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USF St. Petersburg names two seniors Outstanding Graduates

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. (May 7, 2002) — In a rare dual selection, Phyllis Lenahan and Margaret Thorpe have received the Outstanding Graduate Award for Spring 2002 from the USF Alumni Association’ Pinellas County Chapter.

The women were recognized on May 5, during graduation ceremonies for the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

The alumni award is given each semester to recognize a graduate who embodies leadership, school spirit, community service, character and scholarship.

Lenahan volunteered in an attorney’s office for the past three years, where she worked on both family law and criminal cases when the clients could not afford the attorney’s fees.

She is a member of Golden Key and Pi Gamma Mu honor societies and served as president and vice president of Phi Theta Kappa. Lenahan was a student government representative for two years, served on several campus committees and was a new student orientation leader for the past two years.

Thorpe served as a tutor on the America Reads Program, was a mentor at the Brookwood Home for Girls, volunteered for the Pinellas Democratic Committee and has been an American Red Cross disaster relief volunteer for more than 15 years.

A filmmaker, Thorpe won the Hamptons International Film Festival Best Documentary award in 1999 for Alma.

She is a member of the Golden Key International and Arts and Sciences honor societies. She was a student government representative and a member of the Campus Women’s Collective.

Thorpe has been accepted into the Department of Communication and Culture at Indiana University where she plans to get to her Ph.D.