

# USF - A COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA - 2004/2005 UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

### USF Mission, Goals, Values and Vision

#### Mission -

The University of South Florida is a multi-campus national research university that supports the development of the metropolitan Tampa Bay Region, Florida, the United States and the world. Building upon unique strengths inherent in Florida's population, location, and natural resources, the university is dedicated to excellence in:

- Teaching and lifelong learning in a student-centered environment
- Research to advance knowledge and promote social, cultural, economic, educational, health, and technological development
- Service based on academic excellence and the ethic of community responsibility
- Community engagement to build university-community partnerships and collaborations

#### Goals -

The University of South Florida will continue to expand its influence as a premier research university through:

- Strengthened research, creative, and scholarly endeavors
- Improved undergraduate and graduate academic programs that promote intellectual development and student success through a diverse, student-centered environment
- Engaged service that strengthens cultural and community life, and promotes lifelong learning and economic opportunity
- Increased fiscal self-sufficiency and appropriate state support

#### Values -

The University of South Florida values:

- Teaching, research and service based on the highest standards of discovery, creativity, and intellectual attainment
- Development of the personal and professional potential of students, faculty, and staff, and enriching the quality of campus life
- An ethic of collegiality based on integrity, civility, academic freedom, professional responsibility, and collaboration among disciplines and units
- Access to an excellent education
- University/community engagement that increases the understanding of urban issues and advances community development
- Cultural and ethnic diversity and global understanding

#### Vision -

The University of South Florida envisions itself as a premier national research university that serves the metropolitan Tampa Bay Region, Florida, and the nation through:

- Excellent undergraduate and graduate instruction in a student-centered environment
- Creative, innovative, engaged scholarly endeavors, and the furthering of advanced knowledge
- Education that promotes freedom, unity, democracy, and understanding in the presence of our Nation's historical diversity
- Generation and dissemination of knowledge to strengthen our society and the environment
- Greater fiscal self-reliance.

## ABOUT USF

One of the 20 largest universities in the United States and still growing, the University of South Florida has built a solid reputation as a leader in learning, offering comprehensive state-of-the-art, student-centered programs. With growing prestige and a dedicated faculty, including more than 75 faculty Fulbright Scholars and 46 endowed chairs, USF has become a research powerhouse.

Located in the vibrant Tampa Bay area, one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas of the nation, USF has formed vital partnerships with business leaders and organizations throughout the region, and contributes to the well-being of its immediate urban neighborhoods through vast networks of social research and service projects.

As one of the top 100 public research universities in the country USF's contracts and grants are more than \$254.8 million annually. USF's fast growing reputation as a superior academic institution was formally acknowledged in 2000 when the Carnegie Foundation ranked USF in its top tier of national research universities.

Faculty and student scholarship and research are supported by an outstanding library that contains more than 1.7 million volumes and that is the electronic "Virtual Library" for the State University System of Florida. The latter provides links to tens of thousands of computer databases around the world.

Founded in 1956, USF opened its doors in 1960 to 2000 students. Today the University serves approximately 42,000 students — with about 200 programs at the undergraduate, master's, specialty and doctoral levels, including the M.D. Entering freshmen boast an average SAT score of approximately 1,100 and a grade point average of over 3.63.

USF's commitment to inclusion is reflected in its student body. African American, American Indian, Latin and Asian students comprise nearly 30 percent of USF students. A growing contingent of international students, now representing well over 120 countries, demonstrates the University's strong geographic influence and dedication to the principles of a global economy.

Collectively, our students are among the best and brightest at Florida universities, with greater-than-ever numbers of National Merit, National Achievement and National Hispanic Scholars. They are taught by some 2,500 highly-regarded faculty who are products of the world's most prestigious colleges, universities and research institutes.

More than 175,000 USF alumni contribute to society in numerous professional and civic activities. Those who live in the Tampa Bay area alone would nearly fill Tampa's professional football stadium (Raymond James Stadium, which is also home field for the Bulls' NCAA Division I football team and the 2001 Super Bowl).

USF is big in size as well as stature. Its annual operating budget is about \$1 billion.

In the past 40-plus years, USF has grown into a network of regional campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota and Lakeland, serving the West Central Florida region. The campuses cover 1,921 acres, housing more than 359 buildings, which exceed 6 million gross square feet in size.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

It is the goal of the University to create and maintain a work and study environment free of discrimination and harassment. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, Vietnam or disabled veteran status, disability, or age is prohibited by University policies, federal and state laws. Any person who believes that he or she has been subjected to discrimination may file a complaint with the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity Affairs, ADM 274. The telephone number is 974-4373. It shall be prohibited for any employee of USF to discriminate or take retaliatory action against any individual who, in good faith, has opposed an alleged unlawful practice or has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under the provisions of applicable law.

## Guide to Resources for Students with Disabilities

All University programs, events, and services are open and available to persons with disabilities. The University of South Florida is committed to the principles of Equal Educational and Employment Opportunities without regard to disability.

Academic Assistance for Students with Disabilities: Student Disability Services exists to ensure that students with disabilities have the academic support necessary to achieve academic success at the University of South Florida. Course related assistance and academic accommodations are provided to eligible students with documented disabilities. Services may include advocacy, reader services, interpreters, alternate exam administration, note takers, and adaptive equipment such as FM systems and large print computer access. Students are encouraged to contact our office as early as possible prior to enrollment to make arrangements for appropriate services. Documentation of a disability and significant current functional impairment resulting from that disability is necessary in order for accommodations to be provided.

Admissions: Students with disabilities apply under the same guidelines as other students. If students believe that their disability has had an impact on grades, course choice or standardized test scores for admission, they may request consideration of this in the admissions process.

Course Substitution: Students with disabilities request substitution of course work for General Education,

foreign language requirements, or CLAST should contact the Office of Student Disability Services. Students with declared majors requesting substitution of departmental graduation requirements will need to contact the chair of their department. In either case, students will be requested to submit documentation to Student Disability Services to support their request for an exception.

**Disabled Parking:** Students with state parking privileges need only supply their state card as documentation for eligibility for a USF disabled parking hangtag/sticker. Students without state privileges need medical documentation to be considered for on-campus disabled parking.

**Housing:** Accessible on-campus residence hall housing is available for students with special needs. Specific information is available through the Residence Hall Director's Office.

Students with disabilities are encouraged to participate fully in all University events, programs, and other campus activities. Information on whom to contact to request accommodation or assistance should be listed on program information and advertisements. If you are unable to secure the requested assistance or need additional help with accessibility contact the Equal Opportunity Office.

The following offices arrange academic accommodations and assistance for students with disabilities:

## CAMPUS CONTACTS FOR STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES

### Tampa Campus

Student Disability Services  
SVC 1133 (voice) 813-974-4309  
(TDD) 813-974-5651

### Sarasota Campus

Coordinator for Advising for Special Needs Students  
PMD 223 813-359-4330

### Lakeland Campus

Office of the Director for Academic Services  
Building C, USF Offices 941-677-7000

### St. Petersburg Campus

Office of the Director, Student Affairs  
DAV 118 813-893-9162

## FACILITIES AND ATMOSPHERE

The facilities of the USF Tampa campus, now including more than 200 major buildings, are currently valued at more than \$300 million. The buildings are of similar modern architectural design and all are completely air-conditioned. The Tampa campus has a variety of recreational facilities, including: a gymnasium that features a weight room and natatorium; a 400-meter track; two outdoor swimming pools; 22 tennis courts; six handball/racquetball courts; an 18-hole golf course; two parcourses, one for running and one for walking; one baseball and four softball fields; four outdoor basketball and volleyball courts; and a new multi-million dollar recreation center.

In St. Petersburg, students can enjoy an outdoor pool or take part in the waterfront program that features sailboats and canoes available for use. In Sarasota, there is a 400-meter track and a new library.

The campus atmosphere is informal. Students and faculty dress casually and enjoy an unusually close relationship. Some classes are even held outside to take advantage of the area's extraordinary climate (average annual temperature is 72°F). Most buildings have open hallways, which blend colorful interiors with spacious exteriors, symbolically and architecturally suggesting the casual accessibility that has become a USF trademark.

## UNIVERSITY POLICE

The University of South Florida Police Department provides a full range of public safety services to the community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on the Tampa Campus. All University Police officers are certified by the State of Florida after completing minimum standards training at the local Regional Police Training Academy. The University of South Florida Police Department is accredited through the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement accreditation, Inc. Accreditation is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that an entity has met specific requirements and prescribed standards, and has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism.

General services provided by the University Police include car patrol, foot patrol, bicycle patrol, criminal investigation of all misdemeanors and felonies, traffic law enforcement, traffic crash investigation, special events management, and crime prevention programs.

The University Police Department has an excellent working relationship with all local law enforcement agencies. The University Police maintain 24-hour contact with local, national, and international law enforcement agencies via computer networks such as the Florida Crime Information Center and the National Crime Information Center. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement and other local, state, and federal agencies are available to assist the University Police upon request.

## UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CAMPUS LOCATIONS:

- On the *Tampa Campus* the University Police Department is located at the corner of Fletcher Avenue and Maple Drive. The emergency number is "9-1-1" and the non-emergency number is (813) 974-2628.
- The *Lakeland Campus* of the University of South Florida is located at Polk Community College. Basic public safety services are provided by the security department of the community college. Law enforcement services, including the investigation of criminal acts, are provided on a routine basis by the Polk County Sheriff's Office in Lakeland. The University Police Department provides law enforcement or crime prevention services at this location on an as needed basis.

## 10 GENERAL INFORMATION

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### VICTIMS' ADVOCACY PROGRAM

The Victims' Advocacy Program is available to assist all USF students, staff, faculty and visitors who are victims of actual or threatened abuse/violence or who have experienced trauma. Offenses may include but are not limited to battery, assault, stalking, relationship/domestic violence, childhood victimization, sexual battery (date/acquaintance/stranger rape), hate crimes and prior abuse. Victims at USF may be eligible for reimbursement from the State for related expenses.

Advocates are available 24 hours a day to provide crisis intervention, options, assistance and referrals. Police reports are not necessary to receive services from an advocate, and services are free, sensitive and private. Office hours are 8:00 - 5:00 Monday through Friday.

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

USF POLICE EMERGENCY	911 OR 974-2628
USF VICTIM ADVOCATE	
24-Hr. Crisis Line	974-5757
Regular Office Number	974-5756
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY	
CRISIS LINE	234-1234