

# USFSP News

## USFSP Alumnae Take on Community Leadership Roles

Congratulations are in order for USF St. Petersburg alumnae Cathy Salustri and Mireya Eavey, who recently have accepted leadership positions in organizations around the Tampa Bay area.

In mid-December, it was announced that alumna Cathy Salustri had been named Arts and Entertainment Editor for [Creative Loafing](#), the third-largest newspaper in the Tampa Bay area.

“I started freelancing with CL about a year ago, and they’re just a really warm group of people,” said Salustri, whose freelance work has been featured in a number of different publications, including USA Today, Visit Florida, and other regional magazines and local press. She worked as a Senior Reporter for the Gabber Newspaper in Gulfport for 12 years.

Salustri, who graduated in 2012 with a master’s degree in Liberal Arts with a focus in Florida Studies, said her degree helped her land the position as A&E Editor. “I completely credit the degree,” she said. “The Florida Studies program is really good for writers because you learn about oral histories and how to tease out the meaning of someone’s life.”

“I don’t think I would have the skillset that I do for the job without having been in the Florida Studies program,” Salustri added.

Within days of Salustri becoming Arts and Entertainment Editor, another USFSP alumna, Mireya Eavey, [was named the new Sarasota Area President](#) for United Way Suncoast. Beginning Jan. 5, Eavey will provide strategic and operational direction for all Sarasota and Desoto area United Way community programs.

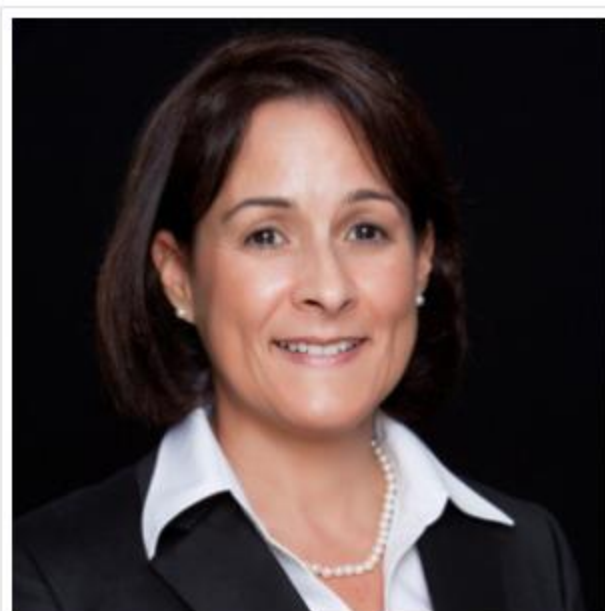
“Mireya is an exceptional leader in our community,” said Suzanne McCormick, CEO and President of United Way Suncoast. “Her track record of building innovative partnerships and programs in workforce development made her a standout candidate. Mireya’s vision and her innate desire to seek partnerships that deliver the best outcomes for our community, county, and region drew us together from the beginning of the process.”

Eavey, a Florida native, received a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and a certificate in International Business from USF, as well as a certificate in Human Resource Management from USF St. Petersburg. In 2010, she helped launch CareerEdge Funders Collaborative in Bradenton, where she has served as Executive Director.

“I’m very excited to have the opportunity to work with United Way,” said Eavey, who will continue to oversee CareerEdge as it becomes a UW program. “I’m all about work force development and education. Being able to bring CareerEdge and United Way together is just going to help us bring education to more people in our region so they can get better jobs.”



*Cathy Salustri*



*Mireya Eavey*



