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Report of the Regional Chancellor To the University of South Florida St. Petersburg Campus Board

Karen A. White, DMA
May 3, 2005

There are many good things to note in the campus report today. On the legislative front, first year planning money of \$2.574 million for the USFSP Science and Technology Building is in the Board of Governor's Request (3/24/05), the Proposed Senate appropriations bill (SB 2600), and the Proposed House appropriations bill (HB1885). The Student Center Bill proposed by our student government president Tom Piccolo has been approved in the Senate and will come to the floor of the House this week in the consent agenda. Following this, all we need is the Governor's signature.

The \$5 million Board of Governor's request for permanent dollars to fund new nursing initiatives has been changed in appropriations bills to one-time funds that will be distributed via a competitive grant process. USF Tampa and USFSP will again propose a nursing program in Pinellas County as a legislative budget request for permanent funding next year.

On USF Day at the capitol, 25 USFSP Students studying Law and Politics and Constitution Law traveled to Tallahassee under the aegis of political science professor Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan. The students started the day at the Florida Supreme Court where they heard arguments from both sides of a pending case, then met President Genshaft at the Capitol and visited the offices of our Pinellas representatives to speak on behalf of USFSP's legislative agenda, and visited the Florida State University College of Law. Dr. McLauchlan's book, Congressional Participation as *Amicus Curiae* before the U.S. Supreme Court, was recently published.

April 18-22 was Honors Week at USFSP and we celebrated through a number of events including the initiation of our first class of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national honor society; a reception for Dean's and Chancellor's List students; and the Tomorrow's Leader's Research Symposium. Twenty-one students in studio art presented their works at the galleries at Salt Creek Art Works. Students also presented their research at national conferences this semester including the American Chemical Society and national psychology meetings.

A number of USFSP students have been recognized for academic excellence and leadership. Tom Piccolo was named one of Florida's top 20 campus leaders by *Florida Leader* magazine. Jeff Neely, a senior in journalism, has been awarded a prestigious summer internship with NASA at the Kennedy Space Center. Bryan Nichols earned the Ridge 2000 Research Cruise Internship in science journalism and graduates this spring with a master's degree in marine science and an additional master's degree in journalism. Ashley Hendrickson, a

student in last year's Road to the White House Course, has been awarded a Graduate Assistantship in the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut where she has been admitted to the master's program.

The USF Division I Women's Sailing Team completed the season ranked in the top 15 nationally and the USFSP Intramural Coed Sailing Team, also ranked in the top 15 nationally, won a very challenging match at a recent regatta in Charleston to earn a berth at the Nationals in Austin in June.

The education of our students was enhanced this semester by the presence of a number of distinguished lecturers. The City of St. Petersburg endowed lecture honoring Dr. Martin Luther King was presented by Naomi Tutu, daughter of Nobel laureate Desmond Tutu. We co-presented with Eckerd College a number of lectures on Florida history and literature through the Florida Mosaic series. The Debbie and Brent Sembler – Florida Holocaust Museum Lecture Series presented Margy Burns Knight, author of Talking Walls: Telling Your Own Stories and Discovering a World of Compassion. Dr. Jerome Williams of the University of Texas spoke to a community/university audience on consumer racial profiling. Finally, USFSP and Eckerd College hosted a party to celebrate Dr. John Hope Franklin's 90th birthday. Dr. Franklin serves as an unofficial scholar in residence each spring and brings great depth to our student and faculty scholarship in Southern History.

Faculty continue to receive national recognition. Jim Fellows, professor of accounting, was named 2005 Accounting Educator of the Year by the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Jamie McHale, professor of psychology was awarded a K02 grant for more than \$400,000 recognizing him as one of the country's leading scientists in psychology. Only six K02 awards have been presented by the National Institute of Child Health and Development in the last 30 years, and this is a first for the USF System. Among Dr. McHale's research interests in child and family adjustment is 'co-parenting.'

Florida Comprehensive System for Personnel Development was notified of its 10th consecutive year of funding from the Florida Department of Education Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services. This grant of \$765,000 to Principal Investigator Bill Heller is the largest continuously operating sponsored program at USFSP.

Our USFSP alums have achieved distinction in many fields. Pinellas County Teacher of the Year, chosen from 6,000 teachers in the county, is Janet Acerra who is working on her second master's degree at USFSP and is a part-time instructor. Two alumni authors have had books published this spring: Lee Irby, 7,000 Clams and Adam Carozza, Images of America: New Port Richey.

The Pinellas County Chapter of the USF Alumni Association will honor a number of individuals later this month through the 2005 Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Regional Chancellor's Award

Ed Baird
Judge Marion Lucas Fleming

Community Leadership

Sonia Raymund

Campus Service

Nancy E. Loehr, Community Relations Manager, Progress Energy

Distinguished Alumni Under 35

Francis M. King, Partner, Dennison and King

Professional Achievement

John Robert Saron, President, Aaron Medical Industries

Business Achievement

John Cooper, President, Bonefish Grill

Corporate Campus Service

Verizon
Alan Ciamporcero, President-Public Policy and Regulatory Affairs
Chris Coffin, Director-External Affairs

Dr. V. Mark Durand has accepted the position of Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Dr. Durand came to USFSP in 2003 to serve as the founding dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He has a distinguished career as a psychologist and his research interest is autism.

As a final note, I would add that the Southern Association on Colleges and Schools notified us that they our application for separate accreditation has been accepted and a site visit will be scheduled for spring 2006.