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September 21, 2017

A Message from Interim Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock



Following Hurricane Irma and a change in USFSP leadership, Interim Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock held a series of forums this week with students, senior leaders, faculty and staff. During these conversations, Dr. Tadlock expressed his admiration for the unique community that is USFSP and its central focus on student success.

He touched on recent accomplishments and student success initiatives and reiterated that institutional priorities will remain in place to continue to move the university forward. Find below an excerpt and then a link to the full message from Dr. Tadlock.

We live in a time of change in education and in society in general. Sometimes we can anticipate those changes, other times we cannot. Regardless, as a community we weather those changes, we serve our students, we serve our region and we rely upon each other to grow personally and professionally.

With the change in leadership at USF St. Petersburg, please keep in mind that our success as a university is measured by the success of our students, and the success of our students is dependent upon how well we function as a community of faculty, staff and administration. After 36 years in education, I have seen time after time that the success of a middle school, high school, college or university is dependent upon those who dedicate themselves to the success of others. Our success is rooted in the work of many people here.

[Read the rest of Dr. Tadlock's message to the USFSP community.](#)

USF St. Petersburg Ranked in Top 25 of Southern Regional Public Universities by U.S. News & World Report

USF St. Petersburg is once again among the top 25 Southern Regional Public Universities,

according to new rankings just released by U.S. News & World Report. In its 2018 Best Colleges Rankings, USFSP landed at No. 24. The university is also ranked at No. 66 among all public and private regional universities in the south, moving up six spots from the previous year.



"These rankings highlight the most important goal of any university - academic excellence for students," said Interim Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock. "We are delighted by this recognition, both as a testament to the outstanding work of our faculty and staff, and as an indicator of USFSP's proven history of meeting significant benchmarks for academic quality and student success."

Key numbers the magazine cited for its overview of the university included a student-faculty ratio at 16:1 and more than 25 percent of classes at fewer than 20 students. With an emphasis on smaller class sizes, faculty work closely with students, encouraging them to excel not only in the classroom, but in internships, research and civic learning as well.

[Learn more about this great recognition.](#)

Opening of The Edge Begins a New Era for Student Social Engagement and Recreation



The inside and outside of The Edge will be a primary destination for student activities throughout the year.

USFSP's newest waterfront destination for academic and leisure pursuits is now open. Adjacent to the pool and within Coquina Hall, The Edge - named for its location on the edge of campus - seeks to be the main destination for bringing students together throughout the year.

"There hasn't been a space on our campus for students to meet new students on a continuous basis," said Student Body President David Thompson. "Some of my best friends are those I met and bonded with during the Island Party that takes place at Coquina Pool and the old Coquina Club (now The Edge). But that event is held just once a year. We now have a venue where

social events like that can take place regularly."

[Delve deeper into the opening of The Edge.](#)

Silver Rating Shows Great Progress for Campus Sustainability

Spearheaded by an active student body and faculty, the USFSP community is investing in solar panels and energy efficient buildings, leading innovative research in sustainability and incorporating environmental stewardship into many planning decisions on campus. These were just a few of the reasons why the university received a Silver rating for sustainability performance by the Association for the Advancement for Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). This was the first time USFSP received such an honor.



This 40kw solar array carport on campus will power 15 percent of the new Poynter Warehouse Labs. Photo by Brian Pullen.

[Read on about sustainability achievements on campus.](#)

Major Celebration: An Event to Declare and Celebrate Your Major



From October 3-5, USFSP will host a series of events that will help students identify a major that is right for them as well as celebrate already chosen majors through a video competition. Events include:

- A Career Carnival where employers representing fields as diverse as education, science and business will discuss careers related to specific majors on Harborwalk on October 3;
- An Ice Cream Social will take place the following day in the University Student Center where faculty will dish out ice cream and toppings and answer student's questions; and
- The week of events will culminate in a major celebration with food, live music and prizes in the University Student Center Ballroom on Thursday, October 5 at 7 p.m. Those in attendance will get to view videos from students, student organizations and student groups about their majors.

[Learn more about the Major Celebration event.](#)

Wellness Center Receives Accreditation for Counseling



The USFSP Wellness Center recently achieved accreditation for its counseling services, passing the highest standards available for campus counseling centers. The International Association of Counseling Services (IACS) reviewed and endorsed the Center's numerous services it provides the community, which include individual and group therapy, psychiatric services and crisis management. The accreditation process positively noted the Center's role in offering training programs for students and collaborating with partners on campus.

[Learn more about the innovative services offered at the Wellness Center.](#)

USFSP's Road to the Ethics Bowl

USFSP is aiming for its first regional Ethics Bowl win in November, with the goal of competing in the national tournament in Chicago in 2018. The Ethics Bowl is a debate-style competition in which university teams respond to moral questions arising out of current events. The top four teams in each regional competition are invited to participate in the national bowl. To get the team of debate students there and prepared, they are raising money that will help pay for expenses related to travel, coaching and practice, competition fees, scholarships and supplies for the team. A Herdfunder drive is taking place from September 5-October 4, and thanks to a generous challenge gift from David and Lisa Hood, the team is already halfway to their goal of \$10,000.

[Read up on the Ethics Bowl and the skills this debate-style competition gives students.](#)

USFSP in the News

[Times Festival of Reading Celebrates 25 Years with Michael Connelly, Kate DiCamillo and More](#)

Tampa Bay Times

[U.S. Expert Shares Journalism Tips with Brunei Media Professionals and Students](#)

Eleven News Journal

[English Professor Discusses Unexpected Discovery of Whitewater Kayaking on Brooker Creek](#)

WMNF Radio

Upcoming Events

[Initiative on Coastal Adaptation and Resilience \(iCAR\) Workshop: Identifying Key Areas of Social Vulnerability and Enhancing Resilience](#)

October 4-5, in University Student Center Ballroom

[Homecoming Week](#)

October 8-14, events take place in various locations throughout the week.

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This email was developed by USFSP's department of Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications.

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