1-22-2003

Crow's Nest : 2003 : 01 : 22

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

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Union policy upsets faculty

The university stuns faculty by announcing the faculty union contract would be suspended.

By Jimmy Grinaker

A state of confusion and resentment has reigned among USF faculty since university officials announced that as of Jan. 7, the contract signed between the faculty union and the university would no longer be honored.

The contract outlined the university’s obligations to faculty, as well as what kind of performance was expected of them. Without the contract, there was no clear idea of what was expected of either party. In the meantime, without consulting faculty, the university implemented a set of temporary rules of misconduct.

These guidelines not only angered some faculty because they had not been consulted in the matter, but also because they feared they could be used to limit academic freedom and possibly affect tenure.

University officials explained that they were no longer required to honor the contract because the Public Employee Relations Commission has not yet certified a bargaining agent and the collective bargaining agreement ended Jan. 7.

The United Faculty of Florida, which has been certified since 1976, disputed the validity of these reasons. University officials have argued that they are unsure if the majority support UFF as their representative. Despite this, the UFF has gathered and had certified by PERC the registrations of more than 1,000 faculty, about 60 percent of those involved.

Gary Olson appointed interim associate VP, replacing Bridges

By Anita Nair

Gary Olson will lead a national search for 61 faculty positions.

The spring 2003 semester at USF St. Petersburg campus started off with the surprise appointment of Gary A. Olson as the interim associate vice president. His term began on Jan. 1 and is scheduled to end on June 30, 2003.

Olson’s appointment comes at an important juncture when the campus is going through the process of restructuring and partially separating from the main campus in Tampa. The campus is also holding a national search for 61 faculty positions.

Olson succeeds Winston Bridges to this post. “Bridges was retiring in April 2003,” Olson said. “There was a need for continuity until the search committee for vice president completed its work and the new VP is appointed in July.”

Ralph Wilcox, interim CEO and vice president, said Olson was brought into ensure consistency in the mission and operation of USF St. Petersburg.

Bill Heller, professor in special education, said, “Olson has a warm and friendly approach in dealing with people which I value and I believe we are all, as faculty, ready to do all we can to help him. I know I am and I do not believe I’m the Lone Ranger in this.”

“Winston has been a vital part of our campus family for a long time,” Heller said. “He held this campus together several times when it was in a transition of leadership and policy decisions.”

Students may wonder why parking woes are absent for campus VIPs.

Preparing for terror

USF St. Petersburg awarded $37,800 to conduct research.

“Adaptation”


Questioning Hollywood ethics

A Hollywood insider shares her views on television's moral standards.

See Faculty on Page 7

See Bridges on Page 3
Huge raises for Genshaft, Leavitt can’t be justified

When you pay ten percent or more for tuition next year, think about USF President Judy Genshaft and USF Bulls football coach Jim Leavitt. Genshaft’s and Leavitt’s financial situations also are changing, but it’s not their expenses that are going up. It’s their income.

Those to recent contract negotiations, Genshaft received a 37 percent raise and Leavitt’s salary has more than doubled.

Genshaft’s new contract boosts her salary from $237,800 in 2002 to $325,000 in 2003, and pays her more than $1.6 million over five years. She also receives numerous perks, including tuition to a state university for her two children and $4,000 worth of travel expenses for her husband.

There’s no doubt Genshaft bears great responsibilities. She runs a university of more than 37,000 students taught by 1,600 faculty members, and oversees a $1 billion dollar budget. In contrast, Jeb Bush governs 16 million Floridians, oversees a $50 billion budget, and makes $123,175 a year.

Even with her extravagant contract, Genshaft could be envious of Leavitt. The head football coach earned $325,000 in 2002 to $407,173—and that’s just base pay.

Other mone­ tary compensation includes a $25,000 annuity and $40,000 for work done on TV or radio. Leavitt also receives benefits, including an automobile, car insurance, and a retirement account.

His salary rises through the years to reach a base pay of $560,431 in 2007, not including benefits. Not bad for teaching students how to play a game. Too bad USF professors, who teach students how to prepare for a career, don’t do as well. Professors earn in the range of $40,000 to $100,000.

Few would dispute that Leavitt has done excellent work. Starting the football program from scratch, Leavitt has led the Bulls to a 44-22 record, including a superb 9-2 in 2002. But pay him nearly $600,000—about as much as 16 faculty members—in 2007? Ridiculous. The money to pay Leavitt isn’t even currently available. The university will rely on athletic boosters and ticket sales to raise the money to pay him. Should USF offer Leavitt a huge salary increase when the money just isn’t there right now?

The arguments of those who support the salary increases are “this is what the free market system dictates” or “top pay must be provided to attract top talent” or “football showcases the university and brings us together as a community.” Those are valid arguments, but just not at this time, because these raises come when Florida, and especially Florida education, is in financial trouble.

The state may face a budget shortfall of as much as $3 billion. Raises for most university personnel are limited to 2.5 percent a year. Tuition is rising. Yet the USF president and football coach have received salary increases that by any measure can only be described as lavish.

In this belt-tightening time does it make sense to grant salary increases of $200,000 or more for tuition next year, seven percent of the total tuition increase? Does it make sense to give someone as much as $4,000 a year for coaching a game?

Where are the university’s priorities? Judging by the income Genshaft and Leavitt receive over the next five years, contrasted with what faculty members, fire the faculty and concentrate on playing football.

Bush looks for a reason.

Mr. President, our intelligence confirms that Saddam has weapons of mass destruction.

Well, that sounds like a sufficient reason to attack Iraq.

Mr. President, we’ve learned that Saddam doesn’t like you.

Well, that sounds like a sufficient reason to attack Iraq.

Mr. President, the weather forecast falls for four inches of snow here tonight.

Well, that sounds like a sufficient reason to attack Iraq.

Mr. President, the British, the Germans and the French all agree that Saddam is dangerous.

Well, that sounds like a sufficient reason to attack Iraq.

CROW’S NEST

The student-sponsored newspaper of USF St. Petersburg. Published every other Wednesday during the semester.

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Opinions wanted

Do you have an opinion on a topic affecting USF St. Petersburg or the surrounding area? The Crow’s Nest is seeking well-written, thoughtful letters to the editor. Letter writers should include their names and not all letters may be printed. Please email your letters to: crownesteditor@yahoo.com

Club News

Does your club or organization need extra money?

Sign Up Now! Baybor Educational Foundation is seeking volunteers to operate concession stands Florida Power Park and Tropicana Field for the 2003 Tampa Bay Devil Rays baseball season. Minimum of 10 volunteers are required for each game. Seven percent of the total sales are donated to your club or organization. Please call Suzanne Struthers at 432-11 or email at struther@bayflash.stpt.usf.edu
Mayor Rick Baker's plan would eliminate one airport runway and ease USF building height restrictions.

By Matt Nelson

Staff Writer

Building height restrictions at USF St. Petersburg will be eliminated if Mayor Rick Baker's plan to remove a runway at Albert Whitted Airport is approved. However, it's a battle. St. Petersburg citizens, city council and Federal Aviation Administration have the ultimate decision whether the mayor's plan is implemented.

"USF height restrictions will go away if my plan is approved," Baker said. He stressed the importance for campus growth and safety. Baker said he spent a lot of time at USF St. Petersburg when writing a book about the history of St. Petersburg.

"I remember when planes would fly above," he said. "It's not safe when the planes are close enough to hit with a rock. We must prepare for the worst. If a plane ever hits one of these buildings it will be too late to fix the problem."

The St. Petersburg City Council recently voted unanimously to keep the airport open; however, Baker said they didn't vote to maintain its current form. Although there are now two operational runways, Baker's plan calls for use of only one runway. Ideally, the airstrip that runs diagonally east-to-west on the airport's property facing Petersburg will be removed.

The idea of using only one runway has caused a stir with airport officials. Jack Tunnell, a business owner on the airport's governing board, publicly said he wanted Baker's plan to be killed. He is happy the council voted to keep the airport, but doesn't believe the FAA will approve the removal of a runway.

Baker said the city and the airport need to reach a compromise. "The airport officials won't give an inch," he said.

Airport officials said both runways are necessary due to the strong winds on the bay. FAA representative Bart Vernase said right now planes can take off 98 percent of the time. If a runway is eliminated that figure is reduced to 92 percent. However, FAA representatives said last month it might be possible for a one-runway concept to work. Now both the FAA and the city are quickly studying to determine if such a plan will work.

Bridges continued from Page 1

deserves significant recognition for this and his other contributions." Bridges has worked at the university more than 30 years.

"More than anything," said Heller, "the timing of Olsen's appointment surprised everyone as it happened without too much notice." He said the vice president did not have to risk having the final negotiations with a candidate interrupted at a critical time in the recruitment process. Now Olsen will lead the search for new faculty and staff. Olsen said USF St. Petersburg will be the model for future universities where various disciplines will collaborate in teaching and research, rather than compete with each other. Olsen referred to the St. Petersburg campus as the "jewel in the crown" of the USF community with a fine balance between excellent teaching and scholarly research. Olsen is excited about the Programs of Distinction (PODs) that will give support to promising academic disciplines. The PODs were established in December. "The PODs reflect a trend in higher education in that they are cross-disciplinary and use multiple research that will give the right impetus to the university's academic areas that show a lot of promise," said Olsen.

"I am proud to be a part of this campus," Olsen said. "The faculty and staff have been very warm and cordial. I love this campus and I am deeply committed to this institution."

During the six month period that Olsen is going to be at USF St. Petersburg he aims to help develop and nurture partnerships with selected community agencies. Olsen will work with faculty to refine a USFSP faculty workload and productivity plan consistent with that of a Research 1 University. "We also hope to establish faculty rewards for teaching, research and/or service excellence," Olsen said.

Olsen will represent the campus on the USF Deans' Council.

Olsen is a professor of English and director of USF's graduate program in rhetoric and composition, an interdisciplinary field devoted to investigating how written discourse works and why. He is considered to be one of the nation's foremost scholars of rhetoric and composition. He has published 29 books and more than 80 scholarly essays and articles. His most recent book, "Justifying Belief: Stanley Fish and the Work of Rhetoric," was recently published by State University of New York Press.

Hidden Curriculum Luncheon
Every Wednesday at Noon in FCT 1185

All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend!

Wed., Jan. 22, noon-1:30, FCT 118

Campus Honor System

Dr. Stephen Rich, Assoc. V.P Student Affairs and George Sherman will review the process taken to develop the first draft proposed honor system for USF St. Petersburg.

Wed., Jan. 29, noon-1:30, FCT 118

The Case Against Informed Consent

Living wills

David Smith, Ph.D. in the presentation. Smith will examine the forms that led to the widespread adoption of informed consent and living wills as means to promote patient autonomy.

Sponsored by the USF Foundation and the Marie E. and E. Leslie Cole Endowment.
Surviving eighth grade can be tough. Just ask Reshawn Johnson, a St. Petersburg student who's never had particularly good luck with the public school system. But things are looking up for Johnson, one of 14 students in the Oasis program, an alternative learning plan for students at risk of dropping out of school.

"You just gotta have the right attitude," he said. "Even when you think about the things you don't like at school, you gotta think about why you're here and just go with the flow."

That sentiment flows pretty well with the program's motto "Life is a river, adjust your attitude and paddle." The brainchild of Pinellas county educator Jim Martin, who attended an Outward Bound camp that he said changed his life, Oasis integrates traditional education with nature, focusing on marine science and the environment.

Johnson proudly recounted canoeing more than 40 miles at times even leading the group, during a camping trip he originally didn't want to attend. Now in his second semester of eighth grade at Oasis, Johnson's dreams are a little bigger. "When I graduate, I have a lot of things I wanna do," he said, counting on his fingers. "Be a judge, a computer analyst, a hair stylist, well, a barber."

Unlike many students who slip through the cracks of Florida's mass education system, Johnson now has a place to fit in. Brought to the USF St. Petersburg campus in 1995 by former dean Bill Heller, Oasis is a one-year program exclusively for eighth graders, that allows unmotivated but intelligent students a chance to regroup before returning to the public school system for high school. They cannot have a history of discipline problems and must meet specific test score requirements before being accepted for an interview and admission to the program.

"Eighth grade is a pivotal point," said program director Debora McFarlane, who's worked with Oasis since 1987, "because when kids really decide to drop out is in ninth grade. All they want is someone to care about them."

Although the program may not be effective for every student who walks through its doors, McFarlane estimated 93 percent of Oasis students graduate from high school. Little things, like one student's attendance record, also prove the program's impact on students and their families. For example, McFarlane noted that a student who was absent from school more than 80 days last year has missed only four or five days this year. When McFarlane asked the student her reasons for the drastic improvement, the student responded that because the teachers and parents speak so frequently, she'd be letting too many people down every time she skipped class.

It's the close parent-teacher relationships that truly set Oasis apart from other schools. In addition to monthly support group meetings and periodic potluck dinners, parents participate in the more than 30 field trips each year, including primitive camping trips, ropes courses and overnight snorkeling trips to study marine life. In the past, students have gone to the Bahamas, Dry Tortugas and the Florida Keys. In fact, parents must make a commitment to play an active role in their child's life when the student joins the program.

McFarlane, who has a background in social work, knows it makes a difference for the families as well as the students. Her home phone rings at night and on weekends with parents on the line. "Tell me I don't want hear about something Monday," she said, "when I could have known about it Friday and prepared for it."

In eight years of teaching the Oasis program, was Classroom assistant Toya Tate

"It's definitely a challenging position, but I can see I've made some difference with some of the kids. One day they'll appreciate what I say."

—Classroom assistant Toya Tate

The winning story may be printed in a local newspaper. It's a very important to the city from a downtown economic perspective and it gives students who can't afford to go away to college a great education in a unique and beautiful environment." Baker also said the campus must maintain a serious commitment to the city to expand and offer more education and facilities for local residents.

The judges are Dr. Carolyn Ellis, professor in the USF Communication Department, and Dr. Richard Wilber, a faculty member of the USF School of Mass Communications. Both judges have extensive honorable backgrounds in writing and published works.

The USF Tampa Library is sponsoring the Ruth and Frank Coleman Award for Excellence in Short Fiction Writing. The winner will receive a $350 award, with the first runner-up receiving a $100 award. The winning story may be printed in the Ruskin Library publications, including their Web site and newsletter.

The judges are Dr. Carolyn Ellis, professor in the USF Communication Department, and Dr. Richard Wilber, a faculty member of the USF School of Mass Communications. Both judges have extensive honorable backgrounds in writing and published works.

Submit your entry to The Ruth and Frank Coleman Award, USF Tampa Library/Advancement Office, 4202 E. Fowler Avenue LIB 122, Tampa, FL 33620-5400. Deadline is January 31, 2003. For more information, contact the Advancement Office at (813) 974-1456.

Contest guidelines:

The contest is open to registered USF students, either published or unpublished authors.

• Only submissions not previously published will be considered

• Type entries double-spaced on one side of 8 x 11 paper

• Submit an original and three copies; stories submitted will not be returned

• Put a title and page number on each page

• DO NOT include your name; stories are considered anonymously

• Attach a cover sheet with your name, address, phone number, social security number, campus, major and title of work

The judges are Dr. Carolyn Ellis, professor in the USF Communication Department, and Dr. Richard Wilber, a faculty member of the USF School of Mass Communications. Both judges have extensive honorable backgrounds in writing and published works.
By Jacqueline Dupuis  
Staff Writer

Students who circle the campus endlessly in search of a parking space often pass by four tantalizingly empty ones across from Davis Hall. Student parking in those spaces is prohibited, and that can be frustrating for a student who desperately needs a place to park. But USF St. Petersburg interim vice-president Ralph Wilcox said there are valid reasons for leaving those spaces empty.

In addition to reserving a parking space for himself on the most popular lot, No.2, Wilcox said it’s necessary to reserve spaces for the USF president, along with the chairs of the campus board and the advancement office. He also said that adding more parking for students, faculty and staff might be available in the near future.

Wilcox said he recognizes the impact of taking four spaces away. “There’s absolutely no question that parking is a challenge on this campus, depending on the day of the week and time of day that one is here,” he said.

Wilcox justified his reserved parking spot with the fact that he constantly is in and out of morning meetings and has trouble finding a parking space to meet important deadlines. He said if he can’t show up in time, it causes an “ineffective organizational structural process.”

Because the USF Tampa president or her designees regularly visit USF St. Petersburg, it would be inappropriate not to provide them with a parking space, Wilcox said. USF Tampa also provides USF St. Petersburg’s vice president a reserved parking space. A second space also is reserved for USF St. Petersburg use. Wilcox said he was told that one of the reserved parking spaces is paid for from USF St. Petersburg Educational and General funds and one is paid for out of the USF St. Petersburg Concessions budget.

The other space is reserved for the chair of the board or its designee. The five USF St. Petersburg campus board members are volunteers, and providing a permanent parking space seems realistic and fair, he said. “We want this to be a welcoming environment for chairpersons,” he said.

Private and potential donors who solicit monetary gifts to the university are valuable to the education system, Wilcox said, and should be provided with some comfort by way of accessible parking, as well. Therefore they are permitted to use the space reserved by the advancement office. If no parking is available for the donor, he or she might drive around several times and finally take the money to Eckerd College or elsewhere, and it is not worth the risk, Wilcox said.

“It is about stewardship,” he said. “You treat your donors and potential donors well.”

The annual cost of the four reserved parking spaces is $2,280. Wilcox pays for his personal parking decal.

The 15 campus parking lots contain 1,064 parking spaces, including visitors, handicapped and state vehicle parking spots, according to Terri Johnson, parking office manager.

The parking problem is likely to grow with the university. By 2004, USF St. Petersburg will add 54 new professors and eight executive positions, not to mention an increase in students, Wilcox said. However, two short-term options, which would last for two or three years, are being considered.

One option is partnering with the city of St. Petersburg to share city-owned parking facilities. Another idea involves sharing All Children’s Hospital parking lots, which might alleviate the demand for parking in the evenings.

The long-term option, on the other hand, will take time and money. The plan is to hire a campus parking consultant to develop solutions by building parking garages. To generate resources for future parking garages, the price of parking decals will increase in the years to come, Wilcox said.

Because the campus is surrounded by water, an airport, downtown and hospitals, there simply is nowhere to expand, Wilcox said.

“As we grow on this campus we have no choice as to grow upward,” he said. “I want to plan today so we don’t have a crisis tomorrow.”

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**USF Parking Survey**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Lot</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Jan. 16 AM</th>
<th>Jan. 16 PM</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1 Library</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>#2 Davis Hall</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>144</td>
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<td>85</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5 USF / Bayboros Books</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6 East Seawall (POR, KRC)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7 East Seawall &amp; East side of MSL</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8 MSL Peninsula (South)</td>
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<td>60</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>#13 ONE Building</td>
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</tr>
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<td>#14 Special Services Building</td>
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<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>#16 Florida Center for Teachers</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>110</td>
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<tr>
<td>#17 Recreational Field Area Lot</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#18 Children’s Research Institute</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Total Parking Spots</td>
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<td>828</td>
<td>579</td>
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</table>

Survey data obtained from USF Parking Services shows that there are 1,064 parking spaces on campus and typically only 1/3 to 2/3 are being used at a given time.

Data collected on Jan. 16 shows that only 828 of the spaces were utilized in the morning and 579 in the afternoon.

The most underused lot on campus was the Children’s Research Institute, which had more than 100 spaces available.

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CROW’S NEST, VOL. 33 NO. 2  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG
Cage tackles dual roles in “Adaptation”

By Andrew McEwen

In 1999, the movie "Being John Malkovich" introduced two cinematic masterminds, director Spike Jonze and writer Charlie Kaufman. Since then, Kaufman accepted an opportunity to adapt a nonfiction book entitled "The Orchid Thief" into a film. Unable to adapt the novel, Kaufman teaming up again with Spike Jonze, decided instead to write a screenplay about a writer's utter failure to adapt a novel into a film. The result was "Adaptation," a clever, ironic, and playful indictment of what drives cinema. Not just a satire of Hollywood producers and directors, "Adaptation" explores the challenges of creative endeavors, the different ways of telling a story, and why we need them so much. "Adaptation" stars Nicholas Cage playing the wildly parodied version of Charlie Kaufman, as well as his fictional twin brother Donald Kaufman. This version of Charlie Kaufman is unattactive, nervous, sweaty, and self-conscious. Kaufman, in love with the novel, accepts the job of adapting "The Orchid Thief" to film.

The book has no plot, structure or entertainment value, which is ideal for Kaufman since his intent is to create a truly original film without drama, plot twists, profound life lessons, and love. Instead, it's just a movie about flowers. The only thing that matters to him is creativity.

Freelancing Donald Kaufman, who lives with Charlie, is as equally unattractive and yet way more happy-go-lucky. He is self assured and positive. Donald decides, out of the blue, to attend a screenwriting seminar so that he can make movies just like his brother. He also devises a screenplay that enlists every cinematic cliché imaginable. Entitled "The 5," it is a thriller about a schizophrenic serial killer complete with a plot twist ending. Instantaneously, Donald achieves great success, as his brother spirals down into complete artistic agony.

Adaptation
Rating: R
Running Time: 96 minutes

Oasis continued from Page 4

instituted in 1985, teacher Kevin Erskin has learned to be prepared for anything. Unlike other middle schools in which students change classes for each subject, he spends all day with the students, teaching everything from geography and math to physical education and smoking. In his combination role of teacher, disciplinarian, principal and sometimes parent, it's hectic. "It's on the run and on the fly in here," Erskin said. "But you're more of a positive influence when you have them all day. You develop a relationship with them, and somebody has to establish how important they are. I want them to know that the system cares and that they're important."

It's a big job for one person, but Erskin, who has an education degree and a corrections background, is up to the challenge. Having taught GED classes in jails, Erskin recognizes that his students aren't serious troublemakers. "They're disinterested and silly, they're sleepers—but their test scores reveal that they are above average students."

For some, it's a lack of social skills that hinders their academic progress. A counselor teaches personal and social development skills daily, and character building skills are incorporated into daily curriculum. Erskin said the program's location on the USF St. Petersburg campus is instrumental, and his suspending glance often is enough to alter a student's behavior. "I tell them, when we're in an adult atmosphere, you're going to stick out like a sore thumb if you're going to act like that," he said.

Teaching assistant Toya Tate can testify to that. Although she has a friendly smile and bright eyes, her career experience is something the students are aware of and take seriously. "Sometimes I just step in the room and they get quiet," Tate said. "My demeanor means a lot to them."

Formerly a school bus driver, Tate has worked for three years as an assistant in alternative classrooms. She pays for field trips and extracurricular activities.

Erskin doesn't worry about what others think about his school, believing that in order to gain a better understanding of the book, so that he can finish the screenplay. Charlie and Donald end up spying on Susan Orlean and discover that since the publication of her novel she's been having a love affair with John Laroche. The Kaufman duo soon uncover a narcotics ring, and go through a riveting sequence of events including a plot by Orlean and Laroche to kill them both (none of this really happened.) To end off, "Adaptation" bursts into a subtly hilarious rip-off, becoming everything that Charlie had been avoiding. However, one should realize that "Adaptation" happens to credit Donald Kaufman as co-writer, which explains the cliché movie climax.

Although ironic and self inflicted absurdity is the main focus of the movie, many moments allow the characters to steal the show as real life people, dealing with day to day troubles. This is a film about our struggles to achieve things sometimes out of reach. Bringing to life some absolutely adorable characters, Cage, Streep and Cooper give some of their best performances ever.

"Adaptation" isn't like anything you've ever seen, and yet it's about everything you've already seen. This movie has everything. In fact, it may be the epitome of cinema.

Mike McFarlane stars as brothers Charlie and Donald Kaufman in "Adaptation." Meryl Streep (below) co-stars as journalist Susan Orlean. Within "Adaptation" the real-life Charlie Kaufman included the story of how "The Orchid Thief," about a rowdy botanist, came to be. Meryl Streep plays Susan Orlean, and Chris Cooper plays the delightful, redneck, flower poaching John Laroche.

Meanwhile, as Charlie tries desperately to realise his vision of "The Orchid Thief" he decides to invite his brother in on the project. Abandoning his ideals, he ends up following Donald's advice to attend a screenwriting seminar taught by guru Robert McKee, played by Brian Cox. Somehow McKee's words inspire Charlie to meet up with Susan Orlean in order to gain a better understanding of the book, so that he can finish the screenplay.

Charlie and Donald end up spying on Susan Orlean and discover that since the publication of her novel she's been having a love affair with John Laroche. The Kaufman duo soon uncover a narcotics ring, and go through a riveting sequence of events including a plot by Orlean and Laroche to kill them both (none of this really happened.) To end off, "Adaptation" bursts into a subtly hilarious rip-off, becoming everything that Charlie had been avoiding. However, one should realize that "Adaptation" happens to credit Donald Kaufman as co-writer, which explains the cliché movie climax.

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"Adaptation" isn't like anything you've ever seen, and yet it's about everything you've already seen. This movie has everything. In fact, it may be the epitome of cinema.

Oasis...
Ex-sitcom writer addresses Hollywood ethics

By Vanessa Espinar
Staff Writer

USF St. Petersburg is prepared for all kinds of emergencies, from hurricanes or fires, to phone threats and bomb scares.

Campus police officers recently held a training exercise on how to handle anonymous phone threats and the materials are being put on video and CDs to be distributed to department heads.

A copy of the CD and video will also be placed in the library. John Spicuglia, a USF St. Petersburg law enforcement officer, said anonymous threats are "any threats coming in over the phone line that would deal either property damage or threats against the person that would include threats to do physical harm to somebody, to hurt somebody's reputation, or to hurt them financially, threats to damage or steal university property, bomb threats and arson."

Spicuglia said Vice President Ralph Wilcox requested the preparedness training. Although USF has not received any threats, Wilcox affirmed the meeting was held to ensure a safe and secure environment for all employees, students and visitors.

The anonymous threat protocol instructs the person answering the phone to ask the caller a set of nine questions, which vary depending on the type of threat. The idea is that "if you are asking the questions, you're in control of the phone call," Spicuglia said.

Questions include: Who are you speaking to? When is the bomb going to explode? Where is it right now?

What does it look like? What kind of bomb is it? What will cause it to explode? Did you place the bomb? Why? What is your address? What is your name?

In the case of a bomb threat, Spicuglia said the building would be evacuated immediately. "And we'd start notifying a chain of command of people, who would then make the final decisions on what's going to happen," he said.

In addition, campus multi line and desk phones are equipped with a Malicious Call Trace, a button that registers the caller's telephone number to the campus police department.

But MCT has to be activated by ordering the service through the departmental heads. "To my knowledge I don't think anybody has MCT," Spicuglia said.

Everyone can follow a second procedure, no matter the type of phone. That procedure involves activating MCT by using a second phone and dialing #48 plus his or her extension and then notifying campus police that MCT has been activated.

Wilcox said the goal of the protocol is "to ensure that our staff is well-informed and feels comfortably prepared to respond to incidents in a timely and appropriate manner."

Spicuglia agrees it all has to do with being prepared.

"The intent is to have people answering the phones be prepared in the event that something like this happens, because if you don't think about what you are going to do before you do it, you are probably not going to come close to doing what is the best thing," he said.

This conflict comes at a tough time for the university. Fears over loss of academic freedom are made more realistic due to the conflict surrounding the Sumi Al-Arabi case.

At the same time, university budgets have been cut and there is talk in the legislature of drastically raising tuition and eliminating numerous vital programs such as Bright Futures. Genshaft recently received a pay increase of about $400,000 per year.

Union member Gerald Nataro said, "This is the hardest time in relations and I've seen in the 18 years I've been here. It's caused by the uncertainty."

This situation will likely cause a positive benefit for the UFF who are likely to see an increase after a period of low membership.

"Membership falls because of complaints about the cost, people don't want to pay their fair share," Nataro said. "It's not cheap, but it's cheap when compared to the benefits it gives us."

"I hope the issues will be resolved quickly without too much damage to the relationship of the union to the university," Nataro said.
By Linda Young
Staff Writer

The four academic programs that were awarded a chunk of the $500,000 Programs of Distinction prize are spreading the benefits of the new program, spreading the riches throughout interdisciplinary studies so the whole campus can benefit.

Now armed with the potential to become programs of international caliber, the geography, business, history, and journalism departments can help USF St. Petersburg establish a distinct identity as it moves towards autonomy from the Tampa campus.

Geography
Rebecca Johns, head of the geography department, plans to establish a new program incorporating social geography, environmental policy, mathematicians, environmental chemistry, and wetland hydrology and ecology. A portion of the funds are allotted here.

The department will create MBA tracks and conduct continuing education seminars for professionals including Certified Public Accountants and Certified Financial Analysts. "The main thing is more community interaction," Johns said. "There is no other program like this in Florida."

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Mathematics
Professor Gary Mormino will join the history department, plans to establish a distinct program in Florida studies, which mirrors the business program's approach to finding additional money through business sponsors. They also will receive a boost from the journalism studies program.

"It's an opportunity for students to learn out in the community," Killenberg said. "You're not going to the neighborhood, the neighborhood is coming to you because you are part of it. If you just operate out of the classroom, it is an isolated environment."

Killenberg is confident these ideas, as well as those by the other departments, will allow this campus to establish itself as something more than just a run-of-the-mill-school.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2003
1:00 – 5:00 P.M.
CAMPUS ACTIVITIES CENTER

- Find full-time, part-time, internship, and co-op opportunities
- Meet and network with numerous employers in the area
- Visit graduate school representatives
- Find out more about different jobs and career fields
- For more information, contact the Counseling & Career Center: 813-974-1128 or mohrfield@stpt.usf.edu

POD money goes to four programs

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Positions Available!

Student Government Parliamentary
Position Requirements:
- Submit a letter of intent listing your qualifications
- Attend all regular SG meetings and executive board meetings
- Provide advice as needed to the executive board regarding the interpretation of the SG Constitution and By-laws
- Provide guidance as needed during meetings as to the correct procedure of Robert's Rules of Order

Administrative Assistant
Position requirements:
- Job requires basic office skills including typing, copying and filing.
- Pay is $6 per hour.
- Federal Work Study or OPS position

Student Government Representatives
Representatives receive a stipend of $75 per semester.

For more information, contact Cassie Hawkins at 553-147