

[About USFSP](#)[Academics](#)[Admission & Financial Aid](#)[For Faculty/Staff](#)[For Current Students](#)[myUSF](#)[Research](#)[USFSP News Center »](#)

## University Breaks Ground on University Student Center

Posted [March 29, 2011](#) at 3:09 pm by [Melanie Marquez](#)

[Tweet](#)

0

0

[Like](#)

— Student Multipurpose Center

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (April 11, 2011) – USF St. Petersburg hosted a groundbreaking ceremony Monday, April 11 for the University Student Center. The 81,000 square-foot facility will include dining services, a ballroom, meeting spaces and a six-story residence hall that will add nearly 200 new residents to downtown St. Petersburg.

Part of the funding for the \$20 million facility was made possible through a student-led initiative. Students have also allocated a portion of their activity and

services fee toward meeting the requirements for LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The residence hall will have mostly two-person bedrooms, each with a private bath. The university's first residence hall, completed in 2006, accommodates 351 students in apartment-style suites and has been at capacity for three years.

"This is a major step forward. Our new facility will give students the space needed to build on our dynamic university culture," said James Scott, student government president. "Members of the university's leadership have been invaluable partners in this effort – we're grateful for their hard work on the students' behalf."

Plans are to open the building for occupancy at the start of the Fall 2012 semester. The building will be located on the south side of 6th Avenue South, between 2nd and 3rd streets south.

"The University Student Center will be transformational for USF St. Petersburg," said Debbie Sembler, USF Board of Trustee and chair of the USFSP Campus Board. "This building was made possible by a tremendous effort throughout the university, especially among the student leaders who worked tirelessly on behalf of their peers."

The building will add space to the campus for student meetings, events and housing while providing a revenue source through rentals for community organizations, businesses and the general public. The building will be the latest addition to the Harborwalk at USFSP corridor, also home to the LEED-certified Science and Technology Building which opened in January 2010.

-USF St. Petersburg-

## Related News

Posted in:

[Construction & Renovation](#)[USFSP News](#)

Tags:

[Debbie Sembler](#)[University Student Center](#)

## Related Posts

[Final Approval for University Student Center](#)