

# USF - A COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA - 2007/2008 UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG

## 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

Founded in 1956, the University of South Florida opened its doors in 1960 to 2,000 students. Today, the university is the ninth largest in the nation and a member of the Big East Athletic Conference. More than 44,000 students are enrolled at campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota and Lakeland. USF is a research (very high activity) university with a strong focus in medical treatment and research, bioengineering, life sciences and the arts. In the last five years, research funding at USF grew from \$186 million to \$310 million.

USF has achieved distinction in all areas of academics, sports, research and funding. The impact of the university on the Tampa Bay region is intellectual, cultural and economic. The university has a yearly budget of \$1.6 billion and its annual impact on the regional economy reached \$3.2 billion in 2005.

USF is one of the two fastest growing research universities in the United States and is ranked number two among Florida's universities. In 2000, USF was named to the top rank of research universities by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Of the 4,321 colleges and universities classified, USF is one of only 63 public universities in the highest tier. Inclusion at this level affirms USF's position among the top research universities in the nation.

Students come to USF from every state, every U.S. territory, and 131 countries around the world. The university is the most broadly diverse public university in Florida, second only to Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in the number of African American and black students currently enrolled. More than 30% of the student body is African American, Hispanic, Asian, Asian/Pacific Islander, Native American or other ethnicity.

The university has 11 colleges and offers more than 200 degree programs at the bachelor, master, specialist, and doctoral levels, including the doctor of medicine. With more than 1,900 faculty members from some of the world's most prestigious universities and research institutions, USF is the university of choice for many of the nation's brightest students. Last year, USF awarded more than 6,000 bachelor's degrees, 2,000 master's degrees, 184 doctorates in 31 fields, and 93 MD degrees.

The College of Arts and Sciences is the largest college at USF and houses several nationally ranked programs. The Industrial/Organizational Psychology program is one of the top 10 in the country. The School of Mass Communications, one of the largest programs of its kind in the United States, is ranked

in the top 20 percent of nearly 500 American journalism and mass communications programs. The School of Aging Studies is one of only two gerontology education programs in the country to have awarded over 1,000 gerontology degrees.

Established in 2003, the Humanities Institute provides a wide range of scholarly exchanges, research opportunities, lectures and seminars with world-renowned thinkers and scholars in such classic disciplines as literature, classics, philosophy, the arts, history, languages, political thought and religion. The Institute has been instrumental in bringing many notable lecturers to the Tampa Bay community, including Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Nilo Cruz and Mexican novelist and diplomat Carlos Fuentes.

The College of Business Administration has one of the largest MBA programs among all public universities in Florida. USF accounting majors have been listed number one in the nation, with the highest percentage of candidates with advanced degrees passing all parts of the CPA exam - placing USF among the top 10 universities more times than any other school in the country.

The College of Education graduates more educators than any other university in Florida and is one of the largest colleges of education in the country. The college is ranked in the top 25% of all graduate schools of education by U.S. News & World Report and is known for its innovative approaches to today's education challenges. Over half of the college's students are enrolled in graduate programs.

The university offers an Honors College for high-ability students, an extensive study abroad and internship program, interdisciplinary research opportunities, and a new Center for Global Solutions that offers students the opportunity to address real-world challenges affecting communities around the world.

USF ranks as one of the nation's top centers for researching new treatments for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's diseases. The university has pioneered the concept of brain repair - replacing cells in the brain to help fix damage from illness or injury. USF's faculty includes 191 of Tampa Bay's 310 Best Doctors in America.

Research that drives and supports technological and economic development has earned USF a leadership role in microelectronics, information technology, applied physics, biophysics and urban transportation. The university is a leader in the Florida High Tech Corridor, an unprecedented partnership that includes more than 5,200 technology companies from the Space Coast to Tampa Bay.

In its 50-year history, USF has graduated more than 200,000 students. Approximately 90,000 alumni live in the university's six-county service area.

**DIVERSITY AND 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, disability or age is prohibited by University policies, federal and state laws. The USF system protects its faculty, staff, and students from discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation. 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 172. 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 or the university equal opportunity policies.

**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 requesting 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.

**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

Since its inception, USF has endeavored to provide facilities that assist students and scholars in achieving their educational and professional goals. The USF Tampa campus features more than 200 buildings valued at over \$800 million, including modern science and engineering labs; a communications building with a full range of broadcast facilities; foreign language listening labs; fine art studios and display spaces; education teaching labs; a public television station; a listener-supported radio station; a dozen computer labs with free internet access; and even an on-campus elementary school and daycare facilities. The campus also offers a wide variety of recreational facilities, including a multi-million dollar recreation center featuring a 6,500-square-foot weight room, an indoor pool, racquetball courts and various fitness studios; three outdoor swimming pools; 22 lighted tennis courts; an 18-hole golf course; a running trail; three softball fields; four outdoor basketball and volleyball courts; and 10 lighted multi-purpose fields. In addition, we offer a wide range of living options for students who wish to live on campus, including traditional-style, suite-style and apartment-style resident halls. Greek housing is also available for members of USF's sororities and fraternities.

The USF St. Petersburg campus, located on Tampa Bay, opened its first residence hall in Fall 2006. The seven-story building, which features 79 four-bedroom single occupancy and seven two-bedroom double occupancy apartments, as well as a lobby, catering kitchen, lounge, and laundry facilities, offers students apartment-style living right on campus. In addition, the campus recently added a new campus parking structure featuring more than 1,500 spaces. The first floor of the garage houses the USF St. Petersburg Police Department and the Parking Services department, as well as a new 15,000-square-foot, two-story Barnes & Noble bookstore offering university students great coffee, literature, textbooks, lab materials and campus merchandise.

The USF Sarasota campus recently opened its beautiful new Crosley Campus Center, a three-story, 108,000-square-foot Italian Mediterranean-style structure inspired by some of the beautiful historic mansions located on nearby Sarasota Bay. Behind the architectural beauty is plenty of academic muscle - including 24 new classrooms, several additional computer labs, more seminar rooms and video-conferencing areas, and a 190-seat lecture/exhibition hall. There is also a technology and learning center, a new dining area, training facilities for the School of Hotel and Restaurant Management, and a daycare center.

USF Lakeland began serving central Florida students in 1988, operating on a campus shared with Polk Community College at the intersection of US 98 and the Polk Parkway. The campus is known for its abundant shade trees, outdoor study areas, and plentiful free parking. Fall 2006 marks the opening of the new Lakeland Technology Building, a high tech teaching and student services facility on the west side of campus. This new facility doubles available classroom space and makes student services such as registration, advising, financial aid, and counseling even more convenient.

## 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.

## ADVOCACY PROGRAM

~Supporting victims and survivors of crime, violence, and/or abuse~

The Advocacy Program will provide compassionate services and support to USF students and employees who have experienced crime, violence, and/or abuse. Free and confidential services are provided to both males and females, whether the incident occurred on or off campus, recently or in the past. Services include crisis intervention, emotional support, court accompaniment, 24 hour Victim HelpLine, information, options, and referrals, and educational presentations.

Appointments are available in our office or other safe locations on campus. Walk-ins are welcomed, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please visit our web site at <http://www.usf.edu/advocacy>.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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

USF POLICE EMERGENCY	911 OR 974-2628
The Advocacy Program at USF	
24-Hr. Victim HelpLine	974-5757
Office Number	974-5756
CRISIS CENTER OF TAMPA BAY	
24-Hr. Crisis Line	234-1234 OR 211