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April 24, 2014

HarborNotes Weekly

Five Things to Know About USF St. Petersburg

USFSP Hosts "Take Your Child to Work Day"

Mayor Kriseman Is Special Guest

USFSP hosted its annual "Take Your Child to Work Day" featuring a guest appearance by St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman. Nearly 40 children of employees participated in this year's event, which offered a packed schedule of activities for elementary, middle and high school students.

"This year's theme is 'Plant a Seed, Grow a Future,'" said Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska, who welcomed the students. "This event provides a wonderful opportunity to recognize the talent of our employees while introducing their children to what USF St. Petersburg has to offer."



Students spent the day with faculty who created fun activities around their areas of expertise. The College of Business even organized a special scavenger hunt, sending students to points of interest around the campus and rewarding participants with USFSP goody bags.

A **dedicated website** will feature photos from the day.

Photo: (from left) Eli Hay, Elizabeth Hunter, USFSP Training Director Lisa Pablos, Thomas Riggins IV, and Mayor Rick Kriseman

Faculty Deliver Research Lightning-Fast

Fourteen faculty members had five minutes -- no more and no less -- to present on their latest research during the recent "Faculty Lightning Research Talks" hosted by the **Nelson Poynter Memorial Library**. Faculty from all three colleges -- Arts & Science, Business and Education -- presented on a wide range of topics.



Dr. John Arthur

"Faculty did a great job addressing some complex topics in a very limited timeframe," said Carol Hixson, dean of the Library. "I was particularly impressed by the variety of subjects, everything from creative thinking skills, to management of pediatric asthma, to cultural factors to consider when designing an online course. Amazing."

Anthropologist John Arthur, Ph.D., presented "Beer, Caste and Feasts: Ethnoarcheology from Southern Ethiopia," an overview of his research into the history and influence of beer among the Gamo people of Africa.

Aspiring Journalists Inducted Into Honor Society

Five USFSP journalism students are the first to be inducted into the recently-renamed Robert W. Dardenne Chapter of Kappa Tau Alpha (KTA), journalism's academic honor society. The Chapter was renamed in honor of Associate Professor Dardenne, who passed away suddenly last fall.

"Dr. Dardenne was an experienced journalist and a dedicated educator," said Deni Elliott, Ed.D., chair of the **Department of Journalism and Media Studies**. "His wisdom and commitment to excellence in journalism education inspired his students, colleagues and all who knew him during his 22 years at USF St. Petersburg."



From left: May Zayan, Haley Christian, Tyler Killeto and Amanda Starling

Journalism and Media Studies Master's degree candidate May Zayan and Journalism seniors Haley Christian, Kim Doleatoo, Tyler Killeto and Amanda Starling are the 2014 KTA inductees.

Dr. Dardenne spearheaded the creation of USFSP's KTA chapter in 2012 and served as its first faculty adviser. The Journalism faculty voted unanimously in support of the name change.

New Student Success Center Unveiled

USFSP officially opened its Student Success Center this week, complete with a new 70-inch, high-definition monitor for presentations, a collaboration station for sharing laptops on screen and new, touchscreen computers. The Center offers free peer tutoring in over 17 subjects, distance-learning exam proctoring, a computer lab, office hours for adjunct faculty, and soon, foreign language placement testing, and success seminars and presentations.

"Our tutors are trained to assist students in becoming independent learners by helping them with subject matter content, as well as learning strategies," said Cynthia Edwards, Ph.D., co-director of the Center and director of the Tutoring Center. "Future plans include presentations on study skills, test-taking strategies, and other topics of interest to students."

"The Student Success Center, a division of **Academic Affairs**, was intentionally located in the center of campus," added Vivian Fueyo, Ph.D., interim regional vice chancellor of Academic Affairs, "to underscore the university-wide emphasis on enhancing the student academic experience at USFSP."



Dr. Vivian Fueyo cuts the ribbon at the Grand Opening of the Student Success Center.

New USFSP Butterfly Garden Dedicated

USFSP has its first bonafide Butterfly Garden. The Garden, which is located near the corner of 6th Avenue and Second Street, was dedicated this week by Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska and Daniel McGarigal, the student lead on the project.



The Butterfly Garden dedication included (from left) Facilities Director John Dickson, Project Leader Daniel McGarigal, Regional Chancellor Wisniewska, Student Government President Mark Lombardi-Nelson and many butterfly enthusiasts.

"The garden was designed to improve the campus entrance, promote tranquility and peace with nature, and provide a calming natural setting for everyone to enjoy," said McGarigal, an Interdisciplinary Social Sciences major. "We want to encourage the population growth of struggling bee and butterfly species, as well as promote interaction and appreciation of nature in a very urbanized setting."

McGarigal says he's particularly proud that the garden was designed and paid for by students. The garden features only native Florida plants and is certified as both a North American Butterfly Associations Butterfly Garden, and a Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Foundation.

Upcoming Events

College of Education
Teacher Work Sample Poster Session

Tuesday, April 29
10:15 - 11:45 a.m.

USFSP Commencement

Sunday, May 4
6:00 p.m.

College of Education
Teachers as Leaders Institute

June 5 and 6

[See details and more events on our Things To Do Calendar](#)

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HarborNotes publishes weekly during the fall and spring semesters. To suggest a story, contact the editor:

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