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Sophia Wisniewska receives warm community welcome

More than 200 community members filled the University Student Center Ballroom Thursday night to welcome USF St. Petersburg Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska, Ph.D. The event was sponsored by the USFSP Campus Board, Duke Energy, the St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership, St. Petersburg College and Bank of Tampa. Additional support was provided by All Children's Hospital Johns Hopkins Medicine, the USF Federal Credit Union and Bill and Ann Edwards. "While this event marks my formal welcome as Regional Chancellor, more importantly it provides an opportunity to celebrate USF St. Petersburg's impressive achievements and extraordinarily promising future," said Wisniewska, who became regional chancellor July 1 after many years in key leadership positions in the Penn State University System. Wisniewska said she has been struck by the deep affection the community has for USFSP. "It's a love fest, it truly is," she said. | Photo by Lisa Mia Studios

First DJD graduate using new journalism skills
Adam Eisenberg was an online producer working at the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* when he decided to pursue a master's degree in journalism. He went looking for a program grounded in the digital age that would take his skills to a new level -- and found it at the fully online USF St. Petersburg Digital Journalism and Design Program. So a year ago he left his job and joined the program's founding class. Last month he became the program's first graduate -- without ever stepping foot on campus. Now he is back at the *Sun-Sentinel* applying what he learned. "It really hits that sweet spot in terms of practicality," Eisenberg says. "The skills that are really required of journalists today and the fact that it was online made it the perfect match."

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**Students present research during colloquium series**

Left to right: Psychology Professor Christina Salnaitis, Ph.D.; William C. Nicks; Elizabeth Southard; and Anthropology Professor John Arthur, Ph.D., at the inaugural Student Research Colloquium at Poynter Memorial Library.
Elizabeth Southard worked on three research projects, including two summers spent studying the Gamo people in Ethiopia, before graduating in December with a B.A. in Anthropology. William C. Nicks, a double-major December graduate in psychology and political science, spent a year studying near-infrared spectroscopy technology and is preparing the findings for publication in a scholarly journal. On Wednesday they presented their work during the inaugural Student Research Colloquium Series at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library. Both are planning to attend graduate school and said the chance to conduct undergraduate research with top-flight professors was a highlight of their time at USF St. Petersburg.

History student blogging about NASA internship

Joey Vars (above), a USFSP junior majoring in history and a self-proclaimed space geek, grew up watching space shuttle launches from his driveway in Land O’ Lakes and dreaming of working for NASA. This semester he is combining his history studies and love of space during a six-month internship at NASA’s History Office in Washington, D.C. In his first *burg Blog post, Joey offers some advice for fellow students: "Don’t let your major determine what you can and cannot do. Don’t let boundaries put limits in your mind of what is and isn't possible.”

Tour USFSP during Undergraduate Open House
Plan now to attend next weekend's open house for prospective undergraduate students. Prospective students and their parents can meet with deans, faculty and current students, tour the campus and hear presentations on admissions, financial aid and housing. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. and the open house starts at 9 a.m. at the University Student Center, 200 6th Ave S. Complimentary parking will be available at the USFSP parking garage, 250 5th Ave S. For more information, call Undergraduate Admissions at (727) 873-4436 or click here for more details.

Upcoming Events

**Undergraduate Admissions**
Pinellas County College Fair  
Sunday, Sept. 22  
1 p.m.

**USFSP Campus Board**
Campus Board meeting  
Tuesday, Sept. 24  
9 a.m.

**Undergraduate Admissions**
Open House  
Saturday, Sept. 28  
9 a.m.

**University Student Center**
Second Annual Philanthropy Fair
Thursday, Oct. 3
6 p.m.

**Nelson Poynter Memorial Library**
Reflections from Vietnam Summer Study Abroad
Tuesday, Oct. 8
4 p.m.

**Florida Studies Program**
Wednesday, Oct. 16
4:30 p.m.

**USFSP Waterfront**
St. Petersburg Science Festival and Marine Quest
Saturday, Oct. 19
10 a.m.

**Times Festival of Reading**
Saturday, Oct. 26
10 a.m.