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Panel 18 through Panel 20: An Academic Anchor for Pinellas County (1988-1997)

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Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

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Mike Moyer began his doctorate in marine science in 1982. At that time, he pledged to put away his razor until he finished his degree. Expecting it to take only a few years to complete his research on scallops and— as a reward— allowed friends and family the honor of shaving his foot-long beard. Moyer presently serves as dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Concordia University, Texas.

Who’s the bearded guy?

Bayboro Brevities: A Chronology


June 30, 1989: Groundbreaking for the Campus Activities Center.

Spring 1989: Students and faculty protest plans to demolish the historic Potter and Black houses along Second Street South. A parking lot for the newly-opened Campus Activities Center soon took their place.


January 1990: Campus Activities Center opened. Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership established. Cole Endowed Chair in Ethics established.

September 25, 1990: Bayboro Hall rededicated as Davis Hall to honor late Dean Lowell L. Davis.

October 19, 1990: Robert Thiele’s “untitled, 12-16” concrete sculpture dedicated throughout.

1990: The Department of Marine Science sponsored its first Oceanography Camp for Girls.

September 6, 1990: “Last Call for SFB-Building,” a campus event commemorated the venerable SFB (‘B’) classroom building before its demolition.


Fall 1992: Graduate program in journalism up and running.

October 29, 1992: Groundbreaking for Marine Science Joint Use Research Facility held.

1993: “Food for Thought” luncheon program, a quarterly gathering for community members, was launched.

February 4, 1993: The St. Petersburg City Council unanimously approved a plan allowing for the long-range expansion of the campus that transferred 15 acres of land purchased by the city to the University and formalized expansion boundaries.


August 17, 1993: Historic C. Perry Snell, Jr., House (built 1904) moved to campus.

September 13, 1993: Renovated Piano Man Building—named for a company that had previously operated in the structure since 1969—dedicated for campus use.

December 1993: First USF St. Petersburg December Commencement held at the Tradewinds Resort on St. Pete Beach.

June 1994: The Coalition for Science Literacy, under the leadership of former USF provost Gerry Meisels, came to campus.

August 1994: The Ethics Center opened.

Fall 1994: Knight Oceanographic Research Center (KORC) opened on site formerly occupied by the ‘B’ Building. The Center for Ocean Technology was launched.

November 15, 1994: Groundbreaking for USGS ‘B’ Building named in honor of Paul Getting, a former leader of the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce.

February 28, 1995: Road signs install a long-awaited Interstate Highway sign directing motorists to the USF St. Petersburg campus from I-275.

March 30, 1995: Historic John C. and Sarah Williams House, built 1890-1891, moved to campus.

July 1995: The Florida Comprehensive System for Personnel Development (CSPD) office Climate for campus as an initiative to provide support for teachers of exceptional student education.

August 1995: Oasis Program opened on campus as a dropout prevention program for middle school students. The program ended its nine-year run at USF St. Petersburg in 2004 in order to make room for the new excellence halls.

January 1996: The Text and Academic Authors Association relocated its national headquarters to campus until the early 2000s.

January 17, 1996: YWCA/USF Family Village Groundbreaking took place. The Family Village provides convenient day care services for the USF St. Petersburg.

May 8, 1996: Paul L. Getting Building, a structure connected to the Studebaker Building was completed.

June 11, 1996: Campus acquired historic Gandy Bridge Tollbooth tower and placed it along approach to peninsula near the physical plant building.


May 1997: New Bayboro Hall opened (renovated former Poynter Library), featuring a student services mall.