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USF finds no nepotism problems with new hires

By Matt Nelson
Editor In Chief

Despite some negative reactions from students and faculty, USF St. Petersburg administration stands behind the hiring of Vivian Puyo, founding dean of the College of Education, and her husband, Mark Koorland, a professor of education assigned to the college.

Karen White, Vice President and campus executive officer, believes Koorland's appointment is not a conflict of interest or a case of nepotism.

"Nepotism" under USF rules and the State of Florida Code of Ethics occurs "when an employee has influence on decisions making authority over the employment of a relative." The statement on nepotism also says "spouses are prohibited from making recommendations or decisions affecting any area of employment."

"In the case of Professor Koorland, Dean Puyo does not make any recommendations or decisions affecting his appointment, retention, tenure, work assignments, evaluation, promotion, demotion or salary," said White.

According to USF policy, deans are to finalize and approve all assignments and schedules for their faculty. Stephen Micklo, associate dean of education, will finalize all assignments for Koorland rather than Puyo.

See New hires on Page 5

Tuition hike strains students

By Kristie A. Martinez
Senior Staff Writer

USF junior Jennifer Lockman didn't pay for her classes, dorm or food at USF's Florida Polytechnic University in Tampa, Texas.

"My first two years of schooling were paid for," said Lockman, an advertising major. "I had a journalism scholarship. I had the Paris News Scholarship. I was a recipient of the journalism room and board scholarship."

Now Lockman, who transferred to USF this fall, pays for everything she once received free. She is one of many students struggling with USF's new tuition increases.

In-state undergraduates must pay 8.5 percent more per credit hour, and out-of-state undergraduates and graduates must pay a 15.5 percent hike.

For Lockman, an out-of-state student, that equals $452.56 for each of the three credit hours she takes at USF St. Petersburg, and $464.56 for each of the 11 credit hours she takes at USF Tampa.

The state legislature's budget, passed in May, required Florida's 11 public universities to raise tuition.

USF, St. Petersburg financial aid director Jennifer Fraser said fees increased for a few reasons.

"There's an all-time record high of students coming into the university system," she said. "(Universities are receiving) less funding from the state, and they're having to redirect funds from state universities to pay for the public school system's (smaller class sizes)."

Fraser also said more students are qualifying for Florida Bright Futures Scholarships and Florida Student Assistance Grants, which drain state funding.

The money collected from the tuition hike will be used for facilities, new programs and equipment. The new Student Union building, for example, was purchased with tuition increase revenue.

See Tuition on Page 8
Gold parking segregates

It took more than 30 years and a cowboy from Tampa to bring gold parking and tuition transportation fees to USF St. Petersburg.

USF St. Petersburg used to be different. It used to stand up and not worry about being different. Drooling mouths over some wonderful things when he was administration CEO, however, he always insinuated, charge students a 'close proximity to

equality.

Students or staff who want the gold parking will pay. However, I challenge people not to purchase.

Now gold parking is a premium. But those buying gold only hurt themselves in the long run. Gold spaces will squeeze up regular parking areas. So over time, gold will engulf the entire campus. Then no one will have an advantage.

Boycott gold parking. Poor, space-hunting commuters will thank you.

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

Opinions

The Facts

Student Parking

Last year: 684

This Year: $105

Percentage increase: 24%

Staff Parking

Last year: $116

This Year: $153

Percentage increase: 35%

Gold

Last year: none

This Year: $260

Reserved Space

Last year: none

This Year: $620

IT'S NOT ALL BAD

The transportation fee funds the newly created Safe-Team.

A group of students committed to the safety of campus commuters and pedestrian.

The increase is unfortunate, but University of Pittsburgh charges $600 a year to park.

At least we (gold buyers) get an increase in value for our money. Regular tag buyers get worse parking for more money. I love not fighting for a space.

To have a fight on its hands. More than likely, they will install time limits.

Students and employees, in most situations, this is not Tampa. In all fairness, the campus is growing rapidly and a parking garage is needed. Unfortunately most students footing the bill will not see any such garage.

Many argue USF Tampa has transportation fees and gold parking thus St. Pete should do the same. Wilcox did some wonderful things when he was CEO, however, he always insinuated, "Tampa does this and Tampa does it this way." Fortunately for the some

5,450 students and employees, in most situations, this is not Tampa.

It's not our fault gas prices went up so fast... the real reason is up there... your right now Mars is so close to Earth that its gravity is pulling those gas prices right through the roof! Honest.

I swear... it's not our fault gas prices went up so fast... the real reason is up there... your right now Mars is so close to Earth that its gravity is pulling those gas prices right through the roof! Honest.
South of the harbor, the College of Business finds a home

Campus expands south

The College of Business finds new home at Progressive Energy.

The University of South Florida St. Petersburg is leasing 27,000 square feet of space to accommodate dramatic growth of its academic and research programs.

The entire third floor of the office building at 1200 Bayboro Station houses the campus' recently established College of Business.

The leased space is a necessity for the burgeoning downtown campus. The campus is rapidly strengthening its academic and research programs in four strategic areas: social responsibility and corporate reporting; journalism and media studies; environmental science, policy and geography; and Florida studies.

To fuel that growth, the campus has hired 11 new members for the campus leadership team and more than 50 new faculty.

"We cannot allow the state’s difficult budget times to hinder our progress in developing programs of distinction that serve St. Petersburg and Pinellas County," said Ralph Wilcox, former interim vice president and campus executive officer. "This is a creative and cost-effective way to continue our growth and development."

The Bayboro Station location features 39 offices for faculty and staff, five classrooms, four conference rooms, a student computer laboratory and several study areas.

"These facilities are a great launching pad for our social responsibility and corporate reporting programs," said Ronald Hill, founding dean of the college of business. "It is a professional environment that is well suited for preparing students to be productive and responsible members of our business community."

USF St. Petersburg will occupy the space through an agreement with Progress Energy Service Company. The sublease took effect July 1, 2003 and runs through May 31, 2008.

Information courtesy of USF St. Petersburg Media Relations.

Friday, Sept. 5th
5:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Coquina Pool

Free for students with valid USF ID; $3 for non-students
Advance ticket guarantees dinner. Tickets available at the CAC Info. Desk.

Sponsored by the Harborside Activities Board

I'm ready for my close up ...

SF St. Petersburg was used as a shooting location for Soul Collective, a small film production studio. The group was filming a short fictional movie for a national film festival last week.
USF student brings guide dog puppy to classes

By Gina Elliot Prolx
Special First-Person Perspective

The fall semester at USF St. Petersburg is literally "going to the dogs." Well, more specifically, guide dog puppies. A Southeastern Guide Dog Puppy will attend select classes this semester with a student who is a volunteer guide dog raiser.

Bob is a 5 months old "Gold-a-dor" defined as half Labrador Retriever and half golden retriever. Bob will join me in classrooms this fall as part of his socialization training. Being exposed to the structure of a classroom setting will help Bob to prepare for a potential future as a guide dog for a teacher, or a student who is blind.

Part of my task as a volunteer puppy raiser is to expose Bob to any possible situation to ensure a happy and confident dog. Bob's attendance at USF, and numerous other learning opportunities are all designed to prepare him for the rigors of formal guide dog training, which is slated for sometime in late 2004.

Bob won't be spending a lot of time on campus, just a few classes a week. Students should not find any interruption to the normal flow of instruction. He usually falls asleep when he sits down for any length of time. When Bob is inside the classroom or on campus, he is "working," and wears his blue training jacket. It is a natural impulse to want to pet him, but please wait to ask until he is outside the classroom.

After Bob's training he will be carefully matched to a blind person with a lifestyle that best mirrors Bob's skills and socialization experiences. The dog and the person attend a 26-day training session together before graduating as a team. The dog, equipment and instruction are provided free of charge to the blind person.

Barry Mc Dowell of USF Disability Services assisted Stephen Ritch, an education faculty member, with gaining Bob's on-campus authorization. There is already one fully-qualified working dog that attends classes at USF St Petersburg. Gibson, an adult Labrador Retriever, assists his owner, who uses a wheel chair," Mc Dowell said.

Bob will be the first guide dog puppy allowed on the St. Petersburg campus. The USF Tampa campus has allowed two Southeastern guide dog puppies to attend classes with their puppy raisers in previous years.

Bob's behavior is very important in the public. Guide dogs assist their owners in nearly all aspects of life, from work to church to visits to the grocery store and even traveling across country on vacation.

Bob has been a fixture at Bradenton and Sarasota area businesses all summer. His socialization outings have prepared him for the noise and distraction of USF. He is so well known at the Sarasota restaurant "Tijuana Flats" that the waiters greet the dog by name. He has already taken his first plane trip and has visits malls, department stores and office environments. Any one of these experiences could be the link that connects him to the best person to be paired with for his working life as a guide dog.

Bob is awaiting permission to also attend classes on the Sarasota campus. For more information on Palmetto's Southeastern Guide Dogs visit their website at: www.guidedogs.org.

Editor's note: The Grow's Nest will run the occasional My Story article. If you have an idea please email the editor at USFCROWSNEST@AOL.COM
Rolling out the welcome center

On Aug. 15 the welcome center opened to serve USF St. Petersburg as an information and greeting facility. The new building, located at the corner of Second St. and Fifth Ave. S., is designed to bridge the City of St. Petersburg and the campus. There students, residents and visitors can learn about the campus and the city. It also offers maps, directions and daily parking passes.

ATTENTION!

Beginning Sept. 15, Seventh Ave. S. will be closed for construction purposes while chillers are installed for the new air conditioning system. Visitor parking will relocate nearby.

Classifieds

Intramurals are now being organized for team and individual sports. Students interested in pick up and/or organized play should attend one of the organizing meetings being held in the CAC on Monday, Sept. 8 at 5:00 p.m. (for basketball, swimming, sailing, and water volleyball) and Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 5:00 p.m. (for volleyball, flag football, tennis, ping pong, billiards, and darts).

Wanted Students to attend the Student Leadership Conference on Oct. 3 & 4 at Chinesgut Hill Center. Transportation and lodging provided. Spaces are limited. For more information, visit the CAC or call 553-4180

New hires, from page 1

Gary Olson, interim associate vice president of academic affairs, will evaluate Koorland. Normally, college deans evaluate faculty under them annually and have a major say in salary and promotion decisions. USF, Olson said, has taken the needed steps to remove Dean Fueyo from supervisor responsibilities regarding her husband.

Fueyo said she wasn't concerned with people who have disapproval of such an accommodation. "Dr. Koorland's credentials speak for themselves," she said of her husband. "He meets the quality material of an outstanding faculty member."

"This is not nepotism. I'm an ethical person and my responsibility is to every faculty member in the college," said Fueyo. "Spousal accommodation is common in higher education." Fueyo and Koorland came to USF St. Petersburg this summer from positions at Florida State University.

Among those who questioned the wife-husband hiring is student Mike Colucci. "There is a fine line: Although nepotism is a fact of life, it means less diversity. I have mixed feelings about it. It all sounds kind of bogus," said Colucci. He has been on his share of committee searches for new hires. Colucci said he could see why many education faculty didn't want to be included in the search to fill Koorland's eventual position.

Several faculty and staff have come forward with questions about the hiring, but all have requested anonymity. The Crow's Nest has requested records of the search committee that recommended the hiring of Koorland.

At time of publication those were not available. "We don't want this to be tainted at all," Olson said. "To get two distinguished people, we really lucked out. I guess...we could of looked in Tampa for a position for Koorland but with separate semi-autonomy issues that would have been difficult."

USF St. Petersburg employs a number of relatives of faculty and staff. For example, Kathy Arsenault, dean of the library, is the wife of history professor Ray Arsenault. But neither spouse has supervisory authority over the other.
Bored? Go out and do something

Various entertainment and sporting events for Tampa Bay

By Melissa Cusack
Staff Writer

Sept. 3, 2003 (Wednesday)
Mariah Carey at The Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center
Morsani Hall @ 8:00pm
Tampa Bay Devil Rays vs. Seattle Mariners @ 7:15pm
Tropicana Field
Sept. 4, 2003 (Thursday)
Tampa Bay Devil Rays vs. Seattle Mariners @ 7:15pm
The Improv - Featuring Carlos Mencia @ 8:00pm
Sept. 5 (Friday)
1st Friday- Street party on Central Avenue in downtown Saint Petersburg. The party is free and features live music. 5:30pm-10:00pm on the first Friday of each month. (727) 393-3597
22nd Seafood Street Festival - Festival will run from 5:00pm- 8:00pm on 22nd St. North between 9th and 15th Avenues. (727) 322-8129
Sept. 6 (Saturday)
A Flock of Seagulls at The Masquerade in Ybor City @ 8:00pm
Counting Crows at the USF Sundome
Bubba Sparxxx at Janus Landing @ 7:00pm
USF vs. Nicholls State @ 7:00pm
Sept. 7 (Sunday)
The Pier- Live music performances from 1:00pm- 4:00pm each Sunday. Featured band is “Flashback” (classic rock).
Tampa Bay Devil Rays vs. Oakland Athletics @ 1:15pm
Sept. 8 (Monday)
Upcoming Events from the Harborside Activities Board

Sundae Monday
Monday, Sept. 15th
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
& 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Davis Lobby

Dinner & a Movie
Matrix Reloaded
Friday, Sept. 19th
7:01 p.m.
CAC

USF BULLS
Football
First Home Game
Saturday
Sept. 6
7 p.m.
vs.
Nicholls State
Raymond James Stadium
FREE ADMISSION with Student ID!

The McCormick Duo Flute and Percussion at the USF Music Recital Hall @ 8:00pm
Sept. 9 (Tuesday)
Tampa Bay Devil Rays vs. Toronto Blue Jays @ 7:15pm
Sept. 10 (Wednesday)
Type O Negative at The Masquerade @ 8:00pm
Open Mic Night at The Improv @ 8:00pm
Tampa Bay Devil Rays vs. Toronto Blue Jays @ 7:15pm
Sept. 11 (Thursday)
Tampa Bay Devil Rays vs. Toronto Blue Jays @ 2:15pm
Sept. 12 (Friday)
LeAnn Rimes at The Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center
Morsani Hall @ 8:00pm
Journey at the USF Sundome @ 8:00pm
Sept. 13 (Saturday)
Sister Hazel at The Masquerade @ 8:00pm
“Take a walk on the Art Side”- Downtown Arts Association’s monthly gallery walk. This event features several galleries in Downtown Saint Petersburg; 5:30- 9:00pm. (727) 821-6767
Fight Night Pro Boxing at A La Carte Pavilion @ 8:00pm
Sept. 14 (Sunday)
The Pier: Live music performances from 1:00pm- 4:00pm each Sunday. Features: Stacey Knights and Smooth Jazz.
The Tampa Bay Bucs are playing the Carolina Panthers at home.
Sept. 16 (Tuesday)
The Improv features Café Lyrics @ 8:00pm
Sept. 17 (Wednesday)
The Improv features Raven @ 8:00pm
Win a bed and breakfast

Enjoy a one night stay and breakfast for two at the charming St. Petersburg Hilton.

All registered USF St. Petersburg students may enter!

SEND YOUR FULL NAME, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER & PHONE NUMBER via email to USFCROWSNEST@AOL.COM Title the subject: HILTON

Disclaimer: Crow's Nest staff is not eligible. Students must be registered in at least one class at USF St. Petersburg. All entries must be received by Wed. Sept. 10 at 9 p.m. Winner will be chosen at random Thu. Sept. 11.

On Wednesday, Sept. 3 come visit Crow's Nest Campus Showcase booth and enter a drawing for a massage package from the Lou Michaels Spa. Courtesy of the St. Petersburg Hilton.

The Hilton St. Petersburg is located in downtown St. Petersburg across from Progress Energy Park and Bayfront Performing Arts Center.

Highlights include:

- Walking distance to Baywalk and close to the Pier
- Located minutes from USF's St. Petersburg campus, Jannus Landing, Tropicana Field and Salvador Dali Museum
- Lou Michaels Spa (full service spa and salon) on premises
- Outdoor heated pool
- USF friendly rates

The Hilton St. Petersburg is proud to serve the downtown community.

Reservations 727-894-5000 or 1-800-944-5500

333 First St. South
St. Petersburg, Fl 33701

www.stpetehilton.com
Tuition, from page 1

...tuition increase allows the university to hire new teachers who can boost course offerings and increase student enrollment, Fraser said. And it too contributes to financial aid, like the $31 USF St. Petersburg scholarship offered yearly to undergraduates and graduates. Lockman didn’t receive any of the USF scholarships she applied for in March. She has a $15,000 loan to cover her fall and spring semesters, and said she’ll soon make monthly interest payments on the loan.

Her rent is $58.3 a month and she spends $15 on gas every two days because she commutes from USF Tampa to USF St. Petersburg. And she isn’t working.

“I have all these bills and no job,” Lockman said.

Expansion, from page 1

...the purchase agreement with the campus.

Nasser and White are ecstatic about the purchase of the Fountain Inn and are looking forward to student feedback on the decision.

“This has been a long time coming,” Nasser said. “I gave kudos to the people before me who helped make USF a vibrant place for students.”

Wanted: Student Government Representatives

The Student Government of USFSP is currently accepting applications for Fall 2003 Representatives. Stop by the SG office located in the Campus Activities Center Room 127 or call 727-553-4147 for more information. Take an active role in decisions that directly affect your life on our campus! Join SG today!

USFSP Student Government is going to the mat for you!

Stop by the SG booth at Campus Showcase, Wed Sept 3rd to pick up free USF merchandise. Information on how to get involved & take your turn at SUMO WRESTLING!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Student Government Meeting
Wed, Sept 10th at 4:30 p.m. in CAC 127
Wake up Wednesday, Sept 17th
Pinellas County Board of Elections will be registering students to vote in time for this fall’s election.

USF SP Student Government • CAC 127 • (727) 553-4147