

University of South Florida  
Judy Genshaft Honors College  
State of the College Report  
April 23, 2021

Prepared by the Dean: Dr. Charles Adams

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## MISSION:

To develop tomorrow's leaders by providing first-rate educational opportunities to the most highly motivated, intellectually curious, and academically accomplished students at USF.

We strive to create a tight-knit intellectual community by:

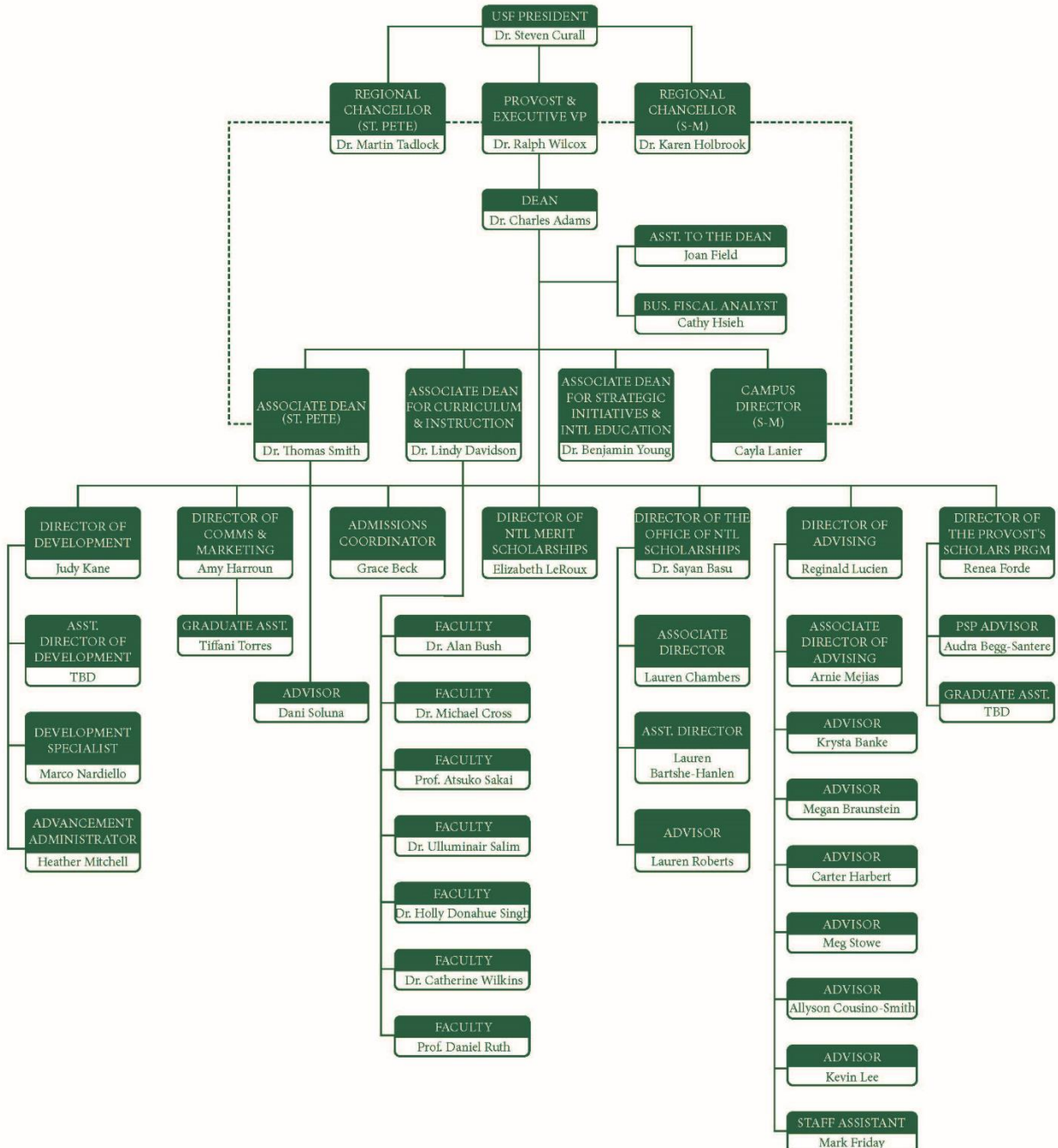
- Providing an honors residential experience
- Offering a distinctive interdisciplinary honors curriculum featuring small classes taught by engaged and creative faculty
- Sponsoring co-curricular opportunities in community development, global studies, and leadership
- Supporting student achievement with expert individual advising and a highly successful Office of National Scholarships
- Encouraging each student to pursue a significant and rewarding research experience that takes advantage of USF's resources as a Top-30 Public Research Institution



*Honors graduation photo taken prior to COVID-19 pandemic.*

# LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE – JULY 1, 2021

## Judy Genshaft Honors College Organizational Leadership Structure and Reporting



## **CONSOLIDATION:**

On July 1, 2020 USF officially consolidated its three separately accredited campuses into one university. “This is a historic day for the University of South Florida. We have an extraordinary opportunity to strengthen our position as one of the nation’s premier research universities and a leader in student success,” said USF President Steven Currall. “I am excited about our future as we work together to become a top-25 public university and position ourselves for future eligibility in the prestigious Association of American Universities.”

Consolidation allowed the previous Honors Programs on the Sarasota-Manatee and St. Petersburg campuses to officially join the Judy Genshaft Honors College. The Honors Program Director in St. Petersburg, Dr. Thomas Smith, became the College’s Associate Dean at the St. Petersburg campus and Cayla Lanier, former Director of Advising for Honors in Tampa became the College’s Campus Director on the Sarasota-Manatee campus.

“Having our College present on all three USF campuses is a wonderful opportunity to connect the amazing student talent across our USF community,” said Charles Adams, Judy Genshaft Endowed Honors Dean. “Locations in three unique communities throughout Tampa Bay ensure that our students can find the right fit for their own personality and academic goals, while living out our shared values of intellectual curiosity, global citizenship, and service.”

Regardless of their home campus, USF’s Honors students can take advantage of the many opportunities and benefits offered by the Judy Genshaft Honors College, while living and learning in the place that best suits their ideal educational experience.

### **The Tampa campus:**

The Tampa campus is a large and dynamic learning environment where there is always a lot of activity. Honors students represent more than 2,000 of the 31,000 undergraduates on USF’s Tampa campus. Despite its size, the Judy Genshaft Honors College maintains an intimate feel. Currently housed in the Allen building, construction is underway on our new home — a five-story, 80,000 square foot building featuring art and music studios, a teaching kitchen, event spaces, individual and group study spaces, computer lab, conference rooms for staff and students, faculty and advisor offices, an administrative suite, and state-of-the-art classrooms. The Honors Living Learning Community is also located on the Tampa campus, providing a residential experience for Honors students.

**The St. Petersburg campus:**

On the St. Petersburg campus, the Judy Genshaft Honors College is housed in historic Snell House, a Dutch Colonial mansion built in 1904 by St. Petersburg pioneer Perry Snell. This unique location symbolizes the close relationship between the campus and thriving downtown St. Pete, where museums, restaurants, and concert venues are just a few walkable blocks away. Honors students engage with the community at the St. Petersburg campus, while appreciating a close relationship to the natural waterfront environment.

**The Sarasota-Manatee campus:**

In Sarasota-Manatee, opportunities abound for Honors students to develop highly personalized academic experiences on this small, tight-knit campus. Located directly on Sarasota Bay and less than a mile from the Ringling Museum of Art, there are avenues for outdoor adventures and cultural exploration to complement an innovative classroom experience. A new Honors lounge provides a dedicated space for students of the Judy Genshaft Honors College to meet and connect.

## **ENROLLMENT AND GRADUATION:**

In the fall of 2020, the College enrolled 697 new first-year students with an average GPA of 4.37, an average ACT score of 31.6, and an average SAT of 1412. The current total enrollment of the College is approximately 2,330; these students maintain an average GPA of 3.75. In addition, 441 students in the Judy Genshaft Honors College currently maintain a 4.0 GPA.

During the 2020-21 academic year, approximately 437 students will graduate from the Judy Genshaft Honors College. Graduates continue to receive acceptances to the very best graduate and professional programs, nationally and internationally. They find employment opportunities within Florida and in major cities across the country. Honors graduates work in both the private and public sectors.

## **COURSES:**

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the spring of 2020, courses in the Judy Genshaft Honors College pivoted from fully in-person teaching to a mixture of online and hybrid modalities for the 2020-2021 school year. In the summer of 2020, the college hosted a pilot Acquisition of Knowledge (IDH 2010) course on the Tampa campus, in which some students participated remotely while others were in the physical classroom. This pilot course allowed USF to test new technology as well as determine recommendations for faculty delivering flexible hybrid courses in the coming terms. Raman Sachdev ably delivered this course in the Allen Building and provided helpful guidance for the university and the college both.

In the fall of 2020, the newly consolidated Judy Genshaft Honors College delivered 126 fall classes and 72 spring classes, with 24% of classes meeting in a synchronous online format and 76% meeting in the flexible hybrid format. On the Tampa campus, access to classrooms in the Marshall Student Center allowed full classes of 19 students to meet in person while maintaining the 6 ft. social distancing measures required. All hybrid fall sections of the freshman course, Acquisition of Knowledge, met in the MSC. To support faculty using new technology, USF offered the services of student learning assistants who supported many of our classes in both formats.

2020 was the first time the college hosted a selection of online courses to meet the needs of students who were unable to come to campus due to travel restrictions or health concerns. Many students attended classes from locations across the globe, and through the virtual format, were able to connect with faculty and students in synchronous class delivery. A small selection of synchronous online courses were also offered in the spring.

Although the pandemic brought many challenges, the Judy Genshaft Honors College continued to develop and offer courses for the Medical Humanities in a Global Context pathway. Students also had the opportunity to take Global Experiences courses and engage with local and global partners in a virtual context through courses and internships.

### **St. Petersburg campus highlights:**

This year, the Judy Genshaft Honors College offered 12 classes on the St. Petersburg Campus. All of the courses were taught in the hybrid modality, with roughly half of the students in the classroom and half joining remotely.



Among the wide range of course topics were: New Media, Art, and Culture; Chinese Politics and Culture; Marine Life and Habitats; and Poverty and Inequality. Thirty-eight students took the thesis class on the St. Petersburg campus. A course on How to Make History was taught in partnership with the Gulf Beaches Historical Museum.

**Sarasota-Manatee campus highlights:**

In the inaugural year of the Judy Genshaft Honors College on the Sarasota-Manatee campus, five unique courses have been launched, all in a hybrid format.

Dr. Catherine Wilkins' IDH 4950 course on Visual Thinking Strategies was conducted in partnership with the Ringling Museum. One team from that class presented their work at the John's Hopkins Humanities Research Conference.

Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton's summer IDH 3100 course focuses on the untold stories of Black circus workers and circus performers in the Sarasota area. The goal is for student projects to add to the existing historical archive at the Sarasota Circus Arts Conservatory, bringing these stories to the public's attention for the first time.



*The new Honors building will offer a variety of classrooms and studios for Honors learning.*

## ADVISING:

Academic advising is essential to supporting the educational mission of the Honors College and the broader USF community. Our advising team is comprised of eight highly-trained academic advisors serving specific populations within the College. We onboarded two new honors advisors and welcomed a new Provost Scholar's Program advisor during this academic year. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, academic advising modalities were switched to online only. Our advisors did an incredible job of serving Honors students within this new modality while maintaining the same face-to-face standards students have come to love about advising in honors.

This academic year, our advisors saw an increase in mental health issues and students feeling disconnected from classes and school in general. Advisors also noticed that students were having more academic difficulties maintaining grades and with time management. Honors students are asked to provide feedback through surveys sent after each advising appointments. This year, approximately 80 percent of the students surveyed met with an honors advisor for degree progression, course scheduling, and AA hold removals, and the majority of survey respondents shared positive feedback on their academic advising experience in Honors.

This academic year saw the launch of two new advising initiatives:

- Pre-law student outreach, helping students learn more about the Stetson 3 + 3 Program and law school pathways.
- The official launch of Advising Virtual Assistant (AVA) is a 24/7 chatbot providing access to advising-related information.

The challenges of 2020 required us to think about new ways to utilize technology to deliver information to our students effectively. As a result, we introduced an honors portal to help students obtain access to honors-related requirements, special announcements, and our exciting new AVA application embedded within the portal. The AVA chatbot served as an extension of the academic advising office and provided 24/7 access to prescriptive advising-related information.

Once again, the first-year Honors Foundation course served as a compelling experience to help welcome honors students to campus and connect them with peers, campus resources, and the JGHC.

We had 661 fall 2020 FTIC honors students who provided feedback about their first-semester experience in the Honors College and at USF. Honors Foundation post-course survey results indicated the following:

1. 96 percent of students feel comfortable talking with an honors advisor about their schedule.
2. 91 percent of students feel comfortable finding academic resources on campus to help them achieve their educational goals.
3. A majority of honors students indicated a lack of comfortability with failure and not meeting expectations.

As of July 1, 2020, we instituted an honors advisor on the St. Petersburg campus to serve as the first point of contact for JGHC students in St. Petersburg. Major accomplishments of this campus position include the following:

1. Established an Honors advising presence for new and continuing students
  - a. Reorganized pre-consolidation curriculum and degree audits for up to 72 students pursuing the Saint Petersburg Honors program
  - b. Implemented post-consolidation curriculum and degree audits for up to 34 FTIC students pursuing the Judy Genshaft Honors College
  - c. Created communication campaigns including, but not limited to, monthly newsletters, individualized honors progression reminders, mid-term performance outreach, and ONS opportunities
  - d. Managed enrollment for pre- and post- consolidation course offerings through permitting, monitoring cross listed sections, and adjusting offerings throughout registration to match demand
2. Built strong campus partnerships across the Saint Petersburg campus
  - a. The Academic Advising Center
    - i. Built new processes to assist honors students through registration and advising holds in conjunction with major academic advisors
    - ii. Attended Academic Advising Center staff meetings
      1. Presented on new honors curriculum and other updates as needed
  - b. Orientation
    - i. Designed new processes to onboard FTIC and Transfer honors students through individualized honors advising sessions and in-depth degree evaluations
  - c. Admissions
    - i. Produced multiple open house events for prospective students and families
    - ii. Conducted 1:1 meetings with prospective students and families as requested
  - d. University Council
    - i. Served on University Council to increase awareness around JGHC
  - e. Housing
    - i. Celebrated the opening of the Honors Living Learning Community in Osprey Suites

- ii. Created new processes for LLC applications, selection, and assignments
- iii. Provided specialized programming and advising services to LLC

From August 1, 2020 to April 20, 2021 Honors advisors hosted 3,726 student appointments. During this same time, the advising team met with 1,735 unique students. This number was down from our previous year, during which we saw 2,010 unique students. The appointment total was also down from the last year, from 4,401 hosted appointments. The transition to an online modality and online appointment check-in contributed to the fewer appointment numbers. Still, advisors have reported an increase in email volume for both fall and spring semesters.

## PROVOST'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM:



*Photo taken at a PSP event prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

The Provost's Scholars Program (PSP) was created in 2011 by USF Provost and Executive Vice President, Dr. Ralph Wilcox. It is a professional development and global engagement program which allows high-performing, entering freshman students to graduate at least one year ahead of their peers, accelerating their bachelor's degree program to be completed in three years or less (often through eight consecutive semesters, including two summer semesters). To meet this goal, in addition to other admission requirements, candidates must anticipate entering USF with 18 or more transferable college credits, earned as dual enrollment courses and/or other college equivalency exams completed in high school.

The PSP Foundational Experiences Curriculum provides a holistic approach to education, where students apply knowledge learned during coursework to experiences outside of the classroom. PSP aims to make their scholars career-focused and ready for post-graduation plans by completing three pillar experiences: study abroad or study away, research or professional development, and leadership or service. In order to accomplish an ambitious academic schedule and these required components, Provost's scholars work with PSP's program director, advisor and peer mentors who strive to assist them through individualized academic and co-curricular planning.

During the 2020-21 academic year, PSP increased our enrollment 33%, enrolling 62 new students enrolled into the program, surpassing the previous year's cohort of 45 students. Additionally, 28 Provost's scholars graduated from the university this academic year. The 2021-2022 PSP first-year cohort entering USF is expected to match the enrollment of the previous cohort.

While Covid-19 impacted many students' ability to pursue global study abroad programs around the world, PSP helped their scholars secure alternate opportunities to engage in global enrichment. This included virtual internships offered through Education Abroad, where students complete immersive internships within major companies and organizations located around the world. PSP engaged students through various collaborative virtual workshops, hosted by offices such as Career Services, Financial Aid, Multi-cultural Affairs, and Undergraduate Research. PSP also support a student E-board, made up of 2nd and 3rd year Provost's scholars committed to supporting their peers through social events, community service, and the PSP peer mentoring program.

PSP continues to offer a Living Learning Community within Juniper-Poplar Hall, in collaboration with the Office of Residential Life. Due to Covid-19, USF housing enrollment decreased dramatically in the 2020-2021 academic year; while the PSP-LLC admitted 14 students for Fall 2020, only eight decided to live on campus. To help socially-distanced LLC residents get to know each other, PSP hosted virtual social events, such as Paint Night, where students were able to pick-up paint, canvases, and brushes to connect virtually as they created paintings of their dream travel locations. The PSP-LLC also partnered with the Honors-LLC to drop off fun items outside residents' rooms, including welcome goodie bags, and parcels of Halloween candy and finals' study snacks. With USF planning to expand physical instruction and student programming this year, PSP has seen a significant rise in LLC interest. In receiving applications from new admits and current students committed to returning, PSP expects to grow LLC numbers this upcoming academic year.

In Spring 2021, PSP welcomed its new program advisor, Mrs. Audra Santerre, who comes to the program with years of experience in teaching, academic and career advising, and experiential learning. Mrs. Santerre's new role will support Provost's Scholars program director Renea Forde to re-evaluate and strengthen the program through continued systematic interventions, which includes targeted outreach to increase community partnerships and enrollment, and growing cohort retention rates through expanded student engagement initiatives and support resources.

The Provost's Scholars Program offers a unique opportunity for highly-driven scholars to accelerate their education and fast-track their careers, all while developing a rich and diverse portfolio of personal competencies, professional development accomplishments, and global engagement experiences. Despite the challenges 2020 put forth, Provost's scholars continued to accomplish incredible achievements. Specifically, the recipients of USF's Outstanding Graduate Award for both Fall 2020 (Nandini Agarwal) and Spring 2021 (Matthew Gallot-Baker) are both Provost's scholars!

PSP is proud of its last decade of developing a new generation of world-changers, and it looks forward to the next.

## SPECIAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS:

The Judy Genshaft Honors College hosts two accelerated, three Pathway, and two early acceptance (in partnership with LECOM) health professions programs.

- **7-Year BS/MD Program:** First-Time in College USF students who have been admitted to the Judy Genshaft Honors College have the opportunity to complete a BS and Doctor of Medicine in just seven years. Students must meet initial eligibility criteria for the 7-Year Track and meet all the benchmarks of the program, including a successful interview with MCOM, to receive admission to USF's Morsani College of Medicine (MCOM).
  - In the past five years, 45 Judy Genshaft Honors College students have matriculated into the MCOM.
- **7-Year BS/PharmD Program:** First-Time in College USF students who have been admitted to the Judy Genshaft Honors College who are interested in attending pharmacy school have an opportunity to receive admission to USF Health's Taneja College of Pharmacy (TCOP) and complete a B.S. and doctorate in pharmacy (PharmD) in seven years, provided that the student continues to meet all the benchmarks of the program, including a successful interview with TCOP.
  - Created in 2017, we currently have three (3) students in the Track.
- **Doctor of Audiology and MS Speech Language Pathology Pathway Programs:** First-Time in College USF students who have been admitted to the Judy Genshaft Honors College and are interested in a career in audiology are offered a pathway to USF's College of Community & Behavioral Sciences (CBCS), Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders to complete a Doctor of Audiology (AuD) or the MS in SLP. Students must meet all the benchmarks of the program, including a successful interview with CSD.
- **BS (Nursing) to PhD (Nursing Science) Pathway:** First-Time in College USF students who have been admitted to the Judy Genshaft Honors College and are interested in a career in nursing science are offered a pathway to USF's College of Nursing (CON) to complete a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Science (PhD). Students must begin on the Freshmen Nursing Pathway (FNR) Students and follow progression criteria established by the College of Nursing to remain in the pathway.



- Outreach has been increased and an initial cohort of 5 students is expected for Fall 2021.
- **Additional programs include:**
  - DO Early Acceptance Program (with LECOM)
  - DMD Early Acceptance Program (with LECOM)
  - We currently have over 25 students on an EAP Track.

## LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY:



The Judy Genshaft Honors College Living Learning Community (LLC) is completing its 32nd year.

The LLC hosted several events during the 2020-2021 academic year. The Late-Night Tutoring Program changed its hours this year to offer more flexibility for students who preferred not to meet late night during the pandemic because of screen fatigue and other factors. This program employs two LLC residents as tutors in several subjects, including Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and Writing, and has been a useful tool for providing residents tutoring for key subjects at opportune times. We reevaluated tutoring for the upcoming academic year and have decided to restructure it to hold sessions on a monthly schedule rather than weekly in accordance with high-exam times as a cost saving measure, and to better serve student needs. Tutors' contracts will be revised for 2021-2022.

This year, the Honors LLC followed USF and CDC Covid-19 guidelines for events, resulting in a mostly online platform for student engagement. We used Bulls in the Cloud, Housing's main student portal, as well as MS Teams to host an array of student-centered activities, including:

- Wednesday Wellness Series (mental health initiative)

- Game nights
- Faculty meet and greets
- Faculty-led Narrative Medicine Workshops
- Cooking demonstrations
- Career Services-hosted workshops series
- The Critical Conversations Series
- Service-learning fair
- Craft night
- Tampa Bay Museum of Art Connections virtual tours
- Faculty-led Japanese Tea Ceremony, and more

LLC advisor, Meg Stowe, hosted in-person and virtual office hours throughout the semester, and was able to run a few approved in-person events including a stargazing night at MOSI, a bicycle tour around campus, and a final exam review snack and materials distribution. We also partnered with PSP to do “home delivery” for students during key holidays (Halloween Spooktacular) and to deliver “Welcome Home” swag bags featuring LLC-branded backpacks, water bottles, and reusable masks to Honors and PSP LLC residents.

In addition, we began a new initiative to engage students more thoroughly in USF’s efforts towards anti-racism and an explicit focus on our Principles of Community. We formed a committee on social justice programming, led by Meg, comprised of staff, faculty, and students to address local and global issues surrounding inequities and racism. This resulted in a rich tapestry of programmatic offerings and partnerships. We worked with the Humanities Institute and across campuses in the Honors College to book and host An Evening with Nnedi Okorafor and an LLC-sponsored College read of her *Akata Witch* in preparation for her visit. This was the culminating event in our Critical Conversations series, and we framed it with other events to scaffold students’ growing understanding of contemporary and historical conversations around race, class, gender, age, disability, sexuality, and global relationships. The events included:

- Beyond the Hashtag: A Social Action Fair

- Research Roundtable
- Women in Comics featuring Stephanie Phillips
- Activism: Combining Art and Activism

Dean Adams and others in the College leadership and faculty met with students during the Okorafor event (spring) and in our World Café in the fall. Students were excited to have the opportunity for a one-on-one with College leadership and faculty. We plan to re-introduce Dinner with the Dean as soon as in-person events are allowed during Phase III of Covid-19 protocols.

Students helped to host recurring annual events, such as the Women in Comics Event and the LLC Call for Service event. As a result, several students connected with the Tampa Bay Better Together Alliance and formed a student-led organization on campus to work with them more directly to address the needs of unhoused people in Tampa Bay, including weekly meal/clothing/medical supply delivery. Plans are also underway to build microhomes for Tampa's homeless populations. Honors LLC residents were welcomed at the beginning of the semester at a Welcome Back overview that fosters conversation between students, faculty, and staff through a PowerPoint presentation, in addition to a socially-distanced campus scavenger hunt. Our Experiential Learning Expo in the fall showcased local opportunities for shadowing, internships, and research. Students also had the opportunity to meet their advisors in a featured event, and to attend an info session for study abroad programs that were scheduled to take place this summer, but were unfortunately canceled due to the pandemic. We also partnered with Career Services to provide ongoing support for career development through USF's Career Badging program, hosted in Canvas. Several students completed individual badges and we will continue to host this program going forward to help students identify NACE competencies and to emphasize digital literacy and career and leadership exploration. Ten students won top participation awards and will be featured, along with the "Best Honors RA," at the end-of year awards banquet. They will also be receiving individual prizes.

Finally, we began plans to create the Judy Genshaft Honors College LLC Community Garden, located in the USF Botanical Gardens. Meg created a syllabus for a 0-credit service-learning course that will offer students 50 community service hours as they learn about and construct a community garden that will yield fresh foods donations to the USF Bull's Pantry in order to increase nutritional foods for food insecure students. Partners for this venture include all 3 campuses, the USF Botanical Gardens,

WellFed Community, Grace Hydroponics, various student organizations, the Department of Religious Studies and their Agrarian Club, and other stakeholders. We anticipate the program to grow over time.

We currently have 166 students accepted to the Honors LLC for the 2021-2022 academic year, and are already planning the activities calendar and budget. We ran a call campaign, sent out a letter from the Dean, attended evening recruitment events, and advertised at Bulls Unite days to generate interest and hope to have over 200 students in the LLC next year.

## HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT COUNCIL:

Our Student Council remains active through virtual channels on Microsoft Teams and has planned events throughout the year to connect students with one another, as well as with faculty, staff, and alumni. Here is just a sampling of the many events they have held this year.

- JGHC Brain Bowl
- Virtual "Murder Mystery" Game
- Getting Crafty With Council Virtual Art
- Weekly calls for seniors with Aging Services of Hillsborough County
- Honors Got Talent
- Leadership Lecture Series: Zayn Mohamed
- Leadership Lecture Series: Amber Pirson
- Leadership Lecture Series: Willie McClinton
- Leadership Lecture Series: Dean Charles Adams
- QuarantTeams Olympics
- Relay for Life Virtual Fundraiser
- International Photo Competition
- Virtual Game Night
- Faculty & Advisors Tea Talks
- Ultimate Speed Friending

JGHCSC Leadership Mission: It is the goal of JGHCSC's advisors to help the JGHCSC Executive Board develop into holistic leaders through:

- Weekly one-on-one meetings with Graduate Advisor and E-Board members
- Leadership Competency Exercises & Reflections
- Fall and Spring Semester Evaluations
- Semester Goals

## **INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS:**

In accordance with the university's COVID-19 response, the JGHC canceled all 11 of its international experience programs, including.

- Dominican Republic Winter 2020 (did not travel)
- USF in Exeter Spring 2021 (did not travel)
- Quebec Spring 2021 (did not travel)
- Japan Spring 2021 (did not travel)
- South Korea Spring 2021 (did not travel)
- Germany Spring 2021 (did not travel)
- Dominican Republic Spring 2021 (did not travel)
- Florence Physician Observation Summer 2021 (did not travel)
- Service Learning in India Summer (USF-SM) 2021 (did not travel)
- Germany Engineering Summer 2021 (did not travel)
- USF in London Summer 2021 (did not travel)

### **Honors Programs proposed for the 2021-2022 Academic Year**

New Programs:

- South Korea Beyond the Classroom Spring 2022
- Service Learning in India Summer 2022
- Dominican Republic Physician Shadowing Summer 2022
- Florence Physician Shadowing Summer 2022

Repeat Programs:

- Dominican Republic Service Trip Winter 2021
- Japan Beyond the Classroom Spring 2022
- Quebec Spring 2022
- Germany Beyond the Classroom Spring 2022
- USF in Exeter Spring 2022
- Dominican Republic Service Trip Spring 2022
- USF in London Summer 2022
- Germany Engineering Summer 2022

## OFFICE OF NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS:



*Photo taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

The Office of National Scholarships (ONS) is dedicated to providing guidance, mentorship and support for USF's high achieving students as they compete for nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships across all disciplines. The scholarships and fellowships are for creative, engaged, academically strong students who are leaders inside and outside of the classroom.

ONS identifies, recruits and mentors the high achieving students who apply for prestigious scholarships and fellowships such as the Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Knight-Hennessey and Fulbright scholarships. Advisors also work with faculty members to recruit candidates, provide strong letters of recommendations, review applications and essays and provide mock interviews for applicants. This process ensures that students' applications are of the highest caliber and reflect the students' academic and extracurricular excellence.

The 2020-21 year shows promise of continuing the trend of success at ONS, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

National Scholarship winners and finalists this year include:

\*Please note that at the time of this report some national scholarship recipients have not yet been announced. AMGEN Scholars, DAAD-RISE and the Fulbright UK Summer Institute Program were cancelled for a second year in a row. Notifications



for Gilman Scholarship (cycle 2), Fund for Education Abroad and the Freeman-Asia Scholarship applications are forthcoming.\*

### **Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship**

Kelli Lynch - Recipient

Alexander Mercier - Recipient

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program was established by Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater. The purpose of the program is to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians and engineers by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields. It is considered the most prestigious undergraduate award in the country for science research.

### **Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship (Cycle 2 recipients not yet reported)**

Alize Acosta – Study Abroad in South Korea

Thaila Crespo – Study Abroad in the United Kingdom

Brianna Goffe – Study Abroad in the United Kingdom

Tammy Huynh – Study Abroad in Australia

Jonnie Jenkins - Study Abroad in Italy

Nerissa Louis – Study Abroad in Italy

Lisette Melendez – Study Abroad in South Korea

Carlos Morin Jimenez – Study Abroad in Germany

Natalie Nagib – Study Abroad in the United Kingdom

Chelsea Nichols – Study Abroad in Germany

Rebecca Pattabhi – Study Abroad in South Korea

Kobe Phillips – Study Abroad in Morocco

Abriella Richards – Study Abroad in Japan

Maddison Ryba – Study Abroad in Ecuador, Thailand and South Africa

Amanda Sherwood – Study Abroad in Italy

Celina Trowles – Study Abroad in Canada

The Gilman Scholarship provides awards for U.S. undergraduate students who receive funding from a Federal Pell Grant. This congressionally funded program is sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.

### **Boren Scholarship and Fellowship**

Brenda Jiang – Language Learning in Japan

Nichole Peters – Language Learning in Brazil

Boren Scholarships and Fellowships, an initiative of the National Security Education Program, provide unique funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate students to study less commonly taught languages in world regions critical to U.S. interests, and underrepresented in study abroad, including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. The countries of Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are excluded.

### **Critical Language Scholarship (CLS)**

Amanda Lopez Garcia – Language Learning in South Korea

The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program is a summer study abroad opportunity for American college and university students to learn languages essential to America's engagement with the world. The CLS Program is part of a U.S. government effort to expand dramatically the number of Americans studying and mastering critical foreign languages.

### **Freeman-ASIA Scholarship (Not yet reported)**

The Freeman-ASIA program is designed to support U.S.-based undergraduates with demonstrated financial need who are planning to study abroad in East or Southeast Asia. The program's goal is to increase the number of U.S. citizens and permanent residents with first-hand exposure to and understanding of Asia and its peoples and cultures.

### **Fulbright US Student Program (Not all recipients yet reported)**

Mabel Proenza – English Teaching Assistantship to Spain

The Fulbright US Student Program is sponsored by the US Department of State. It is the largest US international exchange program offering opportunities for students to undertake international graduate study, advance research, or teaching in elementary and secondary schools worldwide.

### **Fund for Education Abroad (FEA) (Not yet reported)**

The Fund for Education Abroad provides scholarships of up to \$10000 and ongoing support to minority and first-generation college students. The award is competitive and merit-based.

## **National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program**

Stephanie Peak – Recipient

Zach Withers – Recipient

Jack Edwards – Honorable Mention

Franco Villegas Garin – Honorable Mention

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Fellowship helps ensure the vitality of the human resource base of science and engineering in the United States and reinforces its diversity. The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited United States institutions. Both recipients and honorable mentions are officially recognized by the NSF as honorees of this award.

## **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)**

Alexandria Brady-Mine

The NIST-SURF Program is designed to inspire undergraduate students to pursue careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) through a unique research experience that supports the NIST mission. Since 1993, SURF students from across the country have had the opportunity to gain valuable, hands-on experience, working with cutting edge technology in one of the world's leading research organizations and home to three Nobel Prize winners.

## **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship**

Sofia Gluskin

Kim Ho

Olivia Tuckey

The Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides successful undergraduate applicants with awards that include academic assistance (up to \$9,500 per year) for two years of full-time study and a 10-week, full-time paid (\$700/week) internship at a NOAA facility during the summer.

## ALUMNI:

Building a larger and more active alumni community continues to be a priority in the Judy Genshaft Honors College. Efforts to engage with our alumni and to connect them with our current students continued throughout 2020-21.

Some examples of this engagement during the past academic year include continuing efforts to expand the Judy Genshaft Honors College Dean's Advisory Council.

The focus of this council is to expand awareness of College initiatives and priorities across our alumni network and the Tampa community.

- Dr. Judy Genshaft, Dean's Advisory Council Chair, President Emerita and Professor, University of South Florida
- Rhea Law, Of Counsel, Florida Offices, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney P.A.
- Manjit Kundlas, endowed scholarship donor and parent of two JGHC graduates
- Brian Fender '96, Partner at GrayRobinson, P.A.
- Lisa Provenzano Heugel, '93, Principal Software Developer at The Nielsen Company
- Dr. Patrick Mullen '16, Resident Physician, University of North Carolina School of Medicine
- Nevena Pehar '12, Assistant Director of Development at USF, Bulls of the Last Decade (BOLD)
- Nina Lacevic '05, General Council & Chief Compliance Officer, Amscot Financial

The Judy Genshaft Honors College "Alumni & Friends" electronic newsletter continues to provide College updates, information about alumni events, student success stories, and donor spotlights, to both alumni and friends of the College.

The College continues to spotlight alumni success stories on its social media platforms, feature stories in College publications, and through community award nominations. This initiative has successfully increased alumni engagement.

Dean Adams is also a regular speaker at the university's ring ceremonies for new alumni.

### **Alumni Offering Internship and Mentor Opportunities:**

The Judy Genshaft Honors College Associate Dean for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Lindy Davidson, continues to reach and connect with a number of alumni partners to coordinate internship and mentoring opportunities for the College's students. Additionally, the College's Experiential Learning Assistant, Kylie Pontious, has been integral in the delivery of experiential opportunities for Honors students. These internship, mentorships, and experiential opportunities are promoted through the College's website, social media platforms and electronic newsletter, *The Honor Roll*, which is delivered weekly to every Judy Genshaft Honors College student.

### **Alumni Speaker Series:**

The Alumni Speaker Series offers current Honors students the opportunity to discuss career experiences with distinguished Honors alumni practicing in an array of professional fields. Guest speakers focus on topics related to graduate study, career, travels, leadership experiences, and more. While events were limited this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the College was able to host several successful virtual alumni speaking events. Alumni who spoke with student in 2020-2021 included Chintan Thakkar, Zayn Mohamed, and Victoria Bekiempis.

## **DEVELOPMENT:**

At the end of 2020, the University of South Florida broke ground on a five-story, 85,000-square-foot home for the Judy Genshaft Honors College on its Tampa campus.

Private gifts totaling \$43 million have been pledged and received thus far for the new building, including a historic naming gift of \$20 million from USF President Emerita and Professor Judy Genshaft and her husband Steve Greenbaum. Distinctive opportunities to name spaces within the building are now available as well, and an exciting new opportunity was just announced to further support this initiative.

An anonymous foundation has provided a challenge gift so that any naming amount provided for the building will be matched. This will allow donors to sponsor a space at a higher naming level, if one is available.

The new Honors facility will feature interwoven and namable spaces for classrooms, study areas, faculty and advisor offices, event areas, a computer lab, performance and creative spaces, and numerous areas for student collaboration – expanding the range of academic opportunities for students and giving them a true “home” on campus. Fittingly, it is being built along the renamed USF Genshaft Drive (formerly USF Maple Drive).

For the 2020-2021 academic year, the Judy Genshaft Honors College Facility Fund and the Judy Genshaft Honors College Dean’s Strategic Fund for Excellence remain the fundraising priorities for the College along with the continued growth of academic scholarship programs to assist high-achieving students in reaching their full potential. These funds afford exceptional students the opportunity to develop the thinking, reasoning, and writing skills that will help them make contributions to society on a global scale - as inventors, discoverers, and the creators of the future. One of the goals of the Judy Genshaft Honors College is to prepare students to lead thoughtful, fulfilling lives as engaged citizens of the world.

This year the fifth cohort of the Genshaft Global Presidential Scholarship were each awarded \$10,000 in support for international education to assist with recruitment of the highest-ability students of the incoming freshmen class. Students were unable to travel abroad in due to COVID-19 restrictions though several participated in virtual study-abroad programs.

As a result of the consolidation of USF in Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Sarasota-Manatee in 2020, scholarships previously available only to students on the Tampa campus may now be available to USF students on all three campuses.

In 2020-2021 the College established several new funds:

- T. Terrell & Neva S Sessums Academic Enrichment Honors College Fund offers scholarships, programs, and/or faculty support at the USF Judy Genshaft Honors College as the Dean of the College shall designate.
- Genshaft-Greenbaum Global Explorer Award provides scholarships to pursuing all majors in the Judy Genshaft Honors College on all USF campuses. This scholarship is for students who wish to participate in international activities that are not served by traditional study abroad programs. For students engaged in an approved international program, including but not limited to research, internship placements, and service-related activities.

Endowed scholarships supporting Honors students include:

- \* F. E. Lykes Foundation Endowed Scholarship
- \* Siede Research Awards
- \* USF Alumni Association Honors/Ethics Scholarship
- \* Terrell and Neva Sessums Regents Scholarship
- \* Carl Riggs Endowed Memorial Honors Scholarship
- \* J.O. DeLotto and Sons, Inc. Endowed Scholarship
- \* George and Bobbe Karpay Endowed Scholarship for Excellence
- \* John and Grace Allen Endowed Honors Scholarship Program
- \* Helios Education Foundation STEM Scholarship
- \* Herbert & Elaine Gimelstob Endowed Scholarship
- \* Dr. Stuart Silverman Endowed Scholarship
- \* Florida Grocery Manufacturers Representatives Endowed Scholarship
- \* Shaukat & Antonina Chowdhari Endowed Fund in Honors College
- \* Mohammad Al-Jallad Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- \* Chowdhari Family Endowed Honors College Book Fund
- \* Beltran Brothers Honors College Dental Scholarship
- \* Honculada Family Endowed Scholarship in the Honors College
- \* Esther and Sam Momberg Endowed Honors College Scholarship
- \* Rasmussen Family Endowed Scholarship
- \* Genshaft/Greenbaum International Honors Study Abroad Scholarship

- \* General Portland, Inc. Endowed Scholarship
- \* W. Paul Hoenle Foundation Scholarship
- \* K.M. Kundlas Family Endowed Scholarship
- \* Kenneth B. Wittcoff Memorial Scholarship
- \* Vincent & Heidi Bekiempis Endowed Honors College Scholarship
- \* Salins Family Honors College Scholarship
- \* Highlander Endowed Scholarship
- \* Brad & Terry Holcombe Scholars Program Endowment
- \* Roslyn & Richard Wittcoff Endowed Honors College Scholarship
- \* Jo-Ann Hammack and Norma Quance Endowed Scholarship
- \* Salem Scholars Endowed Fund for Disability Studies.
- \* Joan and Joan Premed Academic Honors Scholarship

Non-endowed support includes:

- \* Honors College Gelin Scholarship
- \* McCorkle Academic Scholarship
- \* McCorkle Study Abroad Scholarship
- \* Herman and Jean Kane Memorial Book Scholarship
- \* Joseph and Anne Garcia Honors Scholarship
- \* Provost's Scholars Program Housing Assistance Fund
- \* Honors College Dean's Strategic Fund for Excellence
- \* A.S. Gill Family Honors College Scholarship
- \* Genshaft Global Presidential Scholarship
- \* New Honors College Building Planning Fund
- \* USF Phi Beta Kappa Fund
- \* Office of National Scholarships Fund for Excellence
- \* Judy Genshaft Honors College Facility Fund
- \* Genshaft-Greenbaum Global Explorer Award

The Judy Genshaft Honors College continues to be the academic home of several university-wide programs including the Provost Scholars Program (PSP) where students graduate in three years along with Jenkins Scholars, Brad and Terry Holcombe First-Generation Scholars, and the Ableidinger Scholars.





**UNIVERSITY of**  
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