

[USFSP News Center »](#)

The community participates in Vision 20/20

Posted March 5, 2014 at 8:45 am by [vision2020](#)

When first approached to act as a community member of the Vision 20/20 for USFSP, I was flattered, but wondered why did they want someone from Clearwater. It didn't take long to figure that out. While USFSP is a city University sitting on the water in St. Petersburg, it's economic impact can be and should be felt throughout the Tampa Bay region, and for that matter have touch points around the globe.

The passion of the students, staff and faculty was obvious from the beginning. There was a real desire on all parties to be bold and to do something great. Under the careful guidance of facilitators Liz and Nancy, the group has met twice in one and a half day sessions, held forums to seek additional input from students, faculty, staff and the community, and made learning trips to corporations and other universities to study how they accomplished their strong strategic plan. All of the hard work and extra hours put in by the participants is absolutely amazing and everyone should be proud of the work they have done.

Although we're coming into the homestretch with our meeting at the end of this month, input is still needed. So, if you've got something to say, now is the time to do it. Once completed, it will be vetted with all of USFSP's stakeholders. The future looks bright for the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Thanks for letting me be part of this wonderful process.

By Ray Ferrara
Vision Team Member and President/CEO of ProVise Management Group, LLC.

[Related News](#)

Posted in:
[Strategic Planning](#)



[Tom Tito](#) · Top Commenter · [Saint Petersburg, Florida](#)

I would like to see USFSP work with the hospitals and neighborhood residents to improve transit and reduce parking needs. Paving over more of the neighborhood is not good for anyone.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [March 29 at 2:54pm](#)



[Pete Tinker](#) · [Owner](#) at [Kovert Corporation](#)

I think USF should begin construction of a new College of Business building that centers around collaboration. It should feature coworking space, a makerspace, and areas to facilitate project based learning for the development of 21st Century skills. Although USF St. Pete isn't a design or engineering school, I believe this approach can truly benefit the local economy, and create engagement among alumni, students, faculty, and local community partners. Arizona State University created the MAKE Initiative, and I believe USF should adopt a similar model "that focuses on learning through making and solving real-world challenges through collaboration."