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Jan. 24, 2014

HarborNotes Weekly

Five Things to Know About USF St. Petersburg

Undergrad wins national award for research paper



Journalism and media studies major Karlana June Morgan (above, left) has been honored with a national award for her study of women in Vietnamese media. Her paper, "The Portrayal of Vietnamese Women in Vietnamese Print Media," won the 2013 Undergraduate Research Award from the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics. Karlana worked closely in an independent study course with Deni Elliott (above, right), Ph.D., chair of the **Department of Journalism and Media Studies** and the Eleanor Poynter Jamison Chair in Media Ethics and Press Policy. The research grew out of a Study Abroad course in Vietnam last summer led by Frank Biafora, Ph.D., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Karlana will receive her award Feb. 28 at the association's annual meeting in Jacksonville.

First Vision 20/20 Learning Journey goes to Midtown



Vision Team members gather in the ballroom of the historic Manhattan Casino.

The **Vision 20/20** strategic planning process has moved into an exciting new phase, with Vision Team members embarking on a series of Learning Journeys designed to delve into key questions through structured visits to important groups and organizations. The first Learning Journey on Tuesday took Vision Team members to the historic Manhattan Casino, an important Midtown St. Petersburg institution that was restored through a public-private partnership. Members enjoyed lunch at Sylvia's Queen of Soul Restaurant and then participated in round-table discussions about the importance of creating partnerships both internally and externally to accomplish key objectives.

MBA students gain new perspectives in Kuwait



Matthew Jackson, Elizabeth Makofske, Bradley Gavornik, Kuwait Petroleum Co. President Mohammed Al Shatti, Jeneca Willis, Professor Gary Patterson and Eric Labarre in Kuwait.

Five MBA students, accompanied by Professor of Finance Gary Patterson, Ph.D., spent last week in Kuwait studying the financial system of the oil-rich nation and discovered what a complex country it is. They spent the week in a series of non-stop meetings with government and banking officials and members of the royal family. The trip was sponsored by the Kuwait government as a way to expose American students to Kuwait's economic system. The MBA students are all working professionals in banking, finance and local government and were selected for the trip based on essays they wrote. They blogged about their experiences each day. "It was a great trip that offers many fond memories of a country with friendly, generous people," wrote Dr. Patterson. "The memories also are those of people who have been blessed with oil wealth and whose leaders are now trying to prepare for a more diversified economy." | [Read their 'burg Blog posts.](#)

Pitch competition a warm-up for Southeastern Conference



Student Government President and USF System Board of Trustees member Mark Lombardi-Nelson (above) won the student Entrepreneurship Club Pitch Competition this week in a warm-up for the Southeastern Entrepreneurship Conference next month in Tampa. Lombardi-Nelson, a saxophone player, pitched a digital app for sheet music. The contest required students to pitch a product or idea in 90 seconds. Lombardi-Nelson said he hadn't planned to enter but was persuaded two hours before the event by Nathan Schwagler, creative-in-residence for the [Entrepreneurship Program](#) in the College of Business and the club's adviser. Lombardi-Nelson won \$300 in prize money donated by Wells Fargo, which sponsors the Entrepreneurship Club. Megan Hostetter placed second (\$200) and Paola Chamorro Ward placed third (\$100).

Students, faculty, staff march in MLK parade



More than 150 USF St. Petersburg students, faculty and staff participated in Monday's 29th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. National Drum Major for Justice Parade, the largest MLK parade in the Southeast United States. The USFSP contingent was the largest in recent memory, stretching for two blocks. Thousands of people lined the parade route through downtown St. Petersburg to celebrate the legacy of Dr. King. [View a gallery of photos.](#)

Upcoming Events

Honors Program
St. Petersburg Conference on World Affairs
Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 13-15

[See details and more events on our Things To Do Calendar](#)

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

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