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Jan. 31, 2014

HarborNotes Weekly

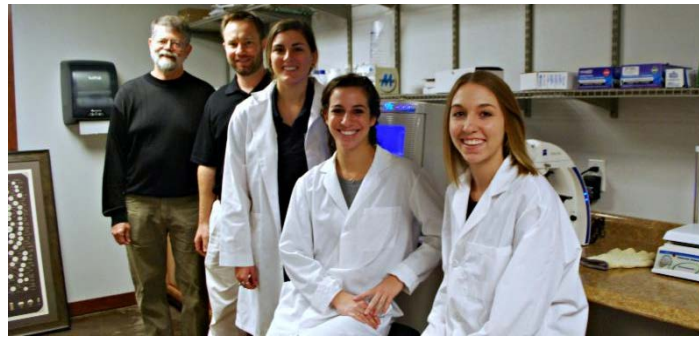
Five Things to Know About USF St. Petersburg

Conference on World Affairs expands to three days



Distinguished diplomats, military and intelligence officials, media and academic experts from across the country will gather at USF St. Petersburg Feb.13-15 for the Second Annual Conference on World Affairs. Sponsored by the USF St. Petersburg **Honors Program** and the non-profit St. Petersburg in the World, the conference will include 15 panel discussions focused on the critical international issues of the day. It is free and open to the public. Complimentary parking will be available at the USFSP parking garage. The conference begins at 4 p.m. on Feb.13 and continues at 9 a.m. on Feb. 14 and 15. It will be held in the University Student Center Ballroom, 200 6th Ave. S. [Read more](#) | [Schedule and list of speakers](#) , | [Creative Loafing](#)

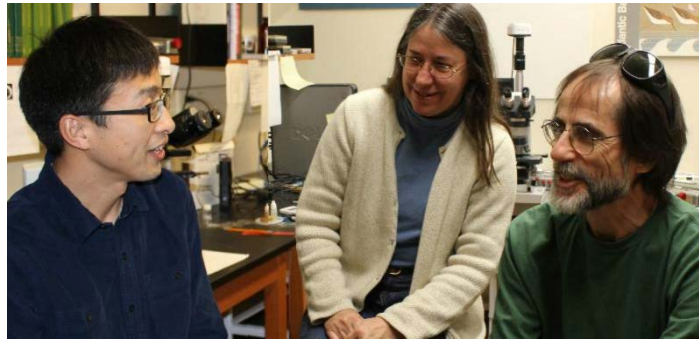
Biology students interning at craft brewery labs



Chemist Jim Leonad (left to right), Biology Instructor David John and interns Jessy Weber, Shelby Kaminsky and Molly Swango in the 3 Daughters Brewing lab.

USF St. Petersburg's biology program is booming, with 600 students in only its second year. Most of the students are interested in careers in health care, but Biology Instructor David John, Ph.D., stresses how many other fields need biology students. Even breweries. This semester, three students are working as interns at Tampa Bay craft breweries. They count yeast cells, collect pH samples and work on quality assurance. "I want to at least reveal to students, science is not just health care," John says. The students love it. "I actually apply the science I learned here, and it's useful," senior Jessy Weber told the [Tampa Bay Times](#). | [Bay News 9](#) | [ABC Action News](#)

Biology professor collaborates with Chinese researcher



Guangjie Chen (left to right), Biological Sciences Chair Melanie Riedinger-Whitmore and Thomas Whitmore

It has been 21 years since Assistant Professor of **Biological Sciences** Thomas Whitmore, Ph.D., conducted the first large systematic water quality studies in lakes around Yunnan Province in China. Now he is working with a Chinese researcher on a new study that will expand the original work. Guangjie Chen, Ph.D., a geography professor at Yunnan Normal University, spent this week at USF St. Petersburg collaborating with Whitmore on new research and discussing how they can work together in the future. They also discussed the possibility of creating a scientific student exchange program between USFSP and Yunnan Normal. "The collaboration between Dr. Whitmore and Dr. Chen is an excellent example of the world-class research underway at USF St. Petersburg," said Vivian Fueyo, Ph.D., interim regional vice chancellor for academic affairs. "I am particularly pleased that they are discussing an exchange program, which would benefit both institutions and particularly our students." [Read more.](#)

English professor organizes nature writing series



USF St. Petersburg English Professor Thomas Hallock, Ph.D. (above), is organizing a series of readings and discussions at Boyd Hill Nature Park this spring focused on nature writing. Titled "Writers in the Preserve," the series is co-sponsored by the USF St. Petersburg **Florida Studies Program** and Friends of Boyd Hill. It is organized around the theme, "How Do We Find Nature in the City?" On February 21, Hallock joins award-winning *Tampa Bay Times* writer Jeff Klinkenberg, and journalists Cathy Salustri, a USFSP Florida Studies graduate, and Wendy Joan Biddlecombe, a USFSP journalism graduate to read their non-fiction work. The series continues March 28 and April 11. Each event is free and open to the public and starts at 7 p.m. [Read more.](#)

Honors Brunch draws best and brightest from across Florida



USF St. Petersburg hosted an Honors Brunch on Sunday for 150 academically gifted high school seniors and their parents from across Florida. The brunch showcased the unique opportunities at USF St. Petersburg. Regional Chancellor Sophia T. Wisniewska welcomed the students with an overview of USFSP's close-knit campus filled with world-class faculty and cultural programs. Vivian Fueyo, Ph.D., interim regional chancellor for academic affairs, highlighted USFSP's students and academic experience. Thomas Smith, Ph.D., director of the **Honors Program**, which is celebrating its 20 anniversary, discussed the program's small seminar-style classes taught by distinguished professors. Students toured the campus and viewed the University Student Center Residence Hall. They also participated in stimulating discussions about the Honors Program led by Honor students Tiffani Thorton, Erica Beers, Carmela Zabala and Zachary McNiece.

Upcoming Events

Honors Program
St. Petersburg Conference on World Affairs
Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 13-15

Nelson Poynter Memorial Library
Student Research Colloquium
Wednesday, Feb. 19
Noon

Honors Program
The Arabic Legacy in Western Thought
Monday, March 3
3:30 p.m.

[See details and more events on our Things To Do Calendar](#)

[Follow our public events on Twitter](#)

HarborNotes publishes weekly during the fall and spring semesters. To suggest a story, contact the editor:

Tom Scherberger
USF St. Petersburg University Advancement
(727) 873-4456
tscherberger@usfsp.edu

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