

4-11-2014

Harbor Notes : 2014 : 04 : 11

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University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Office of University Advancement., "Harbor Notes : 2014 : 04 : 11" (2014). *Harbor Notes*. 4.
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April 11, 2014

HarborNotes Weekly

Five Things to Know About USF St. Petersburg

Food Conference Draws Foodies, Potential Students

It was standing room-only for USFSP's first annual Florida Food Conference last Saturday, which featured longtime PBS chef Nathalie Dupree as keynote speaker. The conference served as the kick-off to a new Food Writing and Photography Graduate Certificate program USFSP will offer in the fall through the Department of Journalism and Media Studies.



(left to right) USFSP Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska, Ph.D., television chef Nathalie Dupree and Dr. Deni Elliott

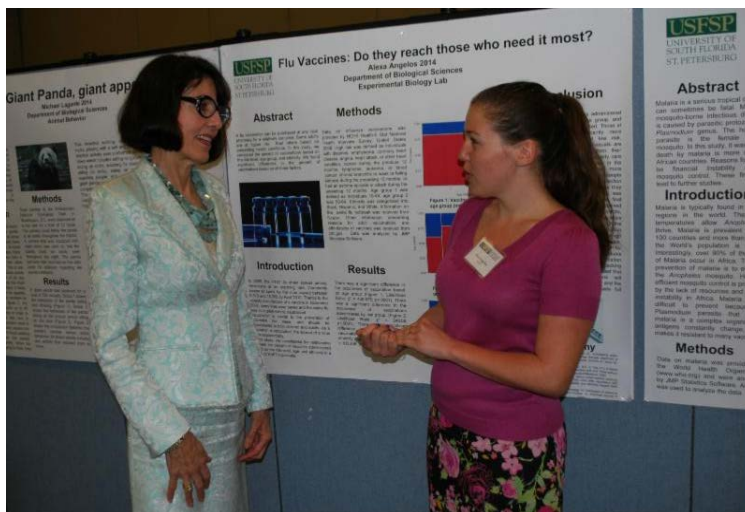
"As St. Petersburg continues to evolve in the area of the arts, including the culinary arts, this program is a logical extension through which to explore more systematically the importance of the arts to our community," said Frank Biafora, P.h.D., dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. "The program will draw a dynamic new audience to the University."

Tampa Bay Times Food and Travel Editor, Janet Keeler, will work closely with Deni Elliott, Ph.D., chair of the Journalism Department, to teach a series of required and elective courses, many of which will be available online. For more information about the program, visit foodwriting.usfsp.edu.

USFSP Hosts Largest-Ever Research Symposium

Nearly 140 students from all three colleges participated in this week's **Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium** at the University Student Center. This was the 11th consecutive year for the symposium and USFSP's largest ever, drawing students from Arts & Sciences, Business and Education.

"The Symposium celebrates the curiosity and creativity of USFSP students," said Thomas W. Smith, Ph.D., director of the Honors Program. It encourages active, engaged learning as students follow the evidence wherever it leads."



Vivian Fueyo, Ph.D., interim regional vice chancellor of Academic Affairs, and Biomedical Sciences student Alexa Angelos



Dr. Jamie McHale and Psychology student Lam Le

Thomas, who organized the symposium with Jamie McHale, Ph.D., director of the USFSP Family Study Center, says the event serves as a springboard for participating students. Many go on to present their research at conferences or see it published in academic journals, having tested their ideas on campus first. Students work closely with faculty mentors on their projects.

Lightning-Fast: Faculty Research Talks

Taking cues from TED and recognizing USFSP Research Month, the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library will host its second Faculty Research Lightning Talks next Thursday, April 17 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. The event is the brainchild of Kaya Van Beynan, associate librarian, who has arranged to videotape this year's program. Fourteen faculty members will participate, addressing topics like "Creative Thinking for the 21st Century" and "Accounting for Culture in Instructional Design," by entrepreneurship instructor Nathan Schwagler and digital journalist Casey Frechette, Ph.D., respectively.

"We are excited about supporting the research of USFSP's outstanding faculty by hosting this innovative series of lightning talks," said Carol Hixon, dean, Nelson Poynter Memorial Library. "The event gives the community a taste for the depth and breadth of impactful research being conducted at USFSP."

A reception will be held at 3:00 p.m., prior to the talks. See highlights from last year [here](#).



Photo: Debbie Cassill, Ph.D., is among 14 faculty who will present research in five minutes -- flat.

USFSP Is Among Tampa Bay's Healthiest Employers

The Tampa Bay Business Journal (TBBJ) has announced its annual list of the region's healthiest employers, and for a first time, USFSP is one of them. Working closely with a national technology and data research company, TBBJ selected its honorees based on a number of criteria, including numbers of programs aimed at smoking cessation, fitness, and nutrition. USFSP is one of only 43 companies recognized for its commitment to creating a healthy workplace.



USFSP Training Director Lisa Pablos

"Human Resources is honored that USFSP has been selected as one of the 2014 Healthiest Employers," said Lisa Pablos, HR training director. "We will continue to add programs to promote health and wellness, and increase employee satisfaction."

Saying Farewell to Mark Lombardi-Nelson

Entrepreneurship senior Mark Lombardi-Nelson has served two years as President of USFSP Student Government (SG). During his 2013-2014 term, he was elected University Trustee. He was SG vice president from 2011-2012, and a student senator from 2010-2011. As he prepares to graduate, he says he'll take his strong work ethic with him. "I come from a family of eight," he says. "I've always worked hard. I always will."

Q: What is the accomplishment that makes you most proud?

A: We kept our word and changed this campus. You can ask anyone from 2010 to now, the experience students receive is completely different. We provided the foundation for students to have a real college experience.

Q: What is your fondest SG memory?

A: 3am SG nights. We accomplished so much in those moments, and the friendships built from a common desire to make USFSP a better place will never be forgotten.

Q: What lies ahead?

A: Post graduation, I'd love to work for Jabil in St. Petersburg, though my future is not set in stone. I live my life by two mission statements, and my happiness for what lies ahead is determined by the following:

1. I will consistently challenge myself for the betterment of others.
2. In my life, I will produce, provide and be of service.



Upcoming Events

**Student Success Center
Grand Opening
Thursday, Apr. 17
3:00 p.m.**

**College of Arts & Sciences
Dali Museum's Genius Next Door
Thursday, Apr. 17
6:00 p.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](#)

[Follow our public events on Twitter](#)

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

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