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Pre-Vet President Lands Guide Dogs Internship

This fall marks the first formal USFSP student internship with the Southeastern Guide Dogs (SEGD) organization. And Bethany Porcelli, president and founder of the USFSP Pre-Vet Society and a Biology senior, jumped at the chance to participate in this exciting new partnership.

"I applied to the Genetics and Reproduction internship because SEGD has a great reputation in the non-profit animal field," said Porcelli. "They're educating me about a field that I was unfamiliar with, while providing me with a career-furthering experience."

As an intern for the Genetics and Reproduction Team, Porcelli goes through the intensive process of choosing a canine to be a "breeder," or those with the best genes to create better guide dogs -- good health and temperament, for example.

"Bethany's experiences at Southeastern Guide Dogs will be invaluable to her as she pursues her future career in veterinary medicine," said Dr. Norine Noonan, Biology professor. "This is exactly the kind of relevant experience that we both encourage and facilitate for USFSP students."

"I'm really grateful to Bethany for founding the Pre-Vet Society and blazing a new trail for our Biology students," said Dr. Frank Biafora, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. "I couldn't be more proud of her achievements and opening the door for others."

--- Karlana June

TRIO Hosts Event for First-Time Freshmen

A TRIO panel of USFSP faculty and staff gathered recently to address 20 freshmen who are the first in their family to attend college. These faculty and staff share a commonality with the students they talked to: They were first-generation college students too.

"My biggest recommendation to FTIC (first time in college) students is to get and stay connected. Reach out and find mentors. Ask questions. Expect answers," said Dr. Tiffany Chenneville, associate professor and chair of the Department of Psychology, and a TRIO panelist. "Choose a path and follow it ... a road with twists and turns will create opportunities."

In 2010, USFSP was awarded a five-year, $1.1 million grant from the Department of Education to support its TRIO program. The campus offers a wide range of academic and personal support services to help undergraduate students be successful as they pursue their educational goals.
"I am always inspired by the stories of our students," said Terrye Wilson, USFSP’s director of TRIO Student Support Services.

For more information about Federal TRIO Programs, click here.

USFSP's Chitra Iyer Presents at National Conference

Chitra Iyer, USFSP's new Regional Associate Vice Chancellor of Administration, traveled to San Antonio recently to present at the National Conference of the College & University Professional Association for Human Resources. Iyer, who joined USFSP from Ohio State University over the summer, spoke to the adverse impact of chronic cost-cutting on an institution's ability to make strategic investments.

"HR can contribute to growth and critical academic priorities by helping academic leaders think differently about staffing," said Iyer. "The staffing model should position a university to meet department objectives, now and in the future."

In addition to leading USFSP's HR Department, Iyer will serve as a key player in guiding implementation of the new Strategic Plan.

Rowdies Ready for USFSP Night

Wednesday, October 15, will mark the first-ever USFSP Night at the Rowdies at Al Lang Stadium. As the official higher education sponsor of the team, USFSP faculty and staff are invited to join the fun at a discounted rate of $10. The first 200 students to sign up will receive a free ticket.

"We are so pleased to have this opportunity to partner with the Rowdies," said Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska. "To have the team playing so close to campus is just one more benefit of this beautiful downtown location."

Regional Chancellor Wisniewska will participate in the coin toss to start the game, and will root for both teams in a scrimmage to be played during halftime between Administration/Faculty/Staff and USFSP Students.

A Tailgating Party will begin at 5:00 p.m. at The Tavern on campus. To purchase a $10 ticket, please call 813-287-1561 or visit www.rowdiesoccer.com and use Promo Code: USFSP2014.

Homecoming Hits the Water
This week's Homecoming highlights included Cardboard Boat Races, which attracted dozens of brave captains, including Jake Diaz, dean of students (bottom right), and Kimberly Hardin, RHO hall director. It was the Campus Recreation team, however, which dominated.

"First and second place cardboard boat victories can be attributed to a great deal of trial and error," said Zac Oppenheim, assistant director of Student Life and Engagement, "as well as a vast collection of knowledge assembled through years of cardboard racing, supported by research in areas of meteorology, hydrodynamics, fluid dynamics, wave theory, and materials science as applicable to duct tape and paper."

Uh-huh. The man claims he's never seen a can of "Flex Seal." An investigation is underway by Campus Police.

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**Upcoming Events**

**Kate Tiedemann College of Business**  
Groundbreaking Ceremony  
Tuesday, October 14  
11:00 a.m.

**USFSP Night at the Rowdies**  
Wednesday, October 15  
7:30 p.m.

**Dali Museum**  
The Genius Next Door  
Thursday, October 16  
6:00 p.m.

**St. Petersburg Science Festival**  
Friday and Saturday, October 17 and 18

**Tampa Bay Times Festival of Reading**  
Saturday, October 25

**Honors College Event**  
Documentary Viewing: "Behind the Wall"  
Wednesday, October 29  
2:00 p.m.

**Blue Ocean Film Festival**  
November 3 - 9
HarborNotes publishes weekly during the fall and spring semesters. To suggest a story, contact the editor:

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