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Louise and Wally Bishop Endowment for Ethical Leadership : 2010-2011

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PA6001 – Louise and Wally Bishop Endowment for Ethical Leadership : 2010-2011

USF St. Petersburg offers distinctive graduate and undergraduate programs in the arts and sciences, business, and education within a close-knit, student-centered environment. As the first regional institution within the USF System to earn independent accreditation, USF St. Petersburg distinguishes itself by its urban waterfront location in downtown St. Petersburg and a focus on undergraduate research, civic engagement and small classes. USF St. Petersburg retains a separate identity and mission while contributing to and benefiting from the associations, cooperation, and shared resources of a premier national research university.

The Wally and Louise Bishop Center experienced a change of leadership in 2010-2011 as Dr. Steve Ritch, founding director for the Center retired in December, 2010. Dr. H. William (Bill) Heller was appointed Director in January, 2011. Dr. Heller is a former CEO of the USFSP campus and worked with Dr. Ritch, Louise Bishop, and Mary Joan Mann (Wally and Louise Bishop's daughter) to establish the endowment supporting the Center. Dr. Heller knows well the mission of the Center and will assure adherence to the latter as well as the wishes of the donors, Wally and Louise Bishop.

During the 2010-2011 academic year, the Center offered six (6) courses enrolling sixty-four (64) students. The community leadership practicum focused its efforts on the Campbell Park neighborhood of St. Petersburg and worked collaboratively with the Lead, Learn, Serve program giving the students first-hand experience in working with families and leaders in the Campbell Park neighborhood. Their efforts resulted in a recreational plan for the neighborhood supported by a \$5,000 grant funded by the Lead, Learn, Serve program which utilizes Federal funds. The Bishop Center continued its commitment of \$10,000 in annual cost-share funds to the Lead, Learn, Serve program as well as providing two sections of the Leadership Fundamentals course for freshman in student leadership programs.

During the Spring (2011) semester, the Bishop Center (after securing the approval of Ms. Mary Joan Mann) added the Center for Civic Engagement as a component. This is a major accomplishment for the Center as it broadens access to the academic programs of the University. The Center is also now housed administratively in the College of Arts and Sciences which also broadens its access to University-wide academic programs. These last two actions greatly enhance the viability and visibility of the Center.