Press release : 2003 : 03 : 12 : Reception Honors Library Dean

Buddy Baker
Kathy Arsenault, dean of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library at USF St. Petersburg has been selected as a finalist for the Business Woman of the Year award, one of the “Women of Distinction” awards presented annually by the Women’s Council of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce.

The winner will be announced at the 2003 Women’s Symposium on Friday, March 21, 2003 at the Coliseum. Guest speaker at the symposium will be Madame Jehan Sadat, international peace activist and proponent of women’s rights.

Arsenault will be honored at a reception at the Florida International Museum on Thursday, March 20, from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Cost for the reception is $15 and includes admission to the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery Exhibit, "Women of Our Time," a photographic collection of women who have shaped America.

Arsenault was the first woman dean at USF St. Petersburg when she was named library dean in May 2002. She had been selected as director of the 200,000-volume library only eight months before, in August 2001, after serving as interim director for the previous two years. She came to the university in 1982 as special collections librarian.

She received her master’s in library science in 1973 from Simmons College in Boston. Arsenault graduated from Wellesley College in 1972 with a bachelor of arts degree in English.

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