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President Genshaft Appoints Sophia T. Wisniewska as USFSP Regional Chancellor

Posted March 19, 2013 at 2:55 am by [Tom Scherberger](#)



Sophia T. Wisniewska, Ph.D

Dear USF St. Petersburg Faculty, Staff and Students:

I am delighted to announce that Dr. Sophia T. Wisniewska will serve as chancellor of USF St. Petersburg, effective July 1.

Dr. Wisniewska, chancellor of Penn State Brandywine since 2005, brings a sound academic background as a scholar of Russian language and literature and extensive experience in key leadership positions in the Penn State System including her current position where she serves as Chancellor of Penn State Brandywine. Additionally Dr. Wisniewska served for six years as dean and chief executive officer at Temple University Ambler.

I believe Dr. Wisniewska has the experience and vision to continue the tremendous progress we have witnessed at USF St. Petersburg. Her commitment to scholarship, teaching and community engagement will enrich both USFSP and the broader community. She will inspire all who meet her.

While at Penn State and Temple University, Dr. Wisniewska created innovative academic programs and forged strong relationships with community leaders that strengthened both institutions. She understands that research and community engagement enrich the educational experience of all students and improves the broader community.

I thank Frank Biafora, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and chair of the Regional Chancellor Search Advisory Committee, for his leadership and all the committee members for their hard work and commitment to an open and collegial process.

I also thank Dr. Bill Hogarth for his leadership as interim regional chancellor these past several months. He has demonstrated his administrative capabilities and work ethic by moving USFSP forward while continuing to serve as director of the Florida Institute of Oceanography.

Finally, I thank all of you for your dedication during this transitional period. I look forward to working closely with Dr. Wisniewska and her team to continue the forward momentum at USF St. Petersburg. Thank you for your service and support.

Sincerely,

Judy Genshaft
President
USF System

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