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Commencement : 2002 : Fall : Program

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

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University of South Florida
Commencement
Convocation

St. Petersburg
Fall 2002
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 faced high standards when you entered USF, you have changed in many ways, some obvious, others subtle and nuanced. 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 necessary to preserve relationships while engaging in dialogue with others.

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

Sincerely,

Judy Genshaft
President
University of South Florida
The University of South Florida, founded in 1956, has become the second-largest university in the Southeast, with a student body of 39,000 on campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota/Manatee and Lakeland, as well as its centers in downtown Tampa, New Port Richey and northern Pinellas County.

USF's national reputation as a dynamic research university continues to attract more and more of the nation's best and brightest scholars to the Tampa Bay area. That research is taking place across an astonishing array of disciplines, from marine science to teacher education, micro-engineering and cancer treatments.

USF now ranks among the nation's elite research institutions, according to the prestigious Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

USF St. Petersburg epitomizes the University's energy and bright outlook. From its first classes in 1965 in barracks left over from a WWII Merchant Marine base, the urban waterfront campus has thrived. It has advanced from serving only juniors, seniors and graduate students to a full, four-year, fiscally autonomous institution. USF St. Petersburg today offers nearly 50 programs at the undergraduate, master's and doctoral levels. Enrollment has increased 55 percent over the past five years. Some 4,000 students are studying for degrees in business, education, nursing and the arts and sciences. With the general admission of freshmen and sophomores in the fall of 2000, enrollment has tripled in the prestigious University Honors College. The number of faculty has swelled also, with 42 new professors added since fall.

Even with all this growth, courses at USF St. Petersburg are notable for their small class sizes and individual faculty attention.

Flexible scheduling and affordable tuition allow students of all ages to accommodate family, work and school in a balanced fashion. In cooperation with the YWCA of Tampa Bay, the university operates a day care center for students with children. The campus fosters a student-oriented, personalized learning environment within and beyond the classroom that encourages close interaction among students, faculty and staff.

Several programs have their roots at USF St. Petersburg as well. A progressive graduate program in journalism studies, with a faculty that includes the Poynter Jamison Endowed Chair in Media Ethics and Press Policy, is based on this campus. The highly regarded Teacher for All Children program, which prepares students for certification in both elementary and special education, is considered one of the best of its kind. The Program for Ethics in Education and Community infuses the teaching of ethics throughout the curriculum and beyond through a popular public lecture series. A new graphic design program is offered only at USF St. Petersburg.

Newly renovated high-tech science labs opened this fall for courses in undergraduate chemistry and biology that support the new environmental science and policy major. A state-of-the-art computer lab with Macintosh G4 computers provides the technical foundation for a visual communications program that began this fall. In addition, the university has begun a certificate program in cultural institutions management. And, residential housing will soon appear on campus, with the first apartments available within one year.

USF St. Petersburg is a leading light in higher education in Pinellas County, and is considered America's most inviting campus.

USF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The Symbols of Learning

Modern academic regalia evolved from the apparel worn by monks and students in the 11th and 12th centuries to keep warm in the medieval castles and halls in which they studied. Academic life as we know it today began in the Middle Ages — first in the church, then in the guilds. The teaching guild was the Guild of the Master of Arts, and the Bachelor was the apprentice to the Master. Their dress was the outward sign of stature and responsibility. Academic regalia was thus a visible manifestation — in color, pattern and design — that unified those of common discipline and like purpose. In later centuries, to preserve the regalia’s dignity and meaning, universities set rules of academic dress. American universities agreed on a definite system in 1895, establishing a code of approved attire. In 1932, the American Council on Education revised this code, which, for the most part, governs the style of academic dress today. The principal features of academic dress are three: the gown, the cap and the hood.

THE GOWN — The gown has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers any dress of rank or social standing. The sleeves of the gown indicate the level of the degree held by the wearer. A long, pointed sleeve indicates the bachelor’s degree. The master’s gown has an oblong sleeve cut in an arc, with a slit at either the upper arm or wrist. The doctor’s gown has bell-shaped sleeves and may also have velvet facing and sleeve bars or chevrons. The trimming may be black, or it may match the degree color on the gown edging.

THE CAP — The freed slave in ancient Rome won the privilege of wearing a cap, and so the academic cap is a sign of the freedom of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as a square symbolizing the book, although other authorities claim that it is a mortar board, the symbol of the masons, a privileged guild. The color of the tassel on the cap denotes the discipline. The tassels on the caps (mortar boards) worn by the faculty may be black or a color indicating the degree. Those who hold a doctoral degree may wear a gold tassel. It is traditional for degree candidates to wear their tassels on the right and for those holding degrees to wear them on the left. Graduates transfer their tassels to the left after conferring of the degrees by the President.

THE MACE — The Academic Ceremonial Mace, which is closely related to maces used by ecclesiastical and civil authorities, dates back to at least the 14th century and is derived from the original battle mace that was designed to protect a king and was carried by the royal bodyguard. This symbol of authority and power has been conveyed to the Academic Mace, and signifies the authority of the Chief Executive Officer of the university. The size, shape and design of academic maces vary tremendously. The most common design has a major shaft that is topped with a head and an ornament, with the lower end of the shaft having a terminal finial.

THE MEDALLION — The medallions worn by candidates for the bachelor’s degree identify those graduating with honors. The black hood of a bachelor’s candidate indicates a student who has earned The Honors College degree.

The University of South Florida is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award degrees at the baccalaureate, masters, specialist and doctoral levels, including the Doctor of Medicine. Events, activities, programs and facilities of the University of South Florida are available to all without regard to race, color, marital status, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, Vietnam or disabled veteran status as provided by law and in accordance with the university’s respect for personal dignity.
Order of Exercises
Judy Genshaft, President, Presiding

Prelude Concert
Pomp and Circumstance
(process please stand)

Processional
Robert Dardenne
Commencement Marshal

National Anthem
Shana Smith

Greetings
Ralph C. Wilcox
Interim Campus Vice President

Remarks
President Genshaft

Recognition
Vice President Wilcox

Presentation of Honorary Degree
Lee Benjamin, Honorary Doctorate of Education

Student Reflections
Pauline (PJ) Crosby-Miller

Outstanding Seniors
Vice President Wilcox

Outstanding Graduate
Ken Griffin
President, Pinellas County Alumni Chapter

Conferring of Graduate Degrees
President Genshaft

Conferring of Baccalaureate Degrees
President Genshaft

Closing Remarks
Vice President Wilcox

Alma Mater
Shana Smith

Recessional
The Florida Orchestra Brass Quintet

Trumpet Tune
Purcell

University of South Florida
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!
Dear Graduate,

Congratulations on your graduation from the University of South Florida St. Petersburg - a member institution of this nation's small and most select group of Doctoral/Research-Extensive universities. As Interim Vice-President and Campus Executive Officer, I share with everyone here our deep pride in your accomplishment. At this exciting time, I encourage you to pause and reflect on those who have helped you reach this important milestone - your family and friends, faculty, fellow students and others.

You now join the proud ranks of USF Alumni. I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to join the USF Alumni Association, a terrific way to further develop a network and make contacts which will be so essential to your continued academic and professional growth. Furthermore, joining the Association is a meaningful way to support your alma mater and is the very best way to stay in touch with USF St. Petersburg. We care very much about you and your future accomplishments. Your active participation in the Pinellas County Alumni Chapter will, I know, support your professional career advancement.

In a way, our alumni are USF St. Petersburg's best advertisements. Indeed your success is a measure of the quality of our institution, and so I hope you will share your experiences and achievements with us in the future. Moreover, please remember that learning is a lifelong endeavor, and I hope that we will see you again on campus for classes or alumni activities - there will always be a place for you at USF St. Petersburg whether in graduate school or at homecoming.

I trust that we have prepared you well for future success in an evermore competitive marketplace and changing society. I wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ralph C. Wilcox, Ph.D.
Interim Vice President and
Campus Executive Officer
Lee Benjamin
Honorary Doctorate of Education

From the classroom to the basketball court to the administrative office to the school board, Lee Benjamin has done it all. Encompassing his successive positions from coach and teacher to chairman of the Pinellas County School Board is his deep, broad, and sustained impact in ensuring that all children receive a high-quality education. As a long-time friend to the University of South Florida, he has established a lasting legacy through his leadership in developing a model for university-school partnerships.

Mr. Benjamin was a high school teacher and coach in Georgia before coming to Northeast High School in 1954 as one of the first teachers at that newly opened school. He rose from the ranks of coach and teacher to dean, assistant principal, and principal. While principal, Mr. Benjamin dealt with the unsettling changes brought about by the desegregation of all schools countywide, yet because of the respect he had established with all students and their parents, Northeast did not experience the unrest of other schools. In 1974, he was appointed one of the country's first area superintendents, where he oversaw the operation of more than 30 schools. He retired from that post ten years later.

In 1990, Mr. Benjamin was elected to the Pinellas County School Board. He has served an unprecedented four terms as chairman. In that time, he helped USF St. Petersburg develop partnerships with Rawlings and Campbell Park elementary schools and put the word "university" into the name of Palm Harbor University High School through this university's affiliation there. Additionally, he supported the implementation of character education into Pinellas County schools, using a program that originated in USFSP's ethics initiative.

Mr. Benjamin has been equally active outside the halls of education. He is owner and operator of Hilltop Day Camp in St. Petersburg. He is the director of Camp Kadima, which is sponsored by the Jewish Federation. He is a member of Temple B'lai Israel of Clearwater and the Holocaust Committee for the state of Florida. He is a past member of the Civitan Club and Community Alliance. And he finished fourth in the nation in the Tennis Senior Olympics!

He has a bachelor's degree in physical education and a Masters degree in administration and supervision, both from Florida State University.

Mr. Benjamin's accomplishments have not gone without notice. He has received education awards from Hadassah and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He has been named an outstanding educator for Pinellas County.

USF St. Petersburg's teacher education programs and access to school board services and resources are testaments to Mr. Benjamin's leadership. As Dr. William Heller noted in a letter of recommendation, "I think no one has been more instrumental in building bridges between higher education and elementary and secondary education than this gentleman. People talk about school-university partnerships; Lee Benjamin has made them a reality for USF St. Petersburg."

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The Graduates

Doctoral degree

College of Marine Science

Doctor of Philosophy

Audra Ames
B.S., Long Island University, South Hampton
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Lipid Chemistry of the Florida Manatee, Trichechus Manatus Latirostris
Major Professor: Edward S. VanVleet

Ruoying He
B.S., Ocean University of Qingdao
(Marine Science: Physical Oceanography)
Dissertation: The Response of the West Florida Shelf to Forcing at Tidal, Synoptic, Seasonal and Inter-Annual Time Scales
Major Professor: Robert Weisberg, Ph.D.

Strawn Toler
B.S., Southwest Texas State University
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: A Study of Breakage and Calcification in Bleaching-Stressed Amphistegina Gibbosa (Foraminifera)
Major Professor: Pamela Hallock-Muller
## Master's degree

### College of Arts and Sciences
- Georgia Heandrera DeSteppe
- Therese Mattioli-Housnell
- Vidisha Priyamka
- Cynthia Van Aken

### College of Business Administration
- Jonathan Burns
- Matthew Lee Spoor
- Christopher Stansfield

### College of Education
- Tiffany Grey
- Mark Haverfield
- Sarah Jacobsen
- Theresa Maddern
- Robin Motichek
- Andrea Oliver-Schmiedel
- Timothy Piepho
- Colleen Rafferty
- Audrey Reali
- Jennifer Roessner
- Freda Scott
- Laura Shawley
- Cecelia Smith
- Denise Thomas
- Maggie Tumbusch
- Stephen Allan White

### College of Engineering
- Jonathan Roy

### College of Marine Science
- Todd Hickey
- Kelly Kilbourne
- Elizabeth Tyner

### College of Nursing
- Shirlin Gauthier
- Susan Hall
- Diane Laorenza

## Bachelor's degree

### College of Arts and Sciences
- Arthur Rhashod Adams
- Matthew Antonio
- Betty Beeler
- Annalisa Baczy
- Rita Bott
- Gloria Boyd
- Kiwanis Denise Brown
- Geoffrey Brown
- Lisa Brown
- Lajuan Bryant
- Kyle Buck
- Charles Cardwell
- Christina Channess-Adams
- Paul Chrestain
- University Honors College
- Linda Christian
- Cam Lauede
- Kiara Christianson
- Magna Cum Laude
- Raymond Claus
- Jacquelynn L. Covington
- Pauline J. Crosby-Demler
- Hadeh Motamed Damavandi
- Kelly Dann
- John B. DeCosmos II
- Laura DeRuvo
- Ryan Thomas Desimone
- Joyce Dion
- Cam Lauede
- Jennifer Ann Doody
- Maureen Dowling
- Karen Drapala
- Kyle Shane Flannery
- Robert LeGrand Furney, Jr.
- Courtney Gabler
- Megan Anne Garrison
- Ann Haines
- Gabrielle Jesse Hall
- Crystal Helton
- Andrea Herzog
- Mary Beth Hoblit
- University Honors College
- Shawn Byler
- Melissa Dawn Johnson
- Stephanie Nicole Johnson
- Debbie Kaye
- Kevin Charles King
- Michael J. Kirschner
- University Honors College
- Bobby Koonce
- Cassidy Kucera
- Pamela Holt Kvasic
- Ernest Lee
- Craig Linderman
- Kristin Martin
- Mary Martin
- Nicole Migailo-Boerner
- Mark Wade Miller
- Melanie Morgan
- Carra Morrow
- Penny Sue Mueller
- Troi Allison Owens
- Dianna Pelfry
- Karl Peterson
- Allison Pomeranz
- Marci Portella
- Amy Price
- Adrien K. Riley
- Twana Robinson
- Christin Servedio
- University Honors College
- Lori Lee Sheldon
- Bethany Smith
- Eunice Smith
- Christine Tara Smith
- Dana St. Claire-Houghton
- Melissa Dawn Stephenson
- Melissa Taylor
- Ellen Louise Topping
- Michael Gary Trout
- Catherine Viebrock
- Albert William Vogt III
- Danielle Warren
- Magna Cum Laude
- Koryn Williams
- La Drea Young
- Linda Young
- Marnie Zank

### College of Business Administration
- Bujar Abdullaj
- Sue Ackley
- Tina Akavan
- David Allan Anthony
- Carolyn Arenas
- Jerry Bailey
- Marielle Elizabeth Barrs
- Dawn Jean Benesner
- Kristin Beeman
- Julia Boland
- Cum Laude

### College of Engineering
- Jeraleigh Leszczak Boyer
- David Briggs
- Joseph Wornicki-Brommelcisk
- Katherine Brown
- Lucille Bryant
- Erin Caffel
- John Cash
- Lyman Cebelski
- Linnea Chapman
- Sharon Carrozzi Colhorpe
- Magna Cum Laude
- Jeremy Cook
- Calvin Cyrus
- Craig Darrell
- April Raynette Davis
- Elizabeth DeMar
- Vera Deoloso
- John Downing
- Christina ShuVon Ebanks
- Kurt Eichler
- Timothy Ewin
- Kadie Flye
- Deirdre Foster
- Bryan Gattuso
- Johnny Genaro
- Aneta Giadla
- Heather Gileta
- Carlos Alberto Gomez
- Suzanne Griffiths
- Melissa Erin Hall
- Kevin M. Hobbs
- Ari Hohos
- Kyle Hoopingsarner
- Cam Laude
- Donna Hyde
- Christopher Jorge Iglesias

### College of Marine Science
- Todd Hickey
- Kelly Kilbourne
- Elizabeth Tyner

### College of Nursing
- Shirlin Gauthier
- Susan Hall
- Diane Laorenza
Laura Mistretta Justice
Richard Kennedy
Scholastica Kimani
University Honors College
Richard Klingel
Tanya Krause
Michael Lawler
Nancy Leclerc
Magnus Cum Laude
Janice Mackedon
Fadi Malaki
Polly Mallett
Kip Justin Marler
Kimberly Marti
Christopher Meneadez
Mary Merkel
Hicham Mirfad
Yvonne Margaret Misiak
Michelle Mizia
Patti Morin
Reda Mouman
Christopher Robert Owens
Anthony Joseph Pagnotto
Michelle Joy Pearson
Leatrice Pierce
Carrie Poling
William Post
Holly Runbo
Constance Ratcliffe
Shannon Ratz
Jaime Danielle Rayl
Christopher Reardon
Chattin Ricchi
David Rodrigues
Magnus Cum Laude
Penny Sablosky
Sannee Saccoh
Jennifer Sacino
Ann Seifried
Danian Selover
Mary Shehata
Michael Smith
Richard Smith
Cum Laude
Terri Stanart
Tanesha Stevenson
James Stewart

Stephanie Swain-Valesky
Vanessa Renee Tanasz
Amy Elizabeth Tess
Andrew Robert Tess
Richard Tirrell
Magnus Cum Laude
Carol Toomey
Magnus Cum Laude
Tracie Trevino
Heide Melissa Ulmer
Scott van der Kooy
Jose M. Vasquez
Steven Volz
Leneelle Walker
Nappamus Wangsuttisonsmri
Joel Wegryn
Thomas Wilkins
Travis Zimmerman

College of Education

Michael Anderson
Amy Ash
Lisa Atchley
Elizabeth Balcombe
Maria Barahona
Amy J. Barnes
Tomorrow Black
Donna Blanton
Deborah Bleckley
Courtney Brehm
Lisa Marlene Buckingham
Magnus Cum Laude
Jamie Cabello
Melinda Mitchell Carney
Magnus Cum Laude
Josephine Casale
Jamie Tiel Cates
Allison Michelle Chester
Melissa Chin
Sharon Clifford
Wanda Coe
Carlton L. Crowningshield
Danielle Cuglietta
Sheila Culbreth

Victoria D'Angelo
Nicole Davis
Jo DuVall
Valerie Evans
Leslie Finefrock
Valerie Renee Flock
Magnus Cum Laude
Danielle Lea Fontaine
Catherine Fouts
Cum Laude
Christina Furchi
Bradley Gardner
Anna Joy Geraldson
Eliad Glenn
Michelle Greene
Anna Davis Gregg
Lisa Guerreter-Spinney
Samma Cum Laude
Michelle Karla Haenel
Mandy Joe Headrick
Karina Hentschke
Angela Beth Heuman
Amy Louise Johnson
Samma Cum Laude
Jason Koekse
Leanne Lapointe
Faith Loken
Charlotte Lucier
Adrienne Landeen
Tracie Ann Lynch
Kim Macdonald
Tionbhe T.A. Martin
Jennifer Kerr McCaffrey
Nancy Ann Mitchem
Lisa Moore
Patricia Murphy
Sannee Mushabben
Melissa Myrtle-Mendiola
Cum Laude
Amy North
Colleen Patricia O'Connor
Jennifer Opsahl
Amie Beth Pantages
Jaelyn Parinello
Beverlyn Patterson
Samma Cum Laude

Michelle Ann Phillips
Samma Cum Laude
King O'Neal
Michelle Pincott
Danielle Marie Pistey
Cheryl H. Quinn
Kari Rice
Jennifer Richier
Mary Margaret Ringley
Lisa N. Ristorelli
Magnus Cum Laude
Angela Celeste Sanchez
Joan Schuler
Jonny Ann Schullz
Magnus Cum Laude
Norbert Scott
James Donald Seaman II
Susan Street
Cum Laude
Jessica Nichole Thornton
Christine Tower
Cum Laude
Deonna Traemper
Lorraine VanderKlok
Magnus Cum Laude
Nicole Vasquez
Sue Wertz
Jennifer Wilder
Christopher Wolf
Michelle Marie Zoner
Cum Laude

College of Engineering

Jason Boyd

College of Nursing

Pamela Desmarais
Lauren Endick
David Hill
Wendi Marie Kehl-Prueett