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harbor notes.

5 Things to Know About USF St. Petersburg



April 15, 2016

USFSP Professor Serves on United Nations Panel

USF St. Petersburg professor [Hemant Merchant](#) served this week on a United Nations panel of experts assigned to evaluate the "World Investment Report" by the U.N.'s Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The panel ran April 12-13 in Geneva, Switzerland.



Dr. Hemant Merchant

"This was an incredible opportunity to help bring attention to USFSP in the global community," said Merchant, who was one of only two U.S. citizens selected for the U.N. panel.

Merchant is a professor of Global Business in the Kate Tiedemann College of Business. His academic work often focuses on the drivers of superior organizational performance. This summer, he'll lead a study abroad program in the Baltics, where students will study business in one of the most dynamic regions in Europe.

UNCTAD is the United Nations body responsible for dealing with development issues, particularly regarding international trade. Visit the [UNCTAD](#) website for more information.

USFSP, College of Education Celebrate 50 Years



Bottom left: USFSP Celebrates 50! event emcees Craig Sher, executive director of The Sembler Company, and Joel Momberg, CEO of the USF Foundation, are joined by USFSP Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska as part of the program of speakers.



Upcoming Events

Special Event with Gen. Ann Dunwoody
Tuesday, April 19
4:30-6:30 p.m.
University Student Center Ballroom

Thinking Through... Rights
Wednesday, April 20
Noon-1 p.m.
Nelson Poynter Memorial Library - Poynter Corner

Town and Gown Annual Luncheon
Friday, April 22
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Harbor Hall Community Room
Admission: \$20
RSVP required. Contact [Alexis Searfoss](#)

Science Cafe
Tuesday, May 17
6-7:30 p.m.
Dali Museum

Goodbye to All That!
Thursday, June 9
6-8:30 p.m.
The Studio @620

[View more](#)

As USFSP's yearlong 50th Anniversary celebration prepares to draw to an end, donors, alumni, and community partners joined members of the USFSP community and USF System for *USFSP Celebrates 50!* on April 13. The fundraising event, which drew a crowd of more than 350, was held along the university's waterfront and featured music, food, fireworks, and a program of speakers and award winners.

On April 14, the [College of Education](#) hosted an event to celebrate its own 50th Anniversary. The event featured a panel discussion of speakers, including Dr. Bill Heller, dean of the College of Education; Megan Allen, 2010 Florida Teacher of the Year; and other retired education faculty and alumni.

Check out more photographs from USFSP Celebrates 50! in the Facebook [photo gallery](#). Share your own photos from the event on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) with the hashtag #USFSP.



Dr. Bill Heller, dean, College of Education, was recognized as the longest-serving campus leader on April 13.

[information and learn about other upcoming 50th Anniversary events](#)

50 Faces

Each week, throughout the year, USFSP will celebrate those who have made or are making an impact on the university.

[View 50 Faces](#)

Green & Golden

Calling all alumni! Are you a proud USFSP alum? We want to hear from you!

[Tell Us Your Story](#)

Professor, Students Receive WLP Award and Scholarships



Dr. Jill McCracken

[Dr. Jill McCracken](#), associate professor of Rhetoric & Writing Studies, was named the [2016 Faculty Research Award](#) recipient for USF St. Petersburg during a Women in Leadership & Philanthropy (WLP) event on April 6 at USF.

The WLP award will be used to help support two of her participatory action research projects in which the participants directly inform and co-create the research questions, among other roles. [Watch a video](#) with McCracken describing her research.

McCracken, a certified sexuality educator, focuses much of her work on the relationships between sexuality, race, and gender. The award will support her work with women who participate in the Red Tent Women's Initiative, a group that dedicated to improving the lives of women residing in and released from Pinellas County Jail.

[Read more](#) about the award and the additional research it will support.

Undergrads to Showcase Research at Symposium

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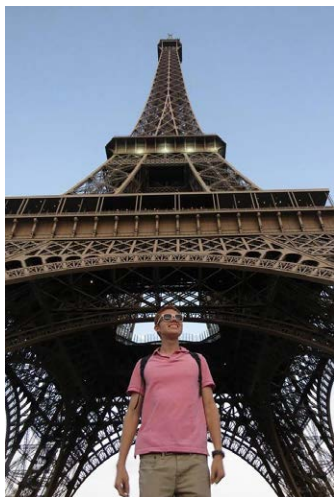
More than a hundred students participated the Research Symposium last year.

USFSP's 13th annual Student Research Symposium will be held April 18 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the University Student Center. Students, staff, and faculty are encouraged to visit and see the innovation research, artwork, designs, and other being exhibited by some of this year's undergraduate students.

"The research symposium celebrates the curiosity and creativity of USFSP students, encouraging active, engaged learning as students follow wherever the evidence leads," said [Dr. Thomas Smith](#), associate professor of Political Science and director of the University Honors Program. "Students have gone on to present their research at national conferences or published their work in academic journals after testing out their ideas at the symposium."

View students' work from previous years in the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library's [Digital Archive](#).

Student to Teach English Overseas in French Guiana



Kevin Ramirez, during a trip to Paris in 2015

USFSP student Kevin Ramirez, a senior majoring in History and minoring in French and Francophone Studies, has been selected to spend seven months teaching English at the secondary level as part of the French Ministry of Education's Teaching Assistant Program. Ramirez, 23, has been accepted to serve in the ministry's overseas program in French Guiana beginning Oct. 1.

"When I received my acceptance letter, it brought back all of the times I felt so discouraged trying to learn French or when I wanted to give up learning it altogether," said Ramirez, who traveled to Nice, France, as part of USFSP's Study Abroad trip in 2015. "I'm so glad that I didn't give up and that I met a lot of people who encouraged me to keep trying."

"That's what we strive for in the [USFSP World Languages Program](#): To turn our students into global citizens who can be agents of change locally or globally by putting into practice their foreign language skills and cross-cultural competency in a professional setting," said [Dr. Martine Wagner](#), associate professor of French who had Ramirez in her classes. "These skills are at the core of any

leadership position today in the U.S. As ambassadors, students represent the good work USFSP is doing in preparing them for the current job market."

[Read more](#) about Ramirez's upcoming trip and the path that led him to it.

This email was developed by the USFSP Office of University Advancement.

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