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Letter from the Interim RVCAA

Welcome to the October edition of Points of Pride. It seems only a couple of weeks ago that the fall semester began, and now here we are, midway through the semester. Mid-term grades have been reported and the student success teams are reaching out to students who may be lagging in their academic progress. Faculty members have been proactive in referring students who show signs of struggling academically, and the partnership with our colleagues in student affairs is critical to our retention and academic progression efforts. We want to continue on an upward trajectory in our student retention rates, and it takes our collective efforts to do so. Thank you all for your commitment and for all that you do in ensuring the success of our students.

In this edition of Points of Pride, we celebrate the research and scholarly productivity of our faculty. Our research expenditures have grown from approximately $3 million to $5 million dollars from 2014 to 2017, with a projected increase to $7 million dollars this academic year. The number of active faculty research awards has also increased from 13 to 30 since 2014. Our sincere thanks to the Office of Research led by Mr. John Johnson for their critical support of the Internal Research and Creative Scholarship Grants Program, including pre and post-awards.

We also celebrate in this edition our Office of Global Initiatives. The office, which is directed by Wendy Baker, and assisted by two professional staff members - Joseph Kenny, Education Abroad Programs Manager, and Angelica Rodriguez Jimenez, International Student Advisor - is leading the efforts to promote campus internationalization.
And we round out the newsletter with some of the most recent publications, presentations, projects and accomplishments from our faculty and staff.

Sincerely,
Olufunke A. Fontenot
Interim Regional Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Student Registration Starts Soon, Help Us Enhance Student Success and Retention

Faculty, because you engage with students throughout the semester, we are asking you to help us lead the way in student success. All semester long, upcoming events, timely messages, pertinent academic deadlines and important reminders will be posted on the USFSP Start - Faculty and Staff page to use in communicating with students. Alongside links to university resources, these timely messages can be easily copied and pasted into your Canvas course announcements and used to make a brief mention in your classes.

These efforts will benefit student success and retention efforts. While our student retention rates are on the rise, we strive to be the best in the USF System. As Dr. Tadlock has said, the retention rate for us to beat is 92 percent. Please join in the university-wide initiative to raise our student success and retention rates as we move through the academic year. Spring 2019 Registration for degree-seeking students beings Oct. 29.

Graduate Studies Open House

The Office of Graduate Studies will welcome nearly 200 prospective students to USFSP on Saturday, October 27 at an Open House that will showcase ALL of USFSP's graduate programs in a single setting. Prospective graduate students will be able to mix and mingle with graduate program faculty, advisors, financial aid and admissions in order to solidify their plans for attending graduate school.

Grand Opening: College of Education's STEM INQ Lab

On Friday, October 19, the College of Education celebrated the opening of its state-of-the-art STEM INQ lab, designed to promote hands-on and inquiry-based learning. The lab contains 3D printers, VEX IQ and First Lego Robots, AutoCAD, and virtual and augmented reality technology. On the following day, COE hosted an open house during the Science Festival and invited the community to explore the space and technology.

Monthly Table Talk with Students

The Regional Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs’ monthly Table Talk with students provides an opportunity for open dialogue while getting to know the students and learning about their university experience over lunch.
September Table Talk - far left: John Burney (Graduate Student/Accounting); middle left: Kathleen Bostick (Junior/Psychology); near left: Marina Barzaghi (Sophomore/Nursing); far right: Mark Ross (Junior/Finance); middle right: RVCAA; near right: Molly Cantolino (Freshman/Marketing).

October Table Talk - Far Left: Janki Patel (Senior/Accounting); Near Left: Frankie Alvarez (Sophomore/Education); Far Right: Maranda Douglas; Near Right: RVCAA

**Academic Spotlight - Office of Research**

The Office of Research at USFSP was formed to help support the ever-increasing research efforts of our faculty.

John Johnson joined USFSP in 2015 and serves as the Associate Director of the Office of Research. Prior to joining USFSP, he worked at Eckerd College for almost two years and before that spent over 20 years at NYU where he was Director of Office of Research at the Steinhardt School at NYU.

Meghan Abbott joined the Research Office in 2017 as a post-award research administrator. She came from MacEwan University, Canada, where she served as Director of Research Services for 8 years. Prior to that, Meghan was a biological scientist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, with research focusing on the impacts of harmful algal blooms on human, animal and environmental health.
In addition to providing day-to-day support of both pre and post-award needs of our faculty, the Office of Research, in partnership with the Honors program, organizes the Annual Student Research Symposium. The Symposium for the 2018-19 academic year is scheduled for April 16, 2019. The Office also supports the Internal Research and Creative Scholarship Grants Program. The call for proposals was just released two weeks ago for this program and applications are due on December 12. Please contact John for more information about this program.

**Academic Spotlight - Global Initiatives**

The USF St. Petersburg Office of Global Initiatives promotes university-wide global engagement by creating and facilitating international and diverse cultural opportunities for USF St. Petersburg faculty, staff and students both on and off-campus. This is achieved by sending faculty and students on education abroad programs, creating teaching and research abroad opportunities for faculty and bringing international students and visitors to campus to interact with faculty, staff and students. The office also develops international partnerships and establishes programming such as International Education Month, which is celebrated in November.

The office is directed by Wendy Baker and the efforts are coordinated by two professional staff members - Joseph Kenny, Education Abroad Programs Manager, and Angelica Rodriguez Jimenez, International Student Advisor. Wendy leads campus-wide internationalization efforts and oversees international partnerships. Joseph manages the development, program operations, and marketing and outreach for faculty-led and semester abroad/exchange education abroad programs.

Angelica works with incoming international students advising them on immigration matters. In addition, she is building the framework for international student support and success at USFSP and also serves as the Staff Advisor to the USFSP International Student Club. Gloria Parrot, Office Assistant, and student workers Amber Piazza, Arielle Zimmerman, and Casey Ellis provide administrative support to the Global team. For more information, stop by their new home in the Pianoman building or visit [www.usfsp.edu/global](http://www.usfsp.edu/global).

**Projects & Events Involving Community Engagement**

*College of Arts and Sciences*

Dr. Rebecca Johns and Dr. Barnali Dixon organized and led the first event in the Community Climate Change Education Series at Boyd Hill Nature Preserve on October 2, 2018. This session included the film Decoding the Weather Machine and a discussion about climate science as well as a demonstration by Dr. Brad Rosenheim of CMS.

Dr. Bernard Motta led the creation of the website "[From Pepper Town to Midtown: 150 Years of African-American History in St. Petersburg](http://www.usfsp.edu/global)" The Neighborhood News Bureau launched this Black history website during the "Story Days in Tampa Bay" festival at the Enoch Davis Center in Saint Petersburg.

Dr. Joan Reid was invited to participate in "Listening to survivors: Building mental health services for women affected by commercial sexual exploitation through psychology and
survivor professional collaborations,” at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

Accolades & Accomplishments

College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Mark Durand's article, which was the first in a series of studies on a treatment developed for severe behavior problems (Carr & Durand, 1985), was named the 2018 Seminal Article from the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis for its lasting influence on the field. It is only one of five articles so identified in more than 50 years of the journal's publishing history.

Dr. Mark Durand's "Severe Behavior Problems" book (1990) was translated into Ukrainian and, according to the American Psychological Association (publisher), his "Autism Spectrum Disorder" book (2014) is being translated into Chinese.

Dr. Max Houck was named Editor-in-Chief of the first Gold Open Access journal in Forensic Sciences, "Forensic Science International: Synergy." [https://www.journals.elsevier.com/forensic-science-international-synergy]

Dr. Judithanne Scourfield-McLauchlan will receive the Graham Frey Civic Educator of the Year award, which will be awarded at the Annual Gala of Florida Campus Compact at the University of Miami on October 25.

Dr. Judithanne Scourfield-McLauchlan is an escort for the bipartisan delegation of political leaders to Australia, through the U.S. Department of State and the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL). After meetings at the State Department and the Australian Embassy in Washington, DC, McLauchlan will travel with the group to Brisbane, Melbourne, and Canberra. She and the delegates will be meeting with the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, observing Question Time at the Parliament, visiting the Australian Electoral Commission and holding many other meetings.

Dr. Shun-Yung Kevin Wang was invited to give a speech entitled "Florida Juvenile Justice System: Policy and Renovation" at the Central Police University in Taiwan.

College of Education

Two performances of Dr. Charlie Vanover's peer-reviewed show, "Chicago Butoh," will take place at the Studio @ 620 on October 29th and October 30th. In "Chicago Butoh," Vanover evokes his own experience as well as the joys and sorrows of a teacher's first year in Chicago Public Schools. The show stars St. Petersburg actor, Jai Shanae, and is directed by the Artistic Director of the Studio, Bob Devin Jones. Both performances will be videotaped for a future documentary on the performance. Dr. AnnMarie Gunn will speak on her research on teaching in urban schools after the performance on Monday the 29th.

Publications

College of Arts and Sciences


Kate Tiedemann College of Business


Conference Presentations

College of Arts and Sciences


Wang, Shun-Yung Kevin and the ACCCJ Delegation. "Rethinking Evidence-based Policy and Practice." Invited speech at Graduate School of Criminology, National Taipei University. Taiwan. 2018.


Kate Tiedemann College of Business
Abendroth, Lisa; Andrews, George; Douthirt, Eric; Simmons, Jeanne. Beam Me Up: Getting Into the Online World, Part-Time MBA Conference, Dallas, TX, October 1, 2018.


**College of Education**


**Nelson Poynter Memorial Library**


Fuhr Stephanie, and Karla Morris. "Course Quality Review Processes and Our Professional Development Program." Tampa Bay Regional Instructional Design Meeting.