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## A message from USF President Judy Genshaft

Posted [June 25, 2012](#) at 8:26 am by [Tom Scherberger](#)

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To Students, Faculty and Staff of USF St. Petersburg:

It is with deep gratitude that we will be bidding farewell to USFSP Regional Chancellor Margaret Sullivan in August. Margaret's service to and leadership of USF St. Petersburg since 2008 has guided the institution through challenging and defining times in its history. She leaves USF St. Petersburg as a strong, vibrant and forward-looking institution.

As many of you know, Margaret was instrumental in the reaffirmation of USF St. Petersburg's accreditation in 2011, and has led the institution through a remarkable period of growth. USF St. Petersburg has seen its enrollment, research funding and endowment grow rapidly during her tenure as she created a stable and secure environment for that expansion to occur. The campus has taken shape with the Science and Technology Building, a new University Student Center and the new Student Life Center presently under construction. The Debbie and Brent Sembler Family Fountain and Harborwalk have provided USF St. Petersburg a unique and beautiful sense of place. None of this would have been possible without Margaret's significant contributions to the campus and her expert leadership.

Margaret has helped raise USF St. Petersburg's profile in many ways, and it is heartening to see the institution intertwined in the life of St. Petersburg. Not only does it serve the educational needs of its immediate community and the wider Tampa Bay region, but it continues to build ties through important outreach programs in business, education, the environment and many other areas. USF St. Petersburg is quickly developing a reputation as an institution that applies the full breadth of its knowledge and abilities to serve both its students and the citizens beyond its campus. Community engagement is a hallmark of the USF System, and USF St. Petersburg embraces and extends this important value.

Each of you make significant contributions to USF St. Petersburg by setting high standards and reaching them on a daily basis. As we watch USF St. Petersburg thrive and grow, we know that many hands play a role in building a great institution of higher education. Margaret's contributions to USF St. Petersburg are incalculable and significant, and her steadying influence has set the stage for even greater days to come.

In the coming days, I will appoint an interim leader and launch a nationwide search for a new chancellor. Meanwhile, I know you will join me in wishing Margaret well and much success in her

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