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USFSP to Host First-Ever "Innovation Overnight"

USFSP's Kate Tiedemann College of Business, in partnership with the student chapter of Tampa Bay Technology Forum, will host "Innovation Overnight," a 20-hour design-a-thon during which college students from throughout the area solve real-world problems pitched by local business leaders. The event will be held at the University Student Center on Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11. Sponsors of the event, which will provide the problems for young entrepreneurs to solve, include Jabil, Valpak and the Tampa Bay Rowdies.

Michelle Royal, CEO and Founding Visualizer at RIDG (Royal Innovation Design Group), will be the keynote speaker.

"Students will work to solve problems in four phases of design thinking: Explore, Ideate, Build and Test," explained Alison Watkins, associate dean of the Kate Tiedemann College of Business and a creator of "Innovation Overnight." "Design thinking refers to a process. It's been studied and popularized by major academic institutions, and is particularly useful in terms of defining multifaceted problems and providing innovative, multidimensional solutions to complex business challenges."

The theme of "Innovation Overnight" is sustainability. Students may register individually or as a team. The event includes numerous periods of play, mixed with dedicated problem-solving. For more information, or to register for the event, please visit www.usfsp.edu/innovation-overnight.

Read more about this story.

Plans Underway for 12th Student Research Symposium

USFSP students are underway on the research projects they'll present during the 12th Annual Student Research Symposium, to be held on Wednesday, April 15, at the University Student Center. The event is presented by the Department of Psychology, the Office of Research, and the Honors Program.

"USF St. Petersburg is extremely fortunate to have so many students actively engaged in important research projects mentored by our
Biology student Alexa Angelos presents her findings to Dr. Vivian Fueyo during last year's event. "The experience of participating in the variety of activities involved with producing research improves critical thinking skills, and presenting this work is a valuable exercise in teaching effective communication skills."

This year's Symposium will get underway at 11:00 a.m. For more information, please visit www.usfsp.edu/research/research-symposium.

Working Women of Tampa Bay Hosts Workshop

How to be a leader personally and professionally. That was the theme of a panel discussion hosted on campus today by C1 Bank and Working Women of Tampa Bay. The workshop featured USFSP Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska, St. Petersburg City Councilwoman Darden Rice and Simone Gans Barefield, founder of Florida-based Gans, Gans & Associates, an executive search firm that specializes in placing women. The event was moderated by C1 Bank's Chief Operating Officer, Rita Lowman.

Photo: From left, Rita Lowman, Simone Gans Barefield and Regional Chancellor Wisniewska

Haiku-a-palooza!

Momentum is mounting for USFSP's first Haiku-a-palooza, sponsored by the Student Success Center. More than a dozen entries have been submitted so far, including this one from the center's own Diane Elliott, who wrote about Dr. Ray Arsenault's Colloquium in History: American Culture in the 1960s:

Change was on the way
Civil rights, protests, the moon
Radical Sixties!

"Haiku-a-palooza was the brainchild of chemistry instructor, Dr. John Osegovic, myself, and a small group of faculty who are interested in a writing-across-curriculum initiative," said Cynthia Edwards, assistant director of the Student Success Center. "The haiku is a fairly uncomplicated form of writing and a fun way to engage all students."

Eight prizes will be awarded: two grand prizes ($50 and $25 Amazon gift..."
cards) to overall best haikus campus-wide, and two to the best from each college. Entry forms are available in the Student Success Center, DAV 107. The contest runs through April 15.

Getting to Know You ... Mark Durand

Meet Dr. Mark Durand, Professor of Psychology and Interim Regional Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. Recognized as one of the country's leading authorities on autism, Durand's body of work includes several books, including "Autism Spectrum Disorder," which is aimed at helping clinicians screen for and treat the disorder, and "Optimistic Parenting," which guides parents and teachers of challenged children on how to develop more positive thoughts and perceptions -- a key ingredient of successful parenting. He's been ranked among the top 25 psychologists in Florida.

What is your favorite book?
"Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance."

Where is your favorite destination in the world?
It was New Orleans but after visiting Italy this summer, Venice is my new favorite.

What is your favorite movie?
All of the "Harry Potter" movies.

What was your least favorite subject in college?
Calculus.

What skill or talent would you like to have that you don't have?
The ability to be facile in sign language.

What do you do to relax?
Run.

What is something people would be surprised to learn about you?
I acted (and sang) in several school plays and was the president of the student government in high school.

What USFSP project or activity are you currently working on that excites you the most?
Staying above water as the interim Regional Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs!

Upcoming Events

A Conversation with Miguel "Mike" Fernandez
Friday, April 10
11:00 a.m.
USC Ballroom

**Innovation Overnight**
Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11
USC Ballroom

**MBA Information Session**
Wednesday, April 15
6:00 p.m.
Science & Technology Building

**USFSP Florida Food Conference**
Saturday, April 18
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
USC Ballroom

**USFSP Spring Commencement**
Sunday, May 3
6:00 p.m.
Mahaffey Theater

For more information about these and other USFSP events, please visit our [Public Events Calendar](#).

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

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