12-18-2007

Commencement : 2007 : Fall : Program

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.usfsp.edu/graduations_commencements

Recommended Citation
https://digital.usfsp.edu/graduations_commencements/8

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the USFSP Convocations, Graduations, and Celebrations at Digital USFSP. It has been accepted for inclusion in USFSP Graduations and Commencements by an authorized administrator of Digital USFSP.
Dear Graduates,

Today is a very proud moment for you, your family and friends, and for the University of South Florida. Congratulations on achieving your dream.

We fully appreciate just how hard you worked to reach this milestone. You have faced high standards since you entered USF. You have undoubtedly changed in many ways, some obvious, others more subtle. You have refined your skills in the arts of listening, researching and thinking. You have learned the confidence to challenge ideas and developed the communication skills to preserve relationships while engaging in dialogue with others.

May your life’s journey never take you far from these principles, and may it frequently bring you back to USF.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Judy Genshaft
President
University of South Florida

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

ST. PETERSBURG
DECEMBER 18, 2007
Founded in 1956, the University of South Florida is a national research university with campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee and Lakeland. USF is classified among the nation's premier research universities by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Of the 4,321 colleges and universities classified by the foundation, USF is one of only 95 in the U.S. honored to be in the top tier and one of four universities in Florida at the highest level.

USF St. Petersburg opened for classes September 7, 1965 in the barracks of a World War II Merchant Marine Base. The state legislature established St. Petersburg as an official branch campus of the University of South Florida in 1968, the first regional campus in the State University System. The first degrees were conferred that year to 51 students in elementary education.

Throughout its history, the St. Petersburg City Council and business leaders lobbied to expand the campus. Their visionary efforts garnered today's campus for classrooms, laboratories, library and support facilities. After 30 years of teaching juniors, seniors and graduate students, USF St. Petersburg admitted a limited number of freshmen in a special Learning Community Program in 1998. It proved so popular that two years later the campus admitted freshmen into every program. This step spurred enrollment growth and increased higher education choices for Florida's students.

Today, USF St. Petersburg is a separately accredited, fiscally autonomous institution of the University of South Florida. More than 5,000 students are enrolled in 38 undergraduate and graduate degree programs through the colleges of Arts & Sciences, Business and Education.

USF St. Petersburg offers distinctive undergraduate and graduate programs in a close-knit, student-centered learning environment. Faculty and students conduct wide-ranging, collaborative research projects and partnerships to enhance the university and community's social, economic and intellectual life. As an integral and complementary part of a university system, 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.

UNIVERSITY OFFICERS
Judy Genshaft, President
Renu Khator, Provost and Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs
Carl Carlucci, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Karen Holbrook, Interim Vice President of Research and Innovation
Stephen Klasko, Vice President, Health Sciences; Dean, Medicine
Marshall Goodman, Vice President and CEO, USF Lakeland
Arthur M. Guilford, Vice President and CEO, USF Sarasota-Manatee
Jeff Robison, Vice President, Advancement
Karen A. White, Regional Chancellor, USF St. Petersburg

USF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Lee E. Arnold, Jr., Clearwater
Michael J. Barber, Tampa
Richard A. Beard, III, Tampa
Margarita R. Cancio, M.D., Tampa
Garin Flowers, Tampa
Sonja Garcia, Tampa
Rhea F. Law, Tampa
Kiran Patel, Tampa
John B. Ranil, Tampa
Debbie N. Sembler, Pinellas Park
Jan Smith, Bradenton
Robert L. Soran, Sarasota
Sherrill Tomasino, Temple Terrace

USF ST. PETERSBURG OFFICERS
Karen A. White, Regional Chancellor
Christopher F. D’Elia, Interim Regional Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs
Robert Dardene, Interim Regional Associate Vice Chancellor Research and Graduate Studies
Ashok Dhingra, Regional Vice Chancellor Administration and Finance
Kent Kelso, Regional Vice Chancellor Student Affairs
Holly Kickliter, Regional Associate Vice Chancellor University Relations
Kathy Arsenault, Dean, Nelson Poynter Library
Frank Biafora, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Geralyn McClure Franklin, Dean, College of Business
Vivian Fueyo, Dean, College of Education
Frank Hohengarten, Dean, Enrollment Services

USF ST. PETERSBURG CAMPUS BOARD MEMBERS
Roy Binger, St. Petersburg
Stephanie Goforth, Gulfport
H. William Habermeyer, Jr., St. Petersburg
Larry C. Morgan, Bellair
Debbie N. Sembler, Pinellas Park
Order of Exercises
Judy Genshaft, President, Presiding

PROCESIONAL (please stand)
CEREMONY OPENING
NATIONAL ANTHEM
PLATFORM INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME
PRESIDENT'S WELCOME
STUDENT WELCOME
ALUMNI WELCOME AND OUTSTANDING GRADUATE PRESENTATION
REGIONAL CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP
PRESENTATION OF MASTER DEGREES
CONFERRING OF MASTER DEGREES
PRESENTATION OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREES
CONFERRING OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREES
ALMA MATER
CLOSING/RECESSITIONAL

PARTICIPANTS
COMMENCEMENT MARSHAL
UNIVERSITY READER
MARSHALS

Margaret Hewitt
Commencement Marshall
Laura Davis, 01
Karen A. White
Regional Chancellor
President Genshaft
Megan L. Willoughby,
Student Speaker
Audrey Gilmore, '89
President, Pinellas County Alumni Chapter
Regional Chancellor White presenting
Roy Harrell
Posthumously received by Ginny Harrell
Christopher F. D'Elia,
Interim Regional Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs
Frank Biafora, Dean, Arts and Sciences
Geralyn McClure Franklin, Dean, Business
Vivian Fueyo, Dean, Education
President Genshaft
Frank Biafora, Dean, Arts and Sciences
Geralyn McClure Franklin, Dean, Business
Vivian Fueyo, Dean, Education
President Genshaft
Laura Davis
Margaret Hewitt
Margaret Hewitt
Todd Shank
Dear Graduate,

Congratulations to you, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg graduating class of Fall 2007. Graduation is a defining time in your life—it is the fulfillment of past goals and holds the promise of future challenges and accomplishments. I am honored to be associated with you, our graduates, and to be affiliated with a university so committed to the value of higher education.

The university’s commitment to high standards and academic excellence will prove important to you as you now focus on your future whether you choose to enter the job market or apply to graduate school. I am confident you will find that your hard work and dedication, as well as the high expectations and standards set by your professors, have well prepared you for success.

You made a good choice in choosing to attend the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, an institution with a continuing tradition of close interaction between students and a caring faculty committed to excellence in education.

As educated citizens of this city, this state, this nation, and ultimately the world at large, you have a greater responsibility than you did when you first entered the university. We expect great things from you; but, most of all, we expect you to do things for the betterment of humanity with the knowledge and skills you gained during your university experience.

Sincerely,

Karen A. White, D.M.A.
Regional Chancellor
Roy Harrell
Regional Chancellor's Award for Civic Leadership

The recipient of the Regional Chancellor's Award for Civic Leadership at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg is Roy G. Harrell Jr. Mr. Harrell was a husband, parent, community volunteer and a visionary civic leader whose contributions enriched our university, our region and improved the way national leaders consider environmental policy and resources.

Mr. Harrell practiced law in the areas of real estate, environment, banking and general commercial law. He was a member of the St. Petersburg, Florida, Virginia and American Bar associations. Mr. Harrell graduated, with honors, with a bachelor's degree in 1966 from The Citadel and earned his law degree, cum laude, in 1969 from Washington and Lee University School of Law.

One of his most visible achievements was serving on the Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District from November 1985 through February 1998. During his tenure, Mr. Harrell is credited for providing pivotal leadership in settling the decades-old Tampa Bay water wars, and for developing new rules and regulations affecting the environment, including the Environmental Resource Permit and water use caution areas. He also received accolades for promoting an emphasis on conservation, including implementation of year-round water conservation measures; metering all user segments of the water resource; creating the Tampa Bay Partnership Agreement between SWFWMD and Tampa Bay Water and its six governmental members.

Mr. Harrell served on the Policy Committee of the Tampa Bay National Estuary Program from 1990 through 1996. From 1996 through 1998 he volunteered his legal expertise to negotiate and draft the Interlocal Agreement between 15 governmental entities and agencies, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, three counties, three cities and SWFWMD for the clean up of Tampa Bay — creating the first binding agreement in the nation for the clean up of a national estuary.

Mr. Harrell also was a friend to USF St. Petersburg and many other organizations served as a member of various boards of directors. He serving on the USF St. Petersburg Campus Advisory Board, Florida Chamber of Commerce, the Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation, the Tampa Bay Partnership, St. Anthony's Hospital Foundation, Pinellas County Environmental Foundation, Oasis School, Friends of Weedon Isle School and the 1000 Friends of Florida. Additionally, he chaired the Board of Directors of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce; the United Way of Pinellas County; the Tampa Bay United Way Task Force; Tampa Bay Partnership-Pinellas; Leadership St. Pete Alumni Association; the Anthonians; St. Anthony's Hospital Foundation; and the USF St. Petersburg Campus Advisory Board.

His dedicated service to St. Petersburg was recognized by many grateful community groups. He received the Chamber Member of the Year Award in 1980, Community Service Award of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce in 1988, as well as the Leadership Award of the Leadership St. Pete Alumni Association. He was named Mr. Sun in 2001 by the Suncoasters during its 80th celebration of the Festival of States.

As Mr. Harrell's service extended beyond the city's boundaries, so did those organizations honoring his stewardship and service. Mr. Harrell received the Leadership Award of the National Association of Community Leadership Association, the Annual Community Service Award of the United Way Pinellas County and the Annual Community Service Award of the Pinellas Emergency Mental Health Services.
Congratulations!
Today you join a proud tradition.
Since the very first graduating class in 1963, USF alumni have brought honor and distinction to the university in many areas, including medicine, business, law, the arts, public service, technology, engineering and education. With each passing year—and graduating class—the university’s stature continues to grow as its alumni are recognized across the state and nation, and around the world. From this day forward, you will carry on that tradition.

Wherever your future takes you, you’ll carry with you the distinguished reputation of a world-class university. As a student, you benefited from those who came before you and helped contribute to the value of your USF experience and degree. Now, as an alumnus, you will make your own contributions to benefit generations of USF students to come. Pride, Loyalty, and Tradition—We challenge all USF alumni to get involved in some way. Whether it’s with a local alumni chapter, a national society or by attending Alumni Association events, you can make a difference.

We are truly proud of the accomplishments you celebrate today. We hope we can count on your support to help improve our university through your participation with the USF Alumni Association.

Sincerely,

Jeff Spalding, ’87
President
USF Alumni Association

The Fall 2007 Outstanding Graduate is Brenda Mettetal. Ms. Mettetal is a College of Business student graduating with a degree in Accounting and Finance.
She is a charter member of Beta Alpha Psi and an active member of the Student Business Organization. Ms. Mettetal is also the recipient of the Robert and Lucy West Endowed Scholarship and a Florida Medallion Scholar.
One of her professors described her as having a unique and outstanding combination of scholastic ability and interest in community service. She is committed to her community and to directly impacting the lives of those around her.
Since 2005 Ms. Mettetal has worked for the Child Evangelism Fellowship. While working there she discovered that the tax-exempt status of this non-profit organization had lapsed. She was responsible for restoring this status with the Internal Revenue Service, the Division of Corporations, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Revenue. Currently, she is responsible for all internal accounting functions of the organization.
Ms. Mettetal has managed to excel inside and outside the classroom and is truly deserving of this honor. She will continue to represent USF St. Petersburg well as she pursues her career goals.
Candidates for the Master’s Degree

College of Arts and Sciences
Frank Biafora, Dean

Master of Arts
Mass Communications, Journalism Studies
Melanie Lisa Cohen
Casey John Cora
John Terrana
Christina Leigh Tischner

Master of Liberal Arts
Liberal Arts, Florida Studies
Hope L. Black

Master of Social Work

Social Work
Carol Abrams
Pamela Bacci
Tyrhonda Baldwin
Susan Bobel
Martha Bowles
Terrika Burton
Cathy Christmas
Kathy Counce
Jaclyn Gramazio
Debra Gregory
Karen Marinari
Marge Mlynarski
Vicki Morgan
Craig Peters
Lauren Phillips
Allen Smith
Kristi Yatchak

College of Business
Geralyn McClure Franklin, Dean

Master of Business Administration

Business Administration
Kathleen Atala Auger
Jing Jing Diana Chen
Mathew Earl Kall
Matthew Richard Kenagy
Kimberly A. Martyn
Patrick John Patterson
Inna Ruelle
Shelley A. Shanahan
Tiffany Ann Williams

College of Education
Vivian Fuego, Dean

Master of Arts in Teaching

Special Education: Varying Exceptionalities
Mary Hamrick Canning
Maria DeLeon-Arinson
Elizabeth N. Frankenfeld
Patricia F. Jones
Jessica Manzione
Julie Protopapa
Stacey Andrea Solar
Emily Stoffo
Elizabeth Ann Victoria Summele

Master of Education

Educational Leadership
Shannon L. Brennan
Melissa Kay Leech
Angela Mount
Diane Sabatos
Michael Jose Vasallo

Special Education: Varying Exceptionalities
Sofia Renette Byard
Candidates for the Bachelor’s Degree

College of Arts and Sciences
Frank Biafora, Dean

Bachelor of Arts

Anthropology
Ryan Powers Boyle
Jennifer Lynn Ellerman
Peter James Gerakios
Leigh Erin Laubenstein
Juan Carlos Ortiz Cespedes
Alighail R. Trehass
Cum Laude

Criminology
Hyacinth Chance Dyer
Brian Richard Fey, Jr.
Sandra Elsie Herrera
Tara L. Hill
Justin Huntley Hyers
Michael Karajian
Amy Elizabeth McDorman
Lisa A. Morelli
Maria N. Mousseau
Cum Laude
Kyle Stephen Oakman
Erika Lynn Scroggin
Deanna Lynn Skinner
Tiquila Lakeitha Snead
Keith A. Thompson, Jr.

English, Literature
Marquita Joy Day
Eileen Elizabeth DeCosmo
Michaela Maureen Doherty
Elizabeth Marie Hurst
Cum Laude

Mass Communications, Journalism-Magazine
Bryan W. White

Mass Communications, Journalism-News Editorial
Rachel Alexander
Scott Becker
Jared Michael Brooks
Jennifer Ann Manfrey

Mass Communications, Visual Communications
Richard Marvin Athey
Crystal L. Costello
Cum Laude
Shawn C. Gearhart
Ashley Geneene Krapf
Emily Rose Martin

Political Science
Sean Christian Cate
Cum Laude
Mark Gosef Grzegorzewski
Christie J. McHargue
Kelly Jo Schweigl
Adam John William Uker
Justin James Waters
Emily Christine Wilson

Psychology
Cara Nicole Badgett
Jennifer Alana Baptie
Brandon Wayne Botteron
Marc D. Chavez
Taryn C. Dorosz
Emily Joelle Eustis
Stephanie Nicolette Gomez
Viviana Gonzalez
Desiree Nicole Gregg
Sanja H. Abdic
Sylvie Anna Heatherington

History
Kathryn A. Heath
Joan Leslie Holt
Magna Cum Laude
Robert John Quattrocchi
Tracy Ann Shifer

Interdisciplinary Social Sciences
Katherine Marie Griffin
Janice Louise Hatcher
Katherine Adele Honahan
Jerry D. Hunt
Cum Laude
Matthew Buchanan Lawrence
Camella Marinela Ray
Cum Laude
Beverly Hardin Ryan
Paula Lorraine Smith
Anita Marie Thompson

Bachelor of Science

Environmental Science
Nicholas Paul Ellerman
Joseph Haran
Ashley Lauren Herron
Julia Elizabeth Mary Reeves
Cum Laude
Amanda D. Shawver-Karnitz
Heather Lee Willis

Bachelor of Social Work

Social Work
Dawn Brown
Christine Campbell
Angela Carpenter
Regina Clark
Maryna Farnham
Carolyn Jackson
Anthony Margiotta
Stavroula Spindakos
Tara Tearl
Amaris Xiong

Accounting
Alisa Janjos
Cynthia Marie Jansen
Cum Laude
Kristi Lee Jones
Cum Laude
Ashley Elizabeth Karol
Summa Cum Laude

Accounting
Ellen Lee Blackburn
Tai C. DeMaris
Esther Maria Garcia Weeks
Summa Cum Laude
Ekaterina G. Kisseleva
David John Leikensohn
Wei-Ming Liu
Levi C. Mitchek
Hen Annette Nassar
University Honors Program
Jason Andrew Pott

Accounting & Finance
Jacqueline Ann Blake
Magna Cum Laude

Finance
Sean Michael Bergren
Magna Cum Laude
Daniel John Diffenderfer
Isaiah Quinnones
Ragnar Randdorh
Demetrius Nicole Taylor
Leja Turudija

Management
Robert Alan Davis II
Lindsay Blair Dutus
John Mitchell Matthew Lees
Min Li
Pejman Gharo Mahmoudi
Jonathan David Xavier
Summa Cum Laude

Management Information Systems
Alec W. McLean
Jason Andrew Pott

Marketing
Amy Janelle Ashlock
Cum Laude
Aoise M. Sullivan

Marketing & Management
Brenda Lynn Shabel

Bachelor of Science

Accounting
Gwendolyn Howell Benton
Cum Laude
Benjamin A. Compton
Bridget Marjorie Comer
At the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, we take great pride in the academic achievements of our students. Undergraduate students who are graduating with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher are identified in this Commencement program as graduating with honors. The honors designations are as follows:

Cum Laude, graduating with honor; grade point average of 3.5 or higher
Magna Cum Laude, graduating with high honor; grade point average of 3.7 or higher
Summa Cum Laude, graduating with highest honor; grade point average of 3.9 or higher

Graduates with the highest cumulative grade point average, 4.0, are also identified as King O’Neal Scholars.
Alma Mater

Hail to thee, our Alma Mater
May thy name be told,
Where above thy gleaming splendor,
Waves the green and gold.
Thou our guide in quest for knowledge
Where we all are free
University of South Florida,
Alma Mater, hail to thee!

Be our guide in truth and wisdom
As we onward go,
May thy glory, fame and honor
Never cease to grow,
May our thoughts and prayers
be with thee through eternity,
University of South Florida,
Alma Mater, Hail to thee!