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Don't Quit Your Day Job [Saturday MBA]

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Don’t Quit Your Day Job

USF is taking its business downtown. If you work in downtown Tampa or the Westshore area and want to get your MBA, you won’t have to drive far to class. This fall, USF will begin offering master’s of business administration courses at the new USF Downtown Center, located at Tampa’s Port Authority complex. USF expects to offer three classes each evening and will increase the number of courses offered as demand increases.

The courses are the USF College of Business Administration’s latest effort to reach out to the Tampa Bay business community. This semester, the college began offering a Saturday MBA program on USF’s St. Petersburg campus, adding to a complement of MBA programs that range from part-time evening programs to specialized programs for executives and physicians. USF’s MBA programs employ a variety of instructional methods, including group projects, case studies and experiential learning projects. The focus is on developing insights and skills necessary to reach integrative solutions to complex business challenges.

In addition to the MBA courses, the USF Downtown Center will house USF’s Small Business Development Center, the Center for International Business and the Center for Economic Development Research.

According to Steve Baumgarten, who oversees USF’s MBA programs, the center’s state-of-the-art classrooms will boast high-tech gadgets such as computer projection equipment and video conferencing capabilities. There is also a faculty conference room for meetings with small groups of students. As an added bonus, there’s convenient, security parking. For information regarding MBA enrollment at the USF Downtown Center, call (813) 974-3335.

Budding entrepreneurs: USF has been selected as one of only 21 sites nationwide to participate in an exclusive internship program through the Kauffman Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership. In being selected, USF joins the ranks of such prestigious business programs as Wake Forest and the University of Chicago.

Nine USF graduate students, seven of whom are shown here with USF faculty members Steve Budd and Michael Fountain, are working with chief executives of nine Tampa Bay area firms. Students are selected based on academic achievement and interest in entrepreneurship and receive tuition waivers, Kauffman stipends and company contributions.

USF BOOKSHELF

In the beginning. God is the first volume in a series of books that explores the five great world religions—Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Christianity. Edited by Jacob Neusner, USF distinguished professor of Religious Studies and the author of more than 700 books, this first volume addresses fundamental questions: How do we know about God? What do we know about God? How do we relate to God? God is published by Pilgrim Press and can be ordered by calling 1-800-537-3394. It can also be purchased at the USF bookstore.

An affair to remember. USF’s own award-winning author laureate, English professor Rita Ciresi, has released her newest novel, Pink Slip, to rave reviews. This wisecracking, warmly received story of an office romance “reveals the home truths of every woman’s life,” wrote one reviewer. The book has captured so much attention, that excerpts have been featured in Cosmopolitan magazine. Another reviewer called it “even better than her (previous novel) Blue Italian, which was already a triumph.” Published by Delacorte Press, it is available at many local bookstores, including the USF Bookstore on the Tampa campus.

Skin deep. In beauty-obsessed America, negative comments about one’s appearance can cut even the thickest-skinned. USF Psychology Professor Kevin Thompson explores the issues of teasing in a new book, Exacting Beauty: Theory, Assessment and Treatment of Body Image Disturbance. The book covers topics including how often people are teased about their appearance, who teases them and how it’s related to their self-esteem and body image. Published by the American Psychological Association, Thompson wrote the book with three former graduate students—Leslie Heinberg, Madeline Altabe and Stacey Tantleff-Dunn.