

2-6-2015

## Harbor Notes : 2015 : 02 : 06

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### Scholar Commons Citation

University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Office of University Advancement., "Harbor Notes : 2015 : 02 : 06" (2015). *Harbor Notes*. 81.

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February 6, 2015

## HarborNotes Weekly

Five Things to Know About USF St. Petersburg

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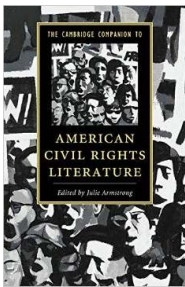
### Armstrong to Lecture on Civil Rights Literature

USFSP English Professor and author Julie Armstrong will speak at **Nelson Poynter Memorial Library** this month on a subject near and dear to her heart. Join her at Noon on February 17 for "The Civil Rights Movement in Literary Imagination."



Dr. Julie Armstrong

"My talk will focus on two points: the importance of literature to the study of civil rights, and literary representations of the movement itself," said Armstrong. "For writers involved in the work of social change, words -- poetry, fiction, drama, first-person narratives -- function as powerful tools."



Armstrong's latest book, "American Civil Rights Literature," will be published at the end of the month, marking some important anniversaries. It was 150 years ago that the 13th Amendment outlawed slavery, which began a process of renegotiating national definitions of terms such as "freedom" and "citizenship" that still trouble us today. Fifty years ago, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 capped one phase of the civil rights movement: the struggle to end legalized Jim Crow.

"I encourage everyone to come out and hear from one of the **leading scholars today** on the topic of Civil Rights Literature," said Dr. Frank Biafora, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "Dr. Armstrong's research is as inviting as it is powerful, reminding all of us of the many voices and complimentary genres that have propelled the Movement over the past century and a half."

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### USFSP Students Pay Tribute to Black History Month



From left: Adler Marchand, graduate assistant, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Jordan Palavra, president, Black Student Association; Melanie Bullock, assistant director for Activities and Programs, Student Life & Engagement; and Matt

The USFSP Office of Multicultural Affairs will mark Black History Month with a series of special events, including a Quiz Bowl on February 10 and a night of art and dance on February 25. A kick-off to the month-long tribute was held this week at the USC and included a display of African-Americans who changed history.

"It's always good to learn about the individuals who paved the way for others -- whether in politics, science or sports," said Melanie Bullock, assistant director, **Student Life & Engagement**. "We must acknowledge those who raised the bar."

Bullock adds that many of society's game-changers were young when they made their most significant contributions to history, Martin

For a complete schedule of these and other Student Affairs events, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/petescalendar2015>.

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## Dukes to be Honored at National Conference

USFSP Education Professor Lyman Dukes will be honored when the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) gathers for its national convention in Tampa next month. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the upcoming reauthorization of the Higher Education Opportunity Act. Dr. Dukes will be recognized for research that led to the development and adoption of Program Standards for those serving students with disabilities in post-secondary schools.



Dr. Lyman Dukes

"Dr. Dukes has been especially focused upon facilitating transition from school to post-secondary institutions, and his research has helped higher education institutions accommodate the unique needs of students with disabilities," said Dr. Bill Heller, dean of the College of Education. "As public schools have become more inclusive so, too, have institutions of higher education, thanks to the assistance of persons like Lyman."

Dukes is the co-author of "Preparing Students with Disabilities for College Success," a guide for educators, clinicians and students, and the new book, "Transition to College for ALL Students with Disabilities," due out next year.

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## Getting to Know You ... Alison Watkins



*Getting to Know You is a new HarborNotes feature, designed to share some little-known facts and interesting insights into members of the USFSP community. Meet Dr. Alison Watkins, associate dean for Graduate, Professional & Executive Education and professor of Information Systems at the Kate Tiedemann College of Business.*

**What is your favorite book?**

I enjoyed "A Year in Provence." I haven't been there yet. Someday.

**Where is your favorite destination in the world?**

The Azores, Portuguese islands about two-thirds of the way

across the Atlantic.

**What is your favorite movie?**

"Working Girl." I got my first job in New York. I saw Melanie Griffith at the Plaza Hotel once.

**What was your least favorite subject in college?**

I disliked technology class because it required me to spend a lot of time in front of the computer trying to figure out what is going on!

**What skill or talent would you like to have that you don't have?**

I would love to be able to speak a foreign language, fluently.

**What do you do to relax?**

I love to read and my guilty pleasure is watching "House Hunters International." Anchored in a nice bay can be very relaxing as well.

**What is something people would be surprised to learn about you?**

I have crossed the Atlantic three times in a 35-foot sailboat. Our rescue dog, Murphy, did the trip twice.

**What USFSP project or activity are you currently working on that excites you the most?**

I am working with the TBTF Student Chapter and our new Internship Coordinator (and recent USFSP MBA grad), Jessica Chin, on Innovation Overnight, an overnight design-a-thon for Tampa Bay university and college students to work with local businesses on sustainability issues.

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## Students to Head to Tally for USF Day

On Wednesday, February 11, a bus full of Bulls will arrive in Tallahassee for USF Day at the Capitol. Every year, select students, led by Student Government representatives, join university leaders to lobby on behalf of the USF System. Students have the opportunity to meet with lawmakers to discuss USF's legislative priorities.

"This is a great way for students to become more familiar with the legislative process while representing issues that impact them directly," said USFSP Student Body President Cody Boyer.

USF System legislative priorities include the new building for the Kate Tiedemann College of Business. Funds requested this year will help ensure completion of construction by August 2016.



USFSP student Franklin Alves and Rocky chatted up lawmakers last year.

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### **Upcoming Events**

**Spring Wellness Week**

February 16-20

**MBA Information Session**

Tuesday, February 17

6:00 p.m.

Science & Technology Center

**Lecture: Thinking Through ... World War One**

Wednesday, February 25

4:30 p.m.

Nelson Poynter Memorial Library

**3rd Annual World Affairs Conference**

February 26-28

University Student Center

**Lecture Series: The Great Society in Florida at 50**

March 16-23

For more information about these and other USFSP events, please visit our **[Public Events 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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