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Press release: 2005: 08: 30: USF St. Petersburg to Celebrate its 40th Anniversary

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

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This Fall, USF St. Petersburg will begin a year-long celebration to commemorate its 40th anniversary and showcase the great strides it has made over four decades.

The celebration kicks-off with a complete day of festivities on Wednesday, Sept. 7 – a significant date representing the first day of classes in 1965. The day-long celebration includes:

**Academic Convocation**
Campus Activities Center, 11:30 am – 1 pm
Faculty dressed in full academic regalia will recognize academic excellence and present the campus’ teaching in excellence award honorees. Plus, USF President Judy Genshaft will give a USF systemwide update.

**Campus Showcase**
Waterfront, 11 am to 2 pm and 4 pm to 6 pm
Student organization booths will line the campus’ waterfront to give new and returning students a chance to learn about all that USF St. Petersburg has to offer.

**Anniversary Bash**
Nelson Poynter Memorial Library breezeway, 4 pm
In addition to a ceremonial cake cutting by Student Government representatives, a St. Petersburg city official will proclaim Sept. 7, 2005 as USF St. Petersburg Day.

“Although many things have changed here over the past 40 years – and continue to change today – one consistent message I continue to hear from both current students and alumni is that they treasure our small classes and caring faculty,” Regional Chancellor Karen A. White said. “Regardless of how fast this institution grows, it is our goal to maintain that very special quality of being a student-centered campus.”

The 40th Anniversary will also include a dedicated Web site with a photo gallery timeline to showcase the campus’ growth and evolution, as well as an extensive library exhibit taking visitors through significant moments throughout USF St. Petersburg’s history.

For more information about the 40th Anniversary, please contact University Relations at 553-4256 or visit www.stpt.usf.edu.

USF St. Petersburg Celebrates Forty Years of Excellence
Occupying a former U.S. merchant marine base on Bayboro Harbor, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg opened in the Summer of 1965 to accommodate an overflow of freshmen students enrolled at USF Tampa.

Forty years later, USF St. Petersburg is a thriving campus with a student population that grew from 250 to more than 4,600, and a full-time faculty that grew from four to 148. The downtown St. Petersburg campus currently offers 426 courses among the 26 undergraduate and 12 graduate degree programs through the Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Business, and Education.

As the campus grows, adding its first residence hall and parking garage, USF St. Petersburg remains a close-knit learning community. USF St. Petersburg’s 40th Anniversary year celebration begins Sept. 7, 2005 to commemorate the first day of classes here in 1965, and will continue through August 2006 with special events and exhibitions.