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New USFSP Butterfly Garden Dedicated

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— The Butterfly Garden dedication included (from left) Facilities Director John Dickson, Project Leader Daniel McGarigal, Regional Chancellor Wisniewska, Student Government President Mark Lombardi-Nelson and many butterfly enthusiasts.

USFSP has its first bonafide Butterfly Garden. The Garden, which is located near the corner of 6th Avenue and Second Street, was dedicated recently by Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska and Daniel McGarigal, the student lead on the project.

“The garden was designed to improve the campus entrance, promote tranquility and peace with nature, and provide a calming natural setting for everyone to enjoy,” said McGarigal, an Interdisciplinary Social Sciences major. “We want to encourage the population growth of struggling bee and butterfly species, as well as promote interaction and appreciation of nature in a very urbanized setting.”

McGarigal says he’s particularly proud that the garden was designed and paid for by students. The garden features only native Florida plants and is certified as both a North American Butterfly Associations Butterfly Garden, and a Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Foundation.

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