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BAY CAMPUS SURVEY SUPPORTS NEED FOR EXPANSION IN PINELLAS

Comments from University of South Florida students living in Pinellas County, who responded to a survey conducted by the USF St. Petersburg campus, support the need for expanded USF facilities in Pinellas County, according to Bay campus dean, Dr. Lester Tuttle.

Over 90 percent of those students who responded to the survey said they would prefer not to have to come to the Tampa campus, but indicated they had to because of limited course offerings on the St. Pete campus, Dr. Tuttle said.

The headcount for the Fall Quarter at St. Pete is expected to be 1,700, up 100 over last fall and including 900 full-time students. Records indicate that 3,200 USF students resided in Pinellas County last spring.

Dan Beeman, director of student services in St. Pete, said the questionnaire was sent this summer to 2,944 students residing in Pinellas County. It was originated and completed by the Student Affairs Committee and student Joanne Wilson. Thirty-five percent (considered a good sample and excellent response, according to Beeman) were returned.

Of these, 37 percent said they had never attended the St. Pete campus. Half of these said the reason was that the courses they needed were not offered there.

Some responses to the survey may bring some changes and growth on the St. Pete campus, Dr. Tuttle indicated.

He said he was surprised that so many students (74 percent) were interested in taking evening classes. He explained that the St. Pete campus presently offers 40 percent of its classes at night, filling all 22 classrooms Monday-Thursday nights.

This winter, $300,000 in renovations, including construction of 10 additional
FIRST ADD  BAY CAMPUS SURVEY

classrooms, two lounges and office space for 38 faculty, will begin on the Bay
campus. Among other things, these classrooms will be used to increase the evening
offerings, Dr. Tuttle said.

Forty percent of those responding to the survey said they would attend
Saturday classes. The St. Pete campus began offering Saturday classes two years
ago. Though none are being offered during Fall Quarter, several are scheduled for
Winter Quarter.

Other data from the survey gives a profile of the St. Pete students.

Most Pinellas students are males (60 percent), white (97 percent) and married
(56 percent). They are older than the average college student. Only 10 percent
responding were under age 21 and most (34 percent) were between 21-25. They are
employed, 50 percent full-time and 23 percent part-time. Eighty-eight percent said
they plan to stay in the Tampa-St. Pete area after graduation.

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