

9-13-2012

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Hogarth, Bill, "burg Blogs : 2012 : 09 : 13 : The best job I've ever had" (2012). *(2012 August - 2013 June, Interim) Regional Chancellor: William T. "Bill" Hogarth*. 3.

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'burg Blogs »

The best job I've ever had

Posted [September 13, 2012](#) at 3:22 pm by [Bill Hogarth, Interim Regional Chancellor](#)



Celebrating the launch

I have had a lot of great jobs in my life, and some have taken me all over the world, including a presidential appointment and two international commissions.

But this one beats them all.

I just love walking around campus and feeling the energy and excitement of the students. It's infectious and makes me feel young again.

All that energy really came together last week at the launch of the University Student Center. It was an absolutely great event. The enthusiasm of the community, the students, President Genshaft and local officials was just great, and the students coming out at the end dancing was just fantastic.

There is so much going on and so many great things to do here that I have to tell myself when I get home at night, “Hold on, you can’t do everything!”

But I’m going to try.

The main thing right now is to make sure we listen to our students.

They are the reason we are here and they need to be the focal point of the campus. I want their time here to be the best years of their lives. I hope someday they tell their family and friends, “I went to USF St. Pete and it was a great place to be!”

The day before the USC launch there was quite a scene along Harbor Walk. Get On Board day was such a wonderful event, with dozens of student organizations showing off what they do. I hope every student at USFSP gets involved in one or more of these groups, and not just because it will look good on a resume. Joining a student organization is a great way to make friends, some of whom will become friends for life.

I hope to use this blog to let you know what’s on my mind and to talk about some of the things I have planned. We have more students than ever living in university housing and I hope they will join their fellow students in creating the kind of traditions that will live on long after they are gone.

I’ll do my part by throwing a pizza party on campus Sept. 22 to watch the Bulls take on Ball State. Stay tuned for details.

Go Bulls!



Anthropology Club at Get On Board Day 2012

About the blogger



I am Interim Regional Chancellor of USFSP and Director of the Florida Institute of Oceanography. I also served three years as Dean of the USF College of Marine Science. Before joining USF, I was the former Assistant Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Services at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, appointed by President George W. Bush in 2001. I grew up in Jarratt, Virginia, a town of 600 people in southern Virginia. I received my bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Richmond in Virginia and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University. To fulfill one of my childhood dreams, I took a break in marine research and returned to my hometown to operate a small neighborhood grocery store.