intent of Louise Bishop – to develop effective and ethical leaders by connecting curricular and co-curricular learning experiences; a program focused on outcomes and process.

Over the last year, we have made some inroads. Working with Leadership and Student Organizations, we are reinvigorating Omicron Delta Kappa, a national honor society for leadership. In the Fall of 2015, we’ll launch the Leadership Living Learning Community, a program designed for First-Time-In-College (FTIC) students, who live together in the dorms, enroll together in leadership classes, and participate together in co-curricular programs. The Department of Housing and Academic Advising have been critical allies in this ongoing initiative.

We also see some tremendous opportunities to partner with the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Wellness and Career Centers, and to continue to develop an existing relationship with the Waterfront Office.

Bishop Fellows Scholarships
The Bishop Center is currently working with Financial Aid to develop a scholarship program to encourage enrollment growth in the Leadership Studies Minor. Louise Bishop made it crystal-clear that the Bishop Center programs ought to support as many students as possible, from all colleges. Early details suggest we’ll be able to support up to 10 students each year with a scholarship.
Meet our Staff

Bill Heller, Director

Dr. H. William (Bill) Heller is currently Dean and Professor of the College Education and Director of the Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership at the University of South Florida St Petersburg (USFSP). Prior to these appointments, Dr. Heller served as CEO and Dean of USFSP from 1992 - 2002 and as a member of the Florida House of Representatives from 2006 - 2010 representing House District 52. He holds a doctorate in Special Education and School Psychology from the University of Northern Colorado.

Dr. Heller has served as a member of numerous community organizations and serves as Chair of the Pinellas Cultural Foundation. He is an Honorary Life Member of Great Explorations and is a Board Member Emeritus of The Mahaffey Theater Foundation. Dr. Heller teaches courses in the Leadership Minor and serves as Principal or Co-Principal Investigator for several grants and projects serving children and adults with disabilities.

Dr. Heller is a veteran of the U. S. Army serving as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division. He and Jeanne have been married for 60 years; have one son and two daughters, three grandchildren, and three GREAT grandchildren!

David O’Neill, Program Assistant

David O’Neill is Program Assistant for the Bishop Center. David takes a great interest in organizational development and creating cultures of open learning. He has put such interest into action while developing USFSP’s Student Green Energy Fund Committee and organizing the international Open Space Conference. He is a champion for sustainability and creative problem solving, and recognizes the tangible and intrinsic values of civic leadership and experiential learning. A new father, David’s spare time is spent playing “dad” to Olivia Rose.
Amanda Bissett, Student Worker (FWS)

Amanda Bissett is a sophomore studying biology. Amanda enjoys working with data and in her free time even watches Excel tutorials on YouTube! Leveraging her personal interest to learn professional skills, she has contributed significantly to the Bishop Center’s capacity for data-driven decision making. Amanda joined the Bishop Center as a freshman, mature beyond her years.

Emily Tinti, Student Worker (FWS)

Emily Tinti is a junior studying psychology. She joined the Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership team in January as a Student Assistant, dedicated to promoting the Leadership Studies minor and the growth of the new Bishop Center blog. She actively contributes leadership-based posts and recruits other students and faculty to do so as well. Aside from working at the Bishop Center, Emily is the Arts and Life Editor for the Crow’s Nest, USFSP’s student-run newspaper. She focuses on lifestyle, campus events, and St. Pete’s flourishing art scene. She enjoys gardening, walking downtown, and volunteering in whatever ways she can.

Jennifer Livaudais, Student Worker (OPS)

Jennifer Livaudais is a senior in the graphic design program minoring in art history. She began working for the Bishop Center as a Graphic Artist in January, creating print and web promotional materials to expand the Center’s presence on campus. She focuses her work on generating awareness of the Center’s activities and finding new ways to engage students. On her off time she enjoys going to downtown art shows, watching films, and being creative.
Meet our Faculty

Diane McKinstry, Director of Student Achievement

EARNED DEGREES:
B.S. Psychology, Fordham University
Ph.D. Counseling Psychology, University of Minnesota

SPECIALIZATION(S): Counseling, Career Development, Student Support Services, Assessment, and Leadership

Fred Bennett, Community Liaison, College of Education

EARNED DEGREES:
B.S.B.A, Finance and Accounting, Shippensburg University, (PA)
M.B.A, Finance and Management, Shippensburg University, (PA)
M.A., Ethics and Philosophy, University of South Florida

SPECIALIZATION(S): Corporate Leadership & Ethics, Management, Accounting, Sustainability

Matt Morrin, Directory of Student Life & Engagement

EARNED DEGREES
M.A. Education, Carthage College
B.A. Interpersonal and Public Communication, Central Michigan

SPECIALIZATION(S): Student Affairs, Leadership Development, Business Administration, Psychology
Melanie Bevan, Assistant Police Chief, City of St. Petersburg

EARNED DEGREES
Ph.D. Organizational Leadership, Argosy University
219th National Academy, Federal Bureau of Investigation
M.A. Public Administration, Troy State University
B.A. Criminal Justice, St. Leo University

SPECIALIZATION(S): Organizational Leadership, Conflict Resolution, Negotiation, Community Relations, Event Coordination

Stephen Ritch, Founding Director, Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership

EARNED DEGREES
Ph.D. Higher Education Leadership, University of Florida
M.A. Political Science and College Teaching, University of South Florida
B.A. Political Science, University of South Florida

SPECIALIZATION(S): Leadership Ethics, Guideline for Leadership Education Programs, Student Development, University Administration

Terry Tomalin, Outdoor & Fitness Editor, Tampa Bay Times

EARNED DEGREES
B.A. Mass Communications, University of South Florida
M.A. Florida Studies, University of South Florida St. Petersburg

SPECIALIZATION(S): Florida Maritime Culture, Leadership, Journalism