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USFSP Entrepreneurship Program leader named Florida's small business advocate of the year

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Daniel James Scott

Daniel James Scott, associate director of the USF St. Petersburg Entrepreneurship Program at the College of Business, has been named the Florida 2013 Small Business Advocate of the Year.

The award honors the work Scott has done through the Entrepreneurship Program, recently named the Outstanding Emerging Entrepreneurship Program in the United States. It is awarded annually by the Small Business Administration's South Florida District to the person who has

demonstrated accomplishments over the past three years supporting the growth and expansion of small businesses.

Last month Scott was named the advocate of the year for the Small Business Administration South Florida District. This latest honor extends that honor to the entire state.

“This honor really highlights the dedicated efforts of our Entrepreneurship Program team at USF St. Petersburg, including the administration, faculty, advisers, volunteers and students,” Scott said. “Our combined efforts in building a stronger ecosystem have truly created a positive impact for entrepreneurs around the state of Florida.”

“This award acknowledges your personal achievement and dedication in advocating for and advancing small business ownership and expansion opportunities,” wrote Francisco “Pancho” A. Marrero, South Florida District Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration. “Through your work you inspire other entrepreneurs to start and build businesses that will benefit our community. Job creating has a lasting impact on Florida’s economy and you are there inspiring others through our work.”

The Entrepreneurship Program was founded three years ago by William Jackson, Ph.D., Professor for Entrepreneurship & Innovation. Scott, a successful entrepreneur himself with five businesses, three of which he sold, joined the program in July 2010.

Last year, students in the Entrepreneurship Club won the prestigious 2012 CEO Startup Simulation Challenge. More recently, USF St. Petersburg Entrepreneurship students took both first and third place during the 2013 South Eastern Entrepreneurship Conference’s pitch competition.

“This award underscores the Entrepreneurship Program’s commitment to helping the community, particularly small startup businesses,” said Norine Noonan, Ph.D., vice chancellor for academic affairs. “It is yet another example of the kind of community engagement the College of Business is known for.”

The program will celebrate with Entrepreneurship Day at 1:30 p.m. April 10 along Harborwalk at USF St. Petersburg. The event, which is free and open to the public, will feature food, music and presentations by Entrepreneurship students and faculty members.

[Read more about the Entrepreneurship Program](#) at the USF St. Petersburg College of Business.

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