Dear Friend of USF,

Vol. 1, Iss. 1, March 1, 2011

Thank you for your interest in state legislative activity that impacts the University of South Florida (USF) and the Florida System. On the eve of the 2011 Session of the Florida Legislature (March 8 - May 22nd), the University of South Florida Foundation (USF Foundation) will again be closely monitoring and providing updates on legislation impacting USF and the Florida System.

The $35 million recommended by the Board of Governors (BOG) for the Science Teaching & Research Facility in Tampa and the USF Polytechnic new campus in St. Petersburg would help the USF System to complete construction on these highest-priority facilities and repairs. These facilities and repairs are desperately needed to provide students with the best education possible, and faculty with the research space they need. This bill would immediately create private-sector construction, design, sales and manufacturing jobs.

The fiscal year 2011-12 was a challenging time for education funding. Despite the still lagging Florida and national economies, we will continue to advocate for all the causes that can immediately help stimulate thousands of private-sector Florida Initiative investment in university research, laboratories, business incubators, and technology transfer. While the Florida Legislature was in session, we will send bi-weekly updates, with additional updates as needed.

Advocacy Focus: New Florida Initiative

The major focus of advocacy during the 2011 Legislative Session will be centered around the New Florida Initiative. As more and more of the Board of Governors and Chancellor Frank T. Brogan's multi-year effort under the New Florida Initiative begins to bear fruit, we need to keep decision-makers in Florida aware of the steps USF plans to take to significantly improve the University of South Florida (USF) and the Florida System.

In the 2011-12 Legislative Session, the USF System is seeking $107 million in non-operating funds to be utilized in the New Florida Initiative to help transform and modernize Florida Science.

Governor Scott's 7-7-7 Plan for Florida Future specifically called for a renewed investment in university research, infrastructure, innovation, and technology transfer. It is impotent that this investment begins this year.

Beyond the new operational funding requested, another important aspect of the New Florida Initiative is the economic development activities that the University of South Florida Foundation, in collaboration with its partners, plans to continue. These activities include the translation of university research into marketable products and services for the private sector, thereby creating private-sector construction, design, sales and manufacturing jobs.

On February 17th, the USF Board of Trustees (BOT) requested an updated list of recommended state mandates for state universities to be considered for funding by the Florida Legislature. The Board requested that the BOT receive a list of state mandates that are currently impacting state universities. These mandates include, but are not limited to, those that impact the fiscal condition of the USF System: the most recent estimate projects a deficit of approximately $4 Billion for the USF System for the 2011-12 fiscal year. This represents approximately 32% of the full state university system's revenue.

Please help the USF System by conveying your support for the New Florida Initiative to your elected officials, business and community interest groups and other influential decision-makers in Florida.

To read more about the New Florida Initiative that took place in 2010-11, visit:

http://www.usf.edu/new-florida

FROM MARK WALSH
Assistant Vice President & Director of Government Relations for the USF System

Thank you for your interest in state legislative activity that impacts the University of South Florida (USF). On the eve of the 2011 Session of the Florida Legislature (March 8 - May 22), the USF Foundation will again be closely monitoring and providing updates on legislation impacting USF and the Florida System. This to stay informed of the issues that are most important to you. The USF Foundation will provide updates during the legislative session and will be happy to answer any questions or comments that you may have.

Thanks for your support and remember that your input and support is critical.

Joel Momberg
CEO of the University of South Florida Foundation and Senior Vice President of University Advancement

BILLS IN BRIEF

(SB = Senate Bill, HB = House Bill)

SB 632 BY SennATOR GIBBS; RE-UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Summary: This bill provides for a recurring funding source for the new University of South Florida Trust Fund. The trust fund provides funding to parse state appropriation to pay their full cost. This is a multi-year effort, under the direction of the Governor and the Board of Governors and Chancellor Frank T. Brogan, to position the 11 state University System's collaborative effort—the public universities, community colleges, and technical institutes—alongside the private sector to deliver the economy, talent and innovations that Florida must have to be globally competitive. New Florida Initiative is the State University System's collaborative effort—alongside their partners in business and government—to deliver the economy, talent and innovations that Florida must have to be globally competitive.

SB 650 BY SennATOR GIBBS; RE-FLORIDA SYSTEM GEN ERO-SOCIO ECONOMIC EDUCATIONAL INVESTIGATION

Summary: This bill calls on the Governor to report to the Legislature on Florida's State Higher Education System. The Act would require the Governor to report to the Legislature on how education and training are provided in the Florida System. The Governor's report would also include an analysis of the Florida System's current financial condition and their recommendations for how the State Higher Education System can remain solvent.

SB 663 BY SennATOR FABAO; NEW PORT RICHEY - RE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM INSTITUTION FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Summary: This bill would change the current language of the University System of Florida's institutional for the handicapped to allow any veteran of the Armed Services of the United States (including its reserves) to become a state resident for tuition purposes. This bill provides funding to state universities to create clusters of research in fields such as Materials Engineering, Pharmacueticals, and Information Technology. Finally, the act would increase the funds and its partners to commercialize innovative new products that will create jobs in the fields of Watershed Health, Healthy Weight Loss and Assistant Devices for Individuals with Disabilities.

SB 500 BY SennATOR OELRICHER; RE-UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT IN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Summary: This bill would provide that a state university or college or career center facility. These bills allow any person with a current or former military service who has a concealed firearms permit to carry a weapon in airports or on state university campuses. These bills authorize any veteran of the Armed Services of the United States (including its reserves) to become a state resident for tuition purposes. These bills would amend the definition of “B” or higher may continue to enroll in college or career center. The act provides that the BOG may designate a recurring funding source for the state's University Trust Fund to replenish it. Without the act, Florida's higher education system could be negatively affected. The passage of any construction on campus which necessitates additional improvements.

SB 826 BY SennATOR FASANO; RE-NEW PORT RICHEY - RE UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Summary: This bill would permit any permit-holder is not authorized to carry the weapon or firearm in open sight. These bills would allow any veteran of the Armed Services of the United States (including its reserves) to become a state resident for tuition purposes. These bills would amend the definition of "B" or higher may continue to enroll in college or career center. The act would provide that the BOG may designate a recurring funding source for the state's University Trust Fund to replenish it. Without the act, Florida's higher education system could be negatively affected. The passage of any construction on campus which necessitates additional improvements.

SB 234 BY SennATOR EVANS; RE-NEW PORT RICHEY - RE UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT IN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Summary: These bills allow any person with a current or former military service who has a concealed firearms permit to carry a weapon in airports or on state university campuses. These bills authorize any veteran of the Armed Services of the United States (including its reserves) to become a state resident for tuition purposes. These bills would amend the definition of “B” or higher may continue to enroll in college or career center. The act would provide that the BOG may designate a recurring funding source for the state's University Trust Fund to replenish it. Without the act, Florida's higher education system could be negatively affected. The passage of any construction on campus which necessitates additional improvements.

SB 943 BY SennATOR FABAO; RE-NEW PORT RICHEY - RE UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT IN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Summary: These bills allow any person with a current or former military service who has a concealed firearms permit to carry a weapon in airports or on state university campuses. These bills authorize any veteran of the Armed Services of the United States (including its reserves) to become a state resident for tuition purposes. These bills would amend the definition of “B” or higher may continue to enroll in college or career center. The act would provide that the BOG may designate a recurring funding source for the state's University Trust Fund to replenish it. Without the act, Florida's higher education system could be negatively affected. The passage of any construction on campus which necessitates additional improvements.

SB 949 BY SennATOR FABAO; RE-NEW PORT RICHEY - RE UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT IN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

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SB 950 BY SennATOR FABAO; RE-NEW PORT RICHEY - RE UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT IN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Summary: These bills allow any person with a current or former military service who has a concealed firearms permit to carry a weapon in airports or on state university campuses. These bills authorize any veteran of the Armed Services of the United States (including its reserves) to become a state resident for tuition purposes. These bills would amend the definition of “B” or higher may continue to enroll in college or career center. The act would provide that the BOG may designate a recurring funding source for the state's University Trust Fund to replenish it. Without the act, Florida's higher education system could be negatively affected. The passage of any construction on campus which necessitates additional improvements.

SB 951 BY SennATOR FABAO; RE-NEW PORT RICHEY - RE UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT IN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Summary: These bills allow any person with a current or former military service who has a concealed firearms permit to carry a weapon in airports or on state university campuses. These bills authorize any veteran of the Armed Services of the United States (including its reserves) to become a state resident for tuition purposes. These bills would amend the definition of “B” or higher may continue to enroll in college or career center. The act would provide that the BOG may designate a recurring funding source for the state's University Trust Fund to replenish it. Without the act, Florida's higher education system could be negatively affected. The passage of any construction on campus which necessitates additional improvements.