Remarks on St. Petersburg Campus Expansion

The dedication, in effect, marks our coming-of-age. USF at St. Petersburg is now a tangible reality, not a pretentious title for the "Bayboro Campus." Set on the water's edge, our handsome new buildings make an attractive environment for study and learning. They are a source of local pride and form an integral part of downtown St. Petersburg's expansion and renewal. Their striking appearance and high visibility can only increase public awareness of the educational opportunities this regional campus offers the residents of Pinellas County.

The new campus is the happy consequence of constructive interaction by the university, state and local government, this regional campus, and the host community. This cooperation, I am confident, is an omen of good things to come. I believe that when these good people come to visit our campus during dedication week they will see for themselves what we are and what we are doing. They will see that education on the St. Petersburg Campus is still an individual experience and on a human scale. I believe they will better understand how these modest new facilities, together with continuing university and community support, will help us meet the legitimate present and future needs of students in this geographical area. It's up to us now to take the initiative in meeting these needs with academic programs of genuine excellence.

John Hinz