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President Genshaft Comments on USF System

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TAMPA, Fla. (July 27, 2011) – University of South Florida System President Judy Genshaft Wednesday reiterated her commitment to the strengthening of the USF System:

“We remain fully committed to the success of Polytechnic and the entire USF System,” said Genshaft. “There is nothing more important to me, or to us, than the success of our students, alumni, faculty, region and state.

“We continue to move forward as a unified system focused on world-class academics and scientific research as a means of serving the needs of our communities, our region and the state of Florida.”

Genshaft has no plans to retire and has a new five-year contract extension as USF System President which became effective July 1, 2011. She has consistently worked for the development of a USF System that emphasizes locally led institutions in the Tampa Bay Region working as partners.

These institutions remain focused on student success, strengthening workforce development and fostering entrepreneurship and innovation. Under President Genshaft’s leadership, the USF System generates an annual economic impact of \$3.7 billion in the Tampa Bay Region.

USF St. Petersburg and USF Sarasota-Manatee have no desire to separate from the USF System.

USF St. Petersburg Regional Chancellor Margaret Sullivan said USF St. Petersburg is “deeply committed to being part of the USF System.”

“Our partnership allows our students to reap academic and professional benefits from shared resources with a premier national research university,” Sullivan said. “USF St. Petersburg is dedicated to its student-centered learning environment and our USF System partnership empowers us to provide more service and create more opportunities for our students. Our partnership helps define and advance this institution and we are proud of the contributions USF St. Petersburg makes to the state of Florida as an integral part of the USF System.”

Arthur Guilford, Regional Chancellor for USF Sarasota-Manatee, said: “We are very proud to be part of the strength of the USF System. USF is a highly regarded national brand in higher education and we are honored to be part of that family. Our faculty, students and the Sarasota-Manatee community all benefit from our current structure. We look forward to growing USF Sarasota-Manatee as a partner in the USF System.”