1-1-2006

Partners in Progress: 2006

University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Office of the Regional Chancellor.; White, Karen A.; Kickliter, Holly; Booth, Julie; University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Office of University Relations.

Follow this and additional works at: http://digital.usfsp.edu/regional_chancellor_white

Recommended Citation


http://digital.usfsp.edu/regional_chancellor_white/40

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of the Regional Chancellor: Meetings, Statements and Administrative Materials at Digital USFSP. It has been accepted for inclusion in Regional Chancellor: Karen A. White (July 2003-December 2008) by an authorized administrator of Digital USFSP.
PARTNERS IN PROGRESS
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG / SECOND EDITION
Dear Friends,

USF St. Petersburg's 40th anniversary year provides an opportunity to celebrate and to reflect on shared accomplishments of the past decades. But this year is much more than just a celebration. It is a milestone in the exciting evolution of our campus.

This year, we laid the groundwork for USF St. Petersburg's next 40 years and dedicated our energies toward transforming USF St. Petersburg into the comprehensive campus envisioned by our founders so many years ago.

In the academic arena, we achieved a site review for separate accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The 10-member SACS team, colleagues from similar institutions, congratulated USF St. Petersburg on the significant progress we have made toward autonomy in a relatively short time.

The SACS team recognized the quality of our academic programs, the exuberance of our students and they were particularly impressed with the stellar credentials of our faculty. Site visitors also acknowledged the comprehensive support of separate accreditation given by the Board of Trustees and Campus Board. I remain confident that the extraordinary work of the faculty, staff and students will be recognized.

Construction of our first residence hall and parking center has significantly changed the landscape of our waterfront campus, and allows us to further expand our services to students. Anticipation is soaring as we edge closer to Student Move-In Day at Residence Hall One on August 23, 2006.

Move-In Day signals a new era for USF St. Petersburg. The collective vision of a graduate and undergraduate, residential public university in Pinellas County becomes a reality in this, our 40th year. We salute our partners in progress who have assisted us over the years and share this benchmark occasion with us.

Sincerely,
Karen A. White
Regional Chancellor
Nationally Coveted Internship

2005 Student Government President Thomas J. Piccolo spent the spring semester interning in Washington, D.C. Piccolo was one of only 100 students selected from across the country to intern at the White House.

He worked behind the scenes in the Office of Presidential Personnel. This office helps the president identify the most qualified candidates for his administration and organizes events at the White House.

Recommended by both USF St. Petersburg faculty and staff members, a Pinellas County Alumni Chapter Selection Committee chose Piccolo as the Outstanding Graduate for the 2006 Spring Commencement. He graduated with a double major earning a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in Economics and History and a minor in Arabic.

Top of Her Class

Israel native Ella Shenhav graduated in December 2005 with a Bachelor’s of Science in Criminology. The Pinellas County Alumni Chapter Selection Committee named her the Outstanding Graduate at the 2005 Fall Commencement, and she was a King O’Neal Scholar, which recognizes graduating seniors with a cumulative GPA of 4.0.

Shenhav was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the founding president of the campus chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society, and a member of the Criminology Law and Honor Society.

Shenhav was an Israeli Army recruit placement supervisor, volunteer note taker for disabled students, an ERA lobbyist and a member of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. She will enroll at either Harvard or Yale Law School this fall.
eeghan Kane will attend the University of South Carolina this fall to earn her doctorate degree in History. She graduated with a Master’s in Liberal Arts from the Florida Studies Program, and is one of the students in the program’s charter class.

In 2004, Kane was the Assistant Conference Coordinator for “The Civil Rights Movement in Florida,” a landmark conference hosted by the Florida Studies Program.


The Essentials You Need to Earn an MBA

Interested in earning an MBA but don’t have a business degree? A program at USF St. Petersburg allows students to complete business prerequisite courses in a short amount of time for a reasonable price.

“We developed the MBA Essentials program because it could take students a year or more to complete the prerequisites through undergraduate or graduate level courses,” Antoinette Criss, Ph.D., MBA director for the College of Business said. “This way students are able to get into MBA courses sooner.”

The program is designed for the non-business graduate who is seeking to obtain an MBA. MBA hopefuls first apply to the MBA Program, and upon acceptance, begin the MBA Essentials track where they receive mentoring from business faculty.

After completion of the prerequisites, students can enroll in core courses and choose a course of study from: Corporate Social Responsibility, Forensic Accounting, Managing Knowledge Resources or Taxation.

Editor’s Vision Inspires Journalists

Department of Journalism and Media Studies graduate student Anthony Salveggi is not only editor of The Crow’s Nest, USF St. Petersburg’s weekly student newspaper, this year, but he’s also a staff writer for the Tampa Bay Business Journal, hired after an internship last spring.

Under his leadership on campus, The Crow’s Nest has received a makeover, sharpening the newsy and thoughtful campus newspaper that serves students, staff and faculty.

Through his quiet leadership, Salveggi and his team launched an online version, usfstpetecrowsnest.com, in April 2006.

Former Journalism Department Chairman G. Michael Killenberg, Ph.D., said few editors are as involved in reporting the news as Salveggi is. “He is its editorial voice and Anthony sets the editorial standard of excellence that will inspire future editors.”

This married father of two graduated spring 2006 with a Master’s of Arts in Journalism.

Florida Studies Standout

Meaghan Kane will attend the University of South Carolina this fall to earn her doctorate degree in History. She graduated with a Master’s in Liberal Arts from the Florida Studies Program, and is one of the students in the program’s charter class.
You might find USF St. Petersburg professors waist deep in their waders in the Peace and Hillsborough Rivers. Researchers in USF St. Petersburg’s Center for Science and Policy Applications for Coastal Environment, or C-SPACE, get down, dirty and wet as they monitor water quality in our region’s water bodies.

C-SPACE launched in 2005 with funding of almost $1 million to our campus from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Ecologists Christopher D’Elia, Ph.D., and James Gore, Ph.D., oversee the development of the program and its research.

Problems affecting coastal areas, with an initial focus on Florida’s Gulf Coast, are the main focus of the research. Faculty studies include the use, supply and quality of freshwater; the fate, effects, assessment and remediation of water-borne pollutants; water quality and quantity driven changes in inland and coastal ecosystems; and management and policy of coastal freshwater and marine ecosystems.

“Our campus is committed to research that is relevant to our region. Water quality and supply is one of the most important issues to face the Bay area, our state and our country,” Karen A. White, regional chancellor, said.

The research facilities involved in the C-SPACE research with USF St. Petersburg’s Environmental Science Policy and Geography researchers are the USF College of Marine Science, the Center for Coastal & Watershed Studies of the U.S. Geological Survey, the Southeast Fisheries Science Center of the National Marine Fisheries Service/NOAA and the Florida Wildlife Research Institute.

RESEARCH FUNDING: In the 1999-2000 school year, the campus received just over $1 million. Five years later, in 2004, faculty received almost $2.5 million.
Residence Hall Opens August 2006

The first campus residence hall is generating a buzz both on campus and in downtown St. Petersburg. The seven-story, 95-unit apartment complex opens to students in August 2006. Just two blocks from Bayboro Harbor, Residence Hall One is close to classes and St. Petersburg’s vibrant downtown. Cafes, shops, museums, galleries, movie theaters and the Saturday Morning Market are a few nearby attractions.

A member of the first class to live on campus, John Honey, a junior majoring in Business Management, said he believes students will enjoy downtown St. Petersburg. “I think it will bring the USF St. Petersburg community together. More students are getting connected and staying on campus,” he said.

Honey added, “This is an opportunity to grow with the university. I think students will become more involved with their education. They’ll be more involved in classes, student organizations and campus activities. Everyone, especially students, will benefit greatly and have a more well-rounded university experience.”

Students living in Residence Hall One also can enjoy a number of amenities. Apartments are furnished and include high-speed Internet access, 77 cable channels and local telephone service. Each floor features a study lounge, also with wireless Internet access.

“Students tell us they are looking for comfort and convenience, and that is exactly what Residence Hall One provides them. They are just a short walk away from everything they could possibly need, and they can live with all the comforts of home,” said Charles Brown, Ph.D., regional vice chancellor of Student Affairs.

The University estimates the spending impact in St. Petersburg of students living in Residence Hall One at $2 million a year.

A Working Newsroom in the Community

Journalism and Media Studies students report from the midtown community. A student-run newsroom called the Neighborhood News Bureau opened this year in the James B. Sanderlin Center on 22nd Avenue South. It offers journalism students newsroom experience publishing articles in local newspapers while gaining course credit. The program has existed for five years on campus, but the new location in the Sanderlin Center will help transform journalism students into published journalists with hands-on experience.

“This is an innovative initiative that no one has done,” Tony Silvia, Ph.D., director of Journalism and Media Studies, said. “I think this can be a national model.”

Graduate and undergraduate aspiring journalists develop story ideas and report on the urban midtown area located in the heart of St. Petersburg. Neighborhood News Bureau students write personality profiles, business and community features and neighborhood announcements for news and community organizations.

“We are becoming a part of the community. Our students have a very serious purpose here,” Silvia said. “It’s a great commitment to the midtown community.”
SF St. Petersburg faculty is partnering with Pinellas County Schools to develop a program to support and retain new teachers in high-needs schools. A $250,000 grant from the Florida Department of Education supports this pilot program.

Debbie Wedding, Human Resources Director for Pinellas County Schools, said the school district is excited about this grant. “It gives the district an opportunity to provide early career teachers support through effective mentoring, professional development and induction. We look forward to partnering with USF St. Petersburg faculty as we work to build structures of professional development that will support our new teachers.”

Because of a number of critical indicators, Gibbs High School was selected as the treatment school for the grant. Pinellas County Schools plans to hire three mentors to support and train the early career teachers at Gibbs’ expanding program. College of Education faculty will work with these mentors and first-year teachers in a collaborative effort with the district based on the results of a needs assessment.

Education Dean Vivian Fueyo and four faculty members will provide training in creating learning communities, mathematics, reading, motivation strategies and teacher mentoring. The needs assessment will evaluate what training new teachers might need and how they view the mentoring they are receiving. The faculty will generate an assessment at the beginning of the project so it can tailor the training to Pinellas County’s needs and those of new teachers at Gibbs High School.

The grant money to USF St. Petersburg, about $35,000, will be used in part to pay faculty summer stipends. Faculty work will continue through the next school year.

Gwyn Lightsey, Ph.D., reading and literacy education, said the county may apply for a larger grant next year. She and Brianne Reck, Ph.D., educational leadership; Brett Jones, Ph.D., psychological foundations; and Andy Reeves, Ph.D., mathematics education, are the faculty members involved in the program.
Early 300 teachers advanced their skills needed to become school leaders at the Teacher Leadership Institute. Teams of teachers and administrators from five school districts were invited to participate in this two-day seminar led by faculty in the Educational Leadership program at USF St. Petersburg. It emphasized professionalism in teaching and explored three promising new teacher leadership roles: teacher as researcher, teacher as scholar and teacher as mentor.

The research is clear. As teachers assume leadership roles in their schools, they are more successful as teachers and more professionally satisfied with their careers. To that effect, the Institute is predicated on the fundamental belief that positive change in schools is possible and that teacher leaders are the key.

School teams also developed strategic action plans to take back to their schools. Sessions included:

- Teacher as Researcher and Scholar
- Ethical and Moral Leadership
- Leadership as Professionalism
- Curriculum Leadership

Ann Lieberman, Ph.D., senior scholar at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, gave the keynote address. Lieberman is also the author of *Teacher Leadership*.

Progress Energy made this program possible with a $60,000 donation to the College of Education at USF St. Petersburg.

Education Partnership

Eckerd College and the College of Education at USF St. Petersburg have built an exciting private-public partnership to help meet the state’s demand for more highly qualified teachers.

Using the 3:2 model, three years at Eckerd College and two years at the College of Education, Eckerd College students will graduate with a bachelor’s degree from Eckerd College, and a master’s degree in education and teacher certification in elementary education or exceptional student education from USF St. Petersburg.

Given the high academic standards of Eckerd and USF St. Petersburg’s College of Education, both institutions view this partnership as a career-making opportunity for students.

“By opening the door to careers in teaching to talented Eckerd College students, this public-private partnership is an innovative way that our College of Education is striving to reach its goal of helping to meet the state’s continuing need for quality teachers,” Vivian Fueyo, dean of the College of Education, said.

The first Eckerd students enroll in this program in fall 2006.
Linking Families Across Time

A dedication at the historic Williams House, built by one of the city’s first founders, John C. Williams, was held in February. The university dedicated the home’s library to the founding family of the St. Petersburg Kennel Club to recognize the family’s long-standing tradition of supporting campus activities. Nearly 40 family members attended the dedication of the Derby Lane Library.

The family has a history that dates back to 1923, when T.L. Weaver moved to St. Petersburg to expand his lumber holdings by opening the Pinellas Lumber Company. A year later he acquired the fledgling race track.

“It seems appropriate that two of St. Petersburg’s first families are represented in the Williams House,” Karen A. White, regional chancellor, said. “The generosity of the Weavers and Winnings will be felt for many years.”

The family’s donations have benefited many areas on campus, including student scholarships, fellowships at the College of Marine Science, the USF Women’s Sailing Team and the H. William Heller Chair in Special Education.

Pod Casting Professors Offer Portable Classes

UNF St. Petersburg is on the cutting edge of a new trend sweeping through academia.

New technology allows students to download lectures from the Internet and watch them from their home computer or video iPod™. Pod casting opens the door for students with a busy schedule to focus on lectures at their own pace and repeat lectures as many times as they need.

“We believe we are among the first in the world to use this new technology for teaching,” V. Mark Durand, psychology professor and regional vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, said. “We are exploring innovative ways to educate our students, and this brand-new technology should make learning even more accessible.”

Digital courses allow USF St. Petersburg to meet the needs of students unable to attend classes on campus. Courses offered include: Chemistry I, Autism, Abnormal Psychology, Bible as Literature and School Law.

The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library has a studio where professors tape lectures in front of a chroma key, or blue screen, backdrop. Power Point presentations are included, as well as multiple ways to download.

Durand started developing courses on CD-ROM in 1999. He presented his pilot course, and tips on incorporating interactive teaching methods, at the annual conference of the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology last year.
Philanthropy Enriches Campus

LIVING GIFT
For many years, the Gus Stavros Center for Free Enterprise and Economic Education at USF Tampa has connected educators, business leaders and entrepreneurs to integrate free enterprise and economic education in public schools. A new gift of $100,000 to the College of Education from Gus and Frances Stavros established an endowment called the Gus and Frances Stavros Economic Education Fund for USF St. Petersburg that will permanently support this programming on campus.

CORPORATE GIFT
A Progress Energy grant of $135,000 funded two programs in the College of Education: School Leadership for Results and the Teacher Leadership Institute.

In the School Leadership for Results program, faculty in the Educational Leadership Program work with public school administrators, and those interested in becoming public school administrators, to drive the instructional improvement agenda in schools. The program pairs experienced school administrators with less-experienced administrators in a mentorship model that serves as a pipeline for the preparation of educational leaders in Florida’s school districts.

The Teacher Leadership Institute invited teams of teachers and administrators from five school districts to participate in a two-day seminar at USF St. Petersburg. It emphasized professionalism in teaching and explored three promising new teacher leadership roles: teacher as researcher, teacher as scholar and teacher as mentor. School teams also developed strategic action plans to take back to their schools.

ESTATE PLANNING
Through a generous bequest received from Louise Carson Bishop to its endowment, USF St Petersburg established The Wally and Louise Bishop Center for Ethical Studies. This center will promote interdisciplinary research, teaching and experiential learning across the university’s curriculum to help our students understand the challenges, opportunities and rewards associated with ethical leadership and decision making.

STUDENTS CARE ABOUT ST. PETERSBURG. In 2006, student groups led harbor clean ups, collected toys for underprivileged children, participated in meals on wheels, youth mentoring, special olympics and monthly blood drives.

Mark Jerome Walters, D.V.M., associate professor of Journalism and Media Studies, spent years searching the Hawaiian Islands for information about the culture’s sacred raven, the alala. Walters chronicled his discoveries in his book Seeking the Sacred Raven: Politics and Extinction on a Hawaiian Island. Instead of an after-the-fact story on extinction, Walters’ nonfiction saga tells the present-day story of the alala’s decline on the Hawaiian Islands.

His passion is baseball and his career is media. Tony Silvia, Ph.D., director of Journalism and Media Studies, is writing a book that uncovers the hidden talent of the early radio baseball broadcasters. Diamonds in the Air: Radio, Baseball and the Power of Imagination is scheduled for December 2006 publication. The book reveals how early baseball radio broadcasts were not performed live, but were instead recreated at a studio with ticker tape and sound effects. It explains the integration of creativity to sports broadcasting done by both the announcer and audience.

John Arthur, Ph.D., and Kathryn Weedman, Ph.D., are assistant professors of anthropology. They received a National Science Foundation grant of nearly $60,000 to study the development of the caste system in Ethiopia. Arthur and Weedman took an expedition team for an intense three and a half month archeological scavenger hunt in May 2006. Arthur has a book to be published this year, Living with Pottery. Weedman specializes in disenfranchised populations of Africa and conducts stone-tool analysis to expose distinctions in social groups.

The National Institute of Child Health and Development awarded James McHale, Ph.D., a major research grant for $405,000, recognizing him as one of the country’s leading scientists in the field of psychology.

The primary focus of McHale’s grant is to illuminate factors that influence early
patterns of co-parenting that develop within months after a new baby arrives. McHale maintains active interests in infant mental health, community psychology, family diversity and primary prevention.

First-hand study is essential to learning. For the second year, Fulbright alumnus Todd Shank, Ph.D., associate professor of finance, led faculty and College of Business students to China to examine its bustling economy. The group toured the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, saw new U.S. capital investments in the casino industry and visited a university to contrast the differences between regulations in Hong Kong and China. Shank taught Doing Business in China, while marketing professor Tom Ainscough, Ph.D., taught International Marketing.

Fraud comes in many forms, and professor and forensic accountant Richard Brody, Ph.D., CPA, CFE, is battling Internet fraud with knowledge. A frequent guest on local television and radio stations, Brody cautions consumers to protect themselves. Topics include the latest Internet threats, phishing and pharming, as well as the risk of outsourcing tax returns to India. Brody published “Identity Theft: Insights from a Recent U.S. Postal Inspection Service Investigation” in the Journal of Forensic Accounting and “Nailing Fraudulent Contractors: Home Improvement and Construction Fraud” in Fraud Magazine.

The welcoming article in the back-to-school issue of Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education included a personal message from Vivian Fueyo, Ph.D., dean of the College of Education. Fueyo wrote about growing up in a Spanish-speaking home in “The Bridge Between Home and School.” Her message: to succeed in school, take pride in your heritage.

A book by College of Education professors guides school administrators in handling personnel issues. Managing Marginal School Employees: Applying Standards-Based Performance Measures was written by Lynette Fields, Ph.D., and Brianne Reck, Ph.D. The text offers case study-style dilemmas for administrators to consider, discuss and solve.

He wrote the textbook kids nationwide use to learn math. Charles Reeves, Ph.D., lecturer in mathematics education, co-wrote Prentice Hall Mathematics, Courses 1-3. The book is sold to middle schools across the country.
Authors abound in the Florida Studies Program, a graduate-level Program of Distinction. In 2005 through summer 2006, faculty, students and fellows published seven books.

“Most striking is the breadth of the scholarship and writing that reflects the interdisciplinary nature of Florida Studies,” program co-founder Gary Mormino, Ph.D., said. “This cross-fertilization is not an accident – it’s what we hope for in the liberal arts. Disciplines and scholarship interact and influence each other.”

The proverbial floodgates opened with Mormino’s publication of Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams: A Social History of Modern Florida.


Recent books by graduate students include: Images of America – New Port Richey by Adam J. Carozza; St. Petersburg’s Historic 22nd Street South by Jon Wilson (and Rosalie Peck); and St. Petersburg’s Maritime Service Training Station by Michelle Hoffman.

Lee Irby, a former student and Florida Studies fellow, followed up his recent best-selling novel, 7,000 Clams, with The Up and Up. The former is set in St. Petersburg; the latter in Miami.
Tackling Taxes in Community Campaign

Imagine yourself as a college student giving up your Saturdays or evenings to work with low-income families preparing their taxes. That’s exactly what College of Business accounting students did.

For the second year, they participated in the Wealth Building Coalition/Prosperity Campaign of Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. Students volunteered to prepare taxes for St. Petersburg residents at two locations. Students completed extensive IRS training to participate in the campaign and received IRS certification to prepare taxes from January through April.

Cherin Stover, Prosperity Campaign of Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties, said “USF St. Petersburg students are some of the finest volunteers we have. They enhance our program through their skills and dedication, and we are fortunate to have had them work with us. These students went beyond doing a few hours of volunteer work.”

Students worked with low-income residents who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit which boosts the standard of living for thousands of local families each year.

The award-winning Pinellas Wealth Building Coalition began four years ago and links community awareness of the EITC, free tax preparation and asset building.

College of Business student Heather Gregory helps a St. Petersburg resident evaluate her eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit.
USF St. Petersburg’s 40th anniversary has been a time of “rebirth.” Campus transformation coincides with a sudden surge in babies. Two dozen babies were born to faculty and staff member families.

During this time, the campus hired nearly 200 new faculty and staff members and the USF Board of Trustees approved a $100 million Campus Master Plan that includes student housing, parking, classrooms and cultural spaces.