Healthy Aging

USF researchers aim to improve quality of life as we age
First Look
The 2016-2017 University of South Florida school year officially kicked off Thursday, Aug. 18, with a balloon drop at the Marshall Student Center. The celebration is part of the Week of Welcome – a campus-wide series of events designed to introduce new Bulls to USF traditions and organizations.
IN A FESTIVE CEREMONY HELD EACH YEAR since the founding of USF’s Honors College, the freshman class of Honors students embarked on the first steps of their collegiate academic journey this September. Marching to the beat of USF’s Herd of Thunder, Provost Ralph Wilcox, Life Member, and USF’s deans and numerous dignitaries led about 600 new students on the traditional Honors Convocation walk from the Allen Building (home to the Honors College) through the bougainvillaea arcade to the Marshall Student Center for a formal program. The featured speaker was Professor Fred Cate, Vice President for Research and Distinguished Professor of Law at Indiana University.

Honors College Dean Charles Adams led the convocation for a third year. “This is a very exciting day in the Honors College,” said Adams. “It’s a chance for leadership from across campus to come together and celebrate the beginning of a new academic year and a freshman class with the strongest academic record in the Honors College’s history.”

[Image of a student holding a t-shirt]
HOW IS OUR SEEMINGLY INSATIABLE consumer appetite changing our world? Five artists explore the many ways in *Extracted*, an exhibition that continues through Dec. 10 at the USF Contemporary Art Museum.

Museum curator Megan Voeller drew inspiration for the theme from the growing consensus among scientists that we live in a new geological epoch, the Anthropocene, when human activity is the dominant influence on air, earth and water. One aspect of that activity is our impulse to extract natural resources from the Earth and turn them into consumable goods.

Artists Mary Mattingly, Otobong Nkanga, Claire Pentecost, David Zink Yi and Marina Zurkow explore the material and cultural circulation of those resources around the globe, revealing extraction as more than a remote technical undertaking, but rather an impulse incorporated throughout our lives every day.

The artists’ works include Mattingly’s sculptures created from personal possessions; Nkanga’s exploration of the remains of the Tsumeb Mine in Namibia; Pentecost’s reevaluation of soil as currency; Yi’s view of harsh underground labor, and Zurkow’s examination of products containing petrochemicals.

The museum is open Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m.; closed Sundays and university holidays. Admission is free. Visit cam.usf.edu for more information.
a) Otobong Nkanga, *The Weight of Scars*, 2015. Courtesy of the artist and Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands


c) David Zink Yi, *The Strangers*, 2014. Courtesy the artist, Hauser & Wirth and Johann König, Berlin (2 channel video)
HERD OF THUNDER MARCHING BAND ALUMNI joined current USF HOT members on the field at Raymond James Stadium to perform before the Homecoming XX kickoff Oct. 8. It’s an annual tradition that has grown exponentially since beginning eight years ago.

“We started with 19 people and just recently had 114 people,” says Tanya Bruce, ’96, co-chair of the Music Alumni Society, which coordinates the event. “With HOT band continually growing, our potential for expansion grows each year.”

Students and alumni played on the field for the pre-game show, then in the stands during the fourth quarter following an early-morning rehearsal the day of the game. The weekend also included HOT alumni performing with students in the Running with the Bulls Homecoming Parade the night before the big game and a dessert reception afterward.

The reunion has been so well received because HOT members form an especially strong bond during their time at USF, Bruce says.

“Practices consisted of 10 to 15 hours a week during the school year with a weeklong band camp before the semester starts,” Bruce explains. “It’s a lot of long and hot hours but it is well worth it when you see the outcome. Being able to come back and be a part of this organization and perform with them at the Homecoming game is a huge honor.”

Adds Music Society co-chair Arupa Gopal, ’07, also a HOT alum:

“I found a real family and sense of belonging that gave me many of my happiest and most cherished memories at USF. The Herd of Thunder will always be there to welcome back alumni and provide a connection through the years for all Bulls.”

Donations to HOT support travel, instrument purchases and other needs. Contact HOT director Matt McCutchen for information about how you can help.

PHOTO: Herd of Thunder alumnus Gaetano D’Anna, International Studies ’15, charges onto the football field before the Homecoming XX game, followed by Molly O’Meara, Education ’15, and Peter Belk, Master of Music ’11.
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As the nation’s population ages, USF researchers are pursuing multiple avenues of interdisciplinary research aimed at improving the health and quality of life of older citizens.

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IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES that come with the passage of time.


At the University of South Florida, the passage of time provides opportunities to push the boundaries of research and explore new solutions to the challenges we will all face as we age.

This is the tomorrow we create. You can read about the vital work being done by a diverse group of gerontologists, pharmacists, statisticians and biomedical engineers in this new issue of *USF*. Their efforts say so much about our university and our vision, underscoring the creative and complex thinking that fuels our desire to find answers and improve life – from here at home to across the nation and world.

Given that 10,000 people across the United States turn 65 each day – and that millions of people will live into their 90s – the projects unfolding at USF are both timely and ground-breaking. But this is only one facet of this issue of *USF*. Elsewhere in these pages, you will meet talented artists whose unique works in the *Extracted* exhibit reflect the current geological epoch – characterized by the human impact on Earth – and transform extracted natural resources into stunning visual pieces.

You will learn how USF is tackling the national issue of undergraduate retention in STEM subjects – science, technology, engineering and math – through a generous grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

And you will explore a spectrum of innovation through projects at USF Sarasota-Manatee and USF St. Petersburg. USFSM has become the state’s official resource for arts-integrated instruction through the Center for Partnerships for Arts-Integrated Teaching – known as PAInT. USFSP can proudly claim an alumnus named Reuben Pressman, whose brainstorm as an undergraduate has blossomed into the burgeoning online interface, Check I’m Here, which tracks student engagement.

These are a few examples of USF’s pursuit of excellence in all that we do.

This is how we envision the passing of time, and the future is certainly very bright.

JUDY GENSHAFT, PRESIDENT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SYSTEM
STEM Academy aims to support student retention

USF IS ADDRESSING THE NATIONAL issue of undergraduate retention in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines through a $1.2 million grant funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). “Across the USA, only about 40 to 45 percent of first-year students who begin in a STEM discipline earn a STEM degree,” says Professor Richard Pollenz, the principal investigator of the grant and director of the USF-HHMI STEM Academy program. “STEM attrition has many underlying factors, but persistence in STEM begins with engaging incoming students at the university from day one and creating a community of connected scholars.”

The STEM Academy concept is simple – bring students to campus a week before the start of the semester and let them get to know each other and demo various curricular exercises. Activities for the 222 scholars participating in the 2016 program included a quantitative hands-on laboratory exercise; tours of STEM research labs and discussions with researchers; development of a comprehensive action plan for engaging in undergraduate research; reflective writing and journaling; demo math exercises in the USF SMART lab; and a STEM career “speed dating” session that puts scholars face to face with 18 different professionals across numerous STEM fields. Most sessions were conducted in small groups and the scholars were mentored by STEM doctoral students who also gained key teaching credentials and professional development.

Thus far, the response from the scholars has been very positive. Chloe Jackson, a scholar from the 2015 cohort, sums up the impact: “This summer, I was involved in the CRISP program at the Mayo Clinic and I can honestly say none of what I did would have been possible without the STEM Academy. Sure, I might have gotten by in academics, but I wouldn’t have known how many opportunities there were at and around USF or how to look for them and how to connect and network. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity the STEM Academy gave to me during my freshman year at USF.”

Since the program is unique, it is essential to validate the community building outcomes and Danielle Findley Van Nostrand (a recent graduate of the USF Psychology PhD program) is working with Pollenz to measure cognitive factors that may underlie STEM retention. The results from the 2015 cohort are promising and indicate that scholars who participated in the STEM Academy significantly increased in sense of belonging to STEM and to the university, and also in science identity, both predictive of increased STEM retention. The actual retention numbers are even more striking: 98% of the 2015 cohort was retained at USF, earned an average GPA of 3.50 after their first year, and 93% were still enrolled in STEM majors. “This is an outstanding start” says Professor Pollenz. “It’s going to be amazing to see what these scholars accomplish down the road!” STEM students enrolling at USF in Summer/Fall semesters in 2017 will be invited to apply for the STEM Academy beginning in November 2016.
THE EXPERIENCE WAS UNLIKE ANY OTHER for Victoria Ramirez. Up at dawn to the sound of howler monkeys, their distinctive call ricocheting across the lowland forest. Then a short hike to the dining hall for a breakfast of rice, beans, fried eggs and papaya – hearty fare to keep up her strength for the hours she would spend roaming the undergrowth.

At the La Selva Biological Station in the Costa Rican rainforest, life howls, hums and crawls at a pace far removed from the mechanized, digitized world of Sarasota. Creatures seemingly inhabit every square inch, and aside from the occasional eco-tourist, the only humans to occupy this idyllic preserve at the northern base of Braulio Carrillo National Park are teams of researchers.

It’s here Ramirez and four other undergraduate biology students from USFSM found themselves for 15 days over the summer as part of a series of donor-supported study-abroad trips sponsored by USF World and the USFSM Global Engagement Office.

And while they might have been the only ones to scurry across a footbridge more than 100 feet above a gorge, they weren’t the only USFSM students to venture to exciting places. Eight other students also hit the road under the study-abroad banner, traveling to Merida, Mexico; Florence, Italy, and London.

But the Costa Rican trip tipped the scales for sheer uncommonness. As many other college students settled into internships, summer classes or poolside lounge chairs, Ramirez crisscrossed narrow footpaths under a thick green canopy in search of her target species, tiny terrestrial gastropods – thimble-sized snails.

The two-week excursion – with stops at another research station, a coffee plantation, a chocolate grower and an indigenous community – was intended to give the students a glimpse into the life of a field biologist.

Led by organic chemistry instructor Edie Banner, a frequent visitor to La Selva, the students were tasked with finding species to examine over the course of their stay. While observing their quarry, they would take
PAInT TO LEAD THE WAY ON ARTS-INTEGRATED INSTRUCTION

USF Sarasota-Manatee’s Center for Partnerships for Arts-Integrated Teaching (PAInT) has become Florida’s official resource for arts-integrated instruction.

The teaching method weaves the arts into academic lessons to help students better understand and retain the material. Students’ comprehension significantly improves when classroom lessons are combined with the arts, studies show.

“Our location in the arts-rich Sarasota-Manatee community makes USFSM the ideal place to share arts-integrated teaching methods with educators across the state,” Regional Chancellor Dr. Sandra Stone says.

Based at USFSM’s campus at 8350 N. Tamiami Trail, the center partners with several local cultural organizations, including the Sarasota Opera, Sarasota Ballet, Ringling College of Art & Design, the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, Venice Symphony, South Florida Museum and the Circus Arts Conservatory.

USFSM, a pioneer in arts-integrated instruction, launched PAInT in 2012 after Terry Osborn, then dean of the College of Education, advanced the instructional method in 2011.

In recent years, as the center’s partnerships grew and arts-integrated programs spread across USFSM’s service area, supporters suggested replicating the effort on a statewide level. Discussions with local legislators began, and earlier this year, language was added to the state budget to create the Florida Center for Partnerships for Arts-Integrated Teaching.

“Arts-integrated teaching is a successful model that helps our teachers to educate the next generation,” says Judy Genshaft, USF System president. “We are so fortunate that USF Sarasota-Manatee and the USF System have been chosen to lead this cause statewide.”

The center will continue offering instruction to teachers within its host communities of Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte counties while working to expand to public, private and charter schools across Florida and to partner with colleges and other institutions. It plans to launch an online instructional program for teachers this fall with support from the Circus Arts Conservatory.

“This new recognition is a huge step for this program and for USF Sarasota-Manatee,” says Osborn, now a regional vice chancellor at USFSM. “Five years ago, we became a separately accredited campus within the USF System and now we are launching a statewide center for this specialized form of instruction.”

– RICH SHOPES | USF SARASOTA-MANATEE

Ramirez settled on gastropods after spotting one crawling on a tree. She then set out to find others. “I was trying to identify them, their habitats and their diet,” she says.

The experience at the 3,900-acre preserve left the students in awe of the biodiversity on display. Sloths, toucans and motmots with long, wispy tails are among the species that populate the hilly lowland forest, which ranges from 115 to 492 feet in elevation.

Protected by the Organization for Tropical Studies, a consortium of universities and research institutions from the United States, Costa Rica and Puerto Rico, La Selva hosts about 300 scientists and 100 university courses yearly. It’s recognized internationally for rainforest research and peer-reviewed studies. Banner has visited more than a dozen times as part of her own studies of poison dart frogs.

– RICH SHOPES | USF SARASOTA-MANATEE
MEET MAX OWENS, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY. Ten years ago, Owens graduated from USF St. Petersburg. He went on to earn a master’s degree from Oxford University and a doctorate from the University of London. This fall, he returned to USFSP to share his expertise in clinical and cognitive research on the brain’s ability to filter information, and its potential impact on depression, concentration and moods.

Owens, 38, is a native of Chicago who was raised in St. Petersburg. During his time as an undergraduate student at USFSP, he was able to work on and publish his first professional academic publication.

“What I was able to build up here was general experimental design and analysis expertise. I wanted to pursue that academically and make sure I reached a point where I would be able to ask informed questions about psychology,” he says. “There are few of those types of programs in the U.S., so I started looking abroad.”

Owens enrolled in the Master of Research Psychology program at Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University, where he was able to expand upon his knowledge of methods, experimental design and research.

“When I was there, I developed an interest in depression research. My project was looking at brain signals associated with depression and the ability to focus attention.”

After completing his degree, Owens went on to receive his doctorate at the University of London, where he was able to incorporate his ability to use electroencephalogram (EEG), a measure of brain signals, in experimental research. Part of his research focused on the intergenerational transmission of depression from mothers to their children.

Owens says he is excited to be able to return to USF St. Petersburg as a faculty member and to give students the kind of positive learning experience he had a decade earlier.

“USFSP has a welcoming environment, and the professors are very approachable,” says Owens. “What you can do here as a student is almost limitless — and students gain a lot of personal control over their futures.”

– CASEY CRANE ’06 | USFSP
THE ETHICS OF WAR

Human rights and war through civilian eyes

AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF PREPARATION, Thomas Smith, associate professor of political science and director of the USFSP Honors Program, published his second single-authored, full-length research monograph in early November. *Human Rights and War Through Civilian Eyes* will focus on the impact of the Iraq and Gaza wars on noncombatants.

“Many scholars have examined the conduct of war from the perspective of the belligerents,” says Smith, whose first book was about international relations theory. “My book re-imagines the ethics of war from the standpoint of its collateral victims. I set out to capture the way that most people today experience war – not just in terms of the killed and wounded, but also shattered lives, rent social fabrics, and collapsed economies.”

Evidence for the book draws from a number of sources, including eyewitness accounts and soldier testimonies, non-governmental organizations (NGO) interviews and data, media sources, military grand jury proceedings, United Nations agency findings, household surveys, epidemiological studies, and interviews with military, human rights, and public health professionals.

Smith says that by invoking human rights, he hopes to raise expectations for civilian protections and to push back against the complacent view that civilians always die in war and there is not much that can be done about it.

“Despite the lip service given to their protection, civilians continue to bear the brunt of war,” says Smith. “Terrorists and insurgents routinely kill and maim innocent people. But state militaries that profess to follow the laws of war can also engage in appalling violence against civilians. The book could not be more timely.”

Frank Biafora, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, says the book helps to solidify Smith as one of the university’s most prolific scholars.

“Dr. Smith already is recognized as one of the university’s most engaging and thought-provoking faculty at USFSP,” says Biafora. “By looking at the effects of war through the lens of social justice, Dr. Smith provides his readers, and by extension his students, powerful insights that could one day help wake the masses to the unintended—and often intended—tragedies of war.”

“Despite the lip service given to their protection, civilians continue to bear the brunt of war.”

– Thomas Smith

Smith was featured as an author during the Tampa Bay Times Festival of Reading on Nov. 12. In February, he also will speak as part of a panel about humanitarian affairs at the fifth annual St. Petersburg Conference on World Affairs, for which he serves on the Board of Directors.

– CASEY CRANE ’06 | USFSP
AT MORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, not far from the USF Tampa campus, student test scores and distribution of resources are not the only big concerns.

The school is also focused on empowering the surrounding community.

In August, Mort became a Community School, which allows it to provide resources for services such as housing and food to students and their families. The USF College of Education has become a partner in the project.

The Community School Model uses what has been learned through research to provide all of the services and opportunities to help a child grow, says Rebecca Burns, PhD, a professor in the College of Education and Mort’s professor-in-residence.

“As teachers, they’re working with the children to try and raise reading scores — but the children are coming to school hungry,” says Burns, noting that 97 percent of Mort’s 800 students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. “Their parents are working two or three jobs, and some of them are homeless. It’s really hard to focus on reading when your stomach is growling all of the time.”

The college’s partnership with the school predates the newest initiative. In 2013 it created the Mort Teacher Leadership Academy, allowing Mort teachers to work toward a Teacher Leader Graduate Certificate on-site. Since the academy’s creation, Mort has moved up from a state-graded F school in 2014 to nearly a C in 2015.

The innovative practices in the program have resulted in a collaborative research group comprised of Burns; Francesca Perrone, ‘10 and MA ’12; Mort principal William Woodland Johnson III, ’91; and Mort educators Amanda Bellas and Kristen Hodges. The group has been recognized with the Claudia A. Balach Teacher Research Award, which will be presented in April.

The academy program aims to cultivate leaders within the school, says Perrone, a participant who is pursuing an educational specialist degree at USF. It’s exactly what she needed, she says, because it focuses on what teachers need in the classroom and provides the information to support that need.

“When teachers are learning new practices constantly, they’re going to want to implement them in the classroom” says Perrone. “It’s all a part of action research ... and it shows the students that teachers never stop learning, too.”

– ELIZABETH ENGASSER ’15 | USF

PHOTO: Mort Elementary School students will benefit from a partnership with USF’s College of Education.

GRANT TO PUT LIVING HISTORY IN CHILDREN’S HANDS

College of Education professors Michael and Ilene Berson received a Library of Congress grant to continue a project that explores using the library’s historical documents to teach young students in Puerto Rico and Florida. Student teachers at USF and the Universidad de Puerto Rico will learn how to identify developmentally appropriate materials for children, such as old photographs, and how to use them to enrich learning. The goal is to help students of Puerto Rican descent understand and appreciate the territory’s historical and cultural traditions and its relationship with the United States.

The grant from the library’s Teaching with Primary Sources Eastern Regional Program will fund the 18-month project, called Teaching with Culturally Specific Primary Sources in Puerto Rico and Florida to Build Social Capital among Preservice Teachers.

– ELIZABETH ENGASSER ’15 | USF
Money woes, gun sales among Floridians’ concerns, USF-Nielsen survey finds

NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF FLORIDIANS feel financial stress and nearly a fourth believe “economy/jobs” is the most important issue facing Florida. Almost half favor banning the sale of semi-automatic assault weapons and more than half – 55 percent – oppose granting more rights and aid to undocumented immigrants.

This annual glimpse into the hearts and minds of Florida residents comes from the 2016 USF-Nielsen Sunshine State Survey.

“Since 2006, this issues-based survey has covered critical matters facing Floridians,” says Susan MacManus, a USF distinguished professor and one of the nation’s leading political experts. “It is the most in-depth and longitudinal look at Floridians’ opinions on a wide range of pressing issues.”

It’s administered by the USF School of Public Affairs, part of the College of Arts and Sciences, in partnership with Nielsen, and results are analyzed under MacManus’ direction. The professor works with students in a senior-level media and politics class to refine questions, and students learn about the polling process while working directly with Nielsen.

The results provide government, business, not-for-profit leaders and citizens an in-depth analysis of current public opinion.

This year’s survey results are based on 1,248 phone interviews with a random sample of adults Sept. 1-19.

Among other findings:
- 81 percent favor requiring 20 minutes of recess in elementary schools
- 87 percent favor heavier fines for texting while driving
- 50 percent oppose creating more toll lanes on highways to reduce traffic congestion
- 40 percent say better synchronization of traffic lights should be the highest priority for improving traffic flow

“Reaching consensus on emerging public concerns has been easier on some issues than others,” MacManus says, citing the recess question and stiffer fines for texting as examples where Floridians agree. “But Floridians are more divided on other issues related to individual behavior, including gun use training, smoking, sports gambling and transportation issues such as road tolls and ways to improve traffic flows.”

With regard to Floridians’ concerns about jobs and finances, MacManus says that’s evidence the economy has still not fully recovered from the recession that began in 2008.

The economy has long been closely linked to Florida’s environmental assets, she says, noting that 34 percent of respondents cited water-related problems as the biggest environmental threat facing the state.

“Sinkholes are another problem that needs to be better addressed by state officials,” she says.

The survey also included questions about the election process and constitutional amendments on ballots, health and crime, among other topics. To read the full survey, visit sunshinestatesurvey.org/results.

— PENNY CARNATHAN ’82 | USFAA

7 percent of Floridians, mostly older adults, think a felon’s voting rights should never be restored; 37 percent support automatically restoring voting rights after felons serve their sentence.

67 percent of Floridians say voters registered as independents should be allowed to vote in primary elections.
Researchers find stressed birds more attractive to mosquitoes

STRESSED-OUT BIRDS ARE TWICE AS LIKELY to be bitten by mosquitoes that transmit the West Nile virus, a discovery that may have implications for the battle against other mosquito-borne diseases, including the Zika virus.

USF researchers investigating how the stress hormone corticosterone affects birds coping with West Nile virus found that birds with higher levels of the hormone were twice as likely to be bitten by mosquitoes carrying the virus. The same mosquitoes that transmit West Nile also carry Zika and Eastern equine encephalitis.

Corticosterone is nearly identical to the stress hormone cortisol produced by humans.

“Few studies have considered how stress hormone effects on individuals might influence population dynamics,” says study lead author Stephanie Gervasi, who conducted the studies while carrying out her postdoctoral work at USF and is now at the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia.

Mosquitoes use a variety of cues to locate a target, including carbon dioxide output, body size and temperature. The researchers hypothesized that these signals can also convey information about stress hormone levels.

“Mosquitoes seem to be able to ‘sniff out’ the stress hormone and key in on individual birds,” says the study’s principal investigator Lynn Martin, associate professor in the USF Department of Integrative Biology.

In several phases of the year-and-a-half-long study, zebra finches were treated with a low or high level of corticosterone. The lighting was muted to simulate dusk as the birds were made available to mosquitoes for measured periods of time. The birds and mosquitoes’ behavior were monitored via video and the mosquitoes were later examined to determine whether they’d fed on the birds.

“The birds injected with higher levels of the hormone were twice as likely to be bitten by mosquitoes,” Martin says. “Hormone-treated birds were much more defensive than untreated ones. Corticosterone treatment increased tail flicks and head shakes and other defensive behaviors, but the mosquitoes managed to breach those defenses and feed more on stress hormone-treated birds.”

The study’s broader ecological implications suggest that an elevated stress hormone concentration raises the level of host attractiveness, potentially affecting the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases in a number of ways.

For instance, mosquitoes that fed on the birds with high stress hormone levels also tended to lay different sized clutches of eggs at different rates than mosquitoes that fed on control birds. That suggests that mosquito-feeding choice might also affect disease cycles in nature by changing the number of newborn mosquitoes that could be infected later by stressed birds.

The research was published in August in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B.

– RANDOLPH FILLMORE  |  USF
The relationship between finance and baseball

AS A KID TRADING BASEBALL CARDS, Jared Williams spotted a few similarities between his hobby and his dad’s career as a stockbroker.

“In the stock market, you obviously want to buy stocks that are going to perform well and sell the ones that are going to perform poorly,” he says. “As a card collector, I tried to obtain cards that I thought would go up in value and trade away the ones I thought would go down in value.”

As an assistant professor at the USF Muma College of Business, Williams is still interested in the similarities between baseball card trading and the stock market – but now, he’s exploring it as a researcher trying to explain complicated patterns and theories in finance.

“There are some patterns in the way stock prices move that are difficult to reconcile with standard finance theory,” Williams said. “They’re puzzling. We don’t fully understand them.”

One of these unusual patterns – one that Williams’ recent study looks to understand using baseball card trading – is “momentum.” Momentum is the tendency for stocks that have done well in the past to continue outperforming those that have done poorly in the past, and it’s puzzling because the differences in returns are not obviously tied to risk. Risk, basic finance theory says, should be the only thing explaining why one stock can be expected to outperform another.

“You shouldn’t be able to predict future abnormal returns. That’s kind of Finance 101,” Williams says.

There are several theories that try to explain why momentum exists. One of these theories says momentum arises due to gradual information dispersion. The theory says that new information about stocks isn’t immediately available to everyone. It takes time to filter to traders, and thus to be reflected in the price. While this isn’t the only theory that could explain momentum, it is the only one applicable in a baseball card trading market.

Williams and his fellow researchers looked at 38,000 baseball cards from 1948 to 1996, scanning 72 issues of Beckett’s Monthly magazines to put together the most complete baseball card price data set on record. They compared retired players vs. active players to discover that gradual information diffusion could explain the momentum pattern: an active player’s on-field performance in a given season could be used to predict that player’s card price changes in the following year, which would not be possible if prices immediately incorporated the information. Retired players, with no new information available about their performance, exhibit much less momentum than the active players.

It’s the first time that the baseball card market has been linked to financial markets, Williams says.

While Williams clearly still finds baseball cards interesting, he says the mental energy he spent trading them growing up now goes toward his research.

“I still have the cards I had as a kid, but I don’t collect anymore,” he says.

– HILARY LEHRMAN MBA ’15 | USF MUMA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
USFSP professor dedicates life, research to understanding anthropology of aging

JAY SOKOLOVSKY, PROFESSOR OF ANTHROPOLOGY and chair of the Department of Society, Culture, and Language at USF St. Petersburg, specializes in urban anthropology, psychological/medical anthropology, the life course, and the anthropology of aging. The bulk of his career has been dedicated to demonstrating the importance of anthropology in social work, psychiatry and public health for understanding health and late life issues. Indeed, Sokolovsky’s research pioneered the subfield of anthropological study that focuses on aging.

“The United States is, by far, the youngest of all the post-industrial societies,” says Sokolovsky, adding that the U.S. has a little more than 13 percent of the population over age 65, whereas Japan has 25 percent in that age range, and most western European nations have significantly higher levels of aging populations. “By studying the anthropology of aging, we have a chance to understand how to organize families, workplace environments, work life and retirement. Almost everything about our social existence and our health is wrapped up in understanding the aging process.”

Sokolovsky has written dozens of scholarly articles and
five books, including primary works in the subfield of aging such as *The Cultural Context of Aging*, now going into its fourth edition. His most recent book, *Indigenous Mexico Engages the 21st Century*, is a multimedia publication set in the rural area of San Jerónimo Amanalco, Mexico. The award-winning book enables readers to explore the contemporary lives, activities and rituals of the people who reside there. It features a strong section on the life course of aging and also contains interactive maps, videos, audio files and links to people in the community.

“One of my goals as both a teacher and a researcher has been to show the importance of 21st century anthropology to many other professions,” says Sokolovsky, who has provided training to the New York City Police Department and students in public health schools. He served as part of an innovative program that trained doctors to use anthropological interview methods to get more in-depth information, in treating elderly patients, than what is typically gathered by a standard clinical interview.

He also makes it a point to involve his students in civic-minded projects, some of which involve work with local senior centers.

“Almost all of my upper-level classes involve civic engagement community projects,” says Sokolovsky. One of the most recent projects, which involved a student working with AARP, aimed to help establish St. Petersburg as one of the organization’s formally designated AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

“By studying the anthropology of aging, we have a chance to understand how to organize families, workplace environments, work life and retirement.”

— Jay Sokolovsky

After receiving his PhD from Penn State University in 1974, Sokolovsky got his start in anthropology while working with a team at Bellevue Hospital that studied former mental asylum patients living in residential motels in Manhattan. This research project was followed by work with a multidisciplinary team from the same institution that focused on discovering ways to improve health care delivery for elderly men and women who were living on the streets in New York City.

Sokolovsky came to Florida in the early 1990s, with a National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant, to conduct research on dementia with the Department of Aging and Mental Health at the Florida Mental Health Institute at USF. He joined USF St. Petersburg in 1996.

Sokolovsky earned a number of professional achievements. He co-founded the Association for Anthropology, Gerontology, as well as the Life Course, an international network of anthropologists, sociologists, and other scientists working on issues of aging, and served as its second president. He also founded the International Commission on Aging of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences. In 2013, Sokolovsky received the national Robert B. Textor and Family Prize for Excellence in Anticipatory Anthropology from the American Anthropological Association for his four decades of research, leadership and mentorship.
MOBILE HEALTH CARE

Byrd Alzheimer’s Institute takes clinical trials on the road

WITH AN AIM OF GETTING CRITICAL medications to patients sooner, the USF Health Byrd Alzheimer’s Institute has customized a mobile research unit that travels to communities across West Central Florida to screen patients and enroll them in clinical trials.

The 53-foot-long mobile Memory Research Suite takes clinical drug trials in Alzheimer’s disease – a memory-robbing illness that affects more than 5 million Americans – to senior communities where people may be unable or unwilling to drive to USF’s Tampa campus for an evaluation. Clinical experts trained in patient privacy and safety evaluate study participants and administer investigational medications at pre-selected sites in cities such as The Villages, St. Petersburg and New Port Richey, with plans to travel to Sun City Center, Bradenton, Clearwater, and Lakeland.

“By bringing a fully functioning mobile unit to patients, we hope to increase enrollment in trials, increase diversity in research, decrease the time it takes to complete the studies and, ultimately, shorten the time it takes to get new treatments to the market,” says Dr. Amanda Smith, medical director of the Byrd Alzheimer’s Institute.

USF Health is one of the first academic research facilities in the country to develop a mobile unit that takes an entire clinical trials team on the road, fully equipped to conduct all the measures involved in a drug study, Dr. Smith says.

The Memory Research Suite features a reception area, patient exam room, two testing rooms, an Americans with Disability Act compliant restroom, and a phlebotomy area for blood draws, as well as central air conditioning and wireless Internet access.

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony in June to launch the suite, Dr. Edmund Funai, chief operating officer for USF Health and vice president of strategic development for USF, thanked Byrd Institute faculty and staff for all they do to help position USF Health as a national leader in the fight against Alzheimer’s disease.

“We all know someone affected by this horrible disease,” Dr. Funai said. “Clinical trials are essential for developing more effective and efficient prevention, diagnoses and treatments for Alzheimer’s and memory-related disorders… What takes place inside our new Memory Research Suite will make life better for generations to come.”

For more information, call (813) 396-0611 or email memoryresearchsuite@health.usf.edu.

– SHANI FAILS, MA ’05 | USF Health
Young alumnae establish scholarship

IN 2012, FADWA HILILI, AN UNDERGRADUATE student at the USF Muma College of Business, had a serious problem: The next semester was rapidly approaching and she still owed a balance on her tuition. Although she usually took 15 to 18 credit hours a semester, an accelerated schedule that would enable her to graduate in less than three years, she was now considering dropping a class in order to afford her books and tuition.

“But then I got an email that changed everything,” says Hilili. “I had been selected as a Barron Collier first-generation scholarship recipient! It was a rush of relief knowing that I could pay for my classes and focus on my studies.”

It was also the inspiration that sparked her desire to return to USF after graduation and do the same for another student.

Later that year, while participating in the Corporate Mentor Program, Hilili became fast friends with three fellow accounting students as they bonded over their shared class assignments, interest in professional development and self-improvement, and strong desire to give back to USF.

“While students, we were each very fortunate to receive scholarship assistance from the university and the Muma College of Business in one way or another,” says Giselle Lara. “I remember attending a scholarship luncheon as a student and feeling so honored and privileged that, through the graces of a donor, I was able to pay for my books and take out one less student loan. That day I set a goal to return to USF one day as a donor and pass the gift on to the next generation of business women.”

Fast-forward to 2016, Hilili, ’13 and ’15, and Lara, ’11 and ’13, now two-time alumnae of the USF Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy, and their friends and former classmates Anna Morra, ’14, and Puja Patel, ’12 and ’14, are returning to the annual scholarship luncheon as donors! After Hilili graduated with a master’s degree in accounting, the group of friends decided to team up and establish their own scholarship at USF – the Forward Scholarship for Women of Excellence.

“Given the challenges women face entering the business world, we feel it is especially important for successful women to reach back and empower the next generation,” says Lara.

Accounting major Rebecca Hatz, who will graduate in 2017, is the inaugural recipient of the scholarship. The four donors met Hatz in August at the college’s annual scholarship luncheon. It reminded Hilili of the luncheon she attended as a student and the gratitude she felt when meeting her donor.

“Each woman personally pledged to contribute $1,250 to the scholarship and some were able to take advantage of their employers’ corporate matching programs, reducing their out-of-pocket donation to $625, and raising $5,000 for the scholarship overall.

“They are working together to reach back and give a gift to the next student in line,” says Limayem. “That is impactful giving. That is what makes USF Unstoppable!”

– MELISSA WOLFE ’13 | ADVANCEMENT
At 27, Entrepreneurship Program’s 1st grad scores big in business

AN ENTREPRENEUR SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL when he created personalized CD compilations for classmates, Reuben Pressman became the first graduate of the Entrepreneurship Program at USF St. Petersburg’s Kate Tiedemann College of Business in 2011. Five years later, at age 27, he’s planning how best to spend $1 million in angel investments in his business, Check I’m Here.

The company produces an online technology interface that allows colleges and universities to easily monitor which students are involved in what campus activities outside the classroom. The software provides detailed real-time analytics reporting, including data on student demographics. It also integrates with reservation services for booking.

“We offer a simple but powerful cloud-based solution for colleges and universities who need to manage organizations and events, track student involvement, assess engagement and reach more students,” Pressman says.

His clients include more than 80 colleges and universities in 30 states and 30 countries. And now his investors include Jeffrey Vinik, owner of the Tampa Bay Lightning; Ronald Schlosser, former executive chairman of McGraw-Hill Education; and 500 Mobile Collective, a global venture capital seed fund and startup accelerator.

“We’ve been growing very fast and this current round of funding will allow us to continue, as well as focus on some new, innovative features to stay on top of the industry,” says Pressman, founder and CEO of Check I’m Here. The company has 15 employees and recently moved into new offices in downtown St. Petersburg.

He realized the need for a simple, efficient way to track and increase student engagement in activities when he was student government vice president at USFSP.

Participation in extracurricular activities plays a big role in how invested students are in their college, which factors into retention and graduation rates, Pressman says.

“Students need to feel like they are part of something. If they don’t have that experience, they’re more likely to transfer to another school or drop out,” he says.

Taking part in university clubs and organizations also helps students develop skills such as leadership, collaboration and teamwork, which are vital for success in the workplace.

Check I’m Here’s analytics can also help schools determine how much money to allocate to various clubs and organizations.

“When I was in student government we had full authority to determine how best to allocate activity and service fees to the various organizations,” says Pressman. “We had well over a $15 million budget, which covered the fitness center, waterfront activities, health services, student life budget and a lot more.”

Measuring student engagement and gaining a better understanding of which clubs generate the most participation can help determine appropriate allocation of funds, he says.

Check I’m Here hasn’t been Pressman’s sole focus since graduation. Already regarded as a Tampa Bay area thought leader, he founded and served as Dean of Awesomeness for the St. Petersburg chapter of The Awesome Foundation, which provided $1,000 microgrants for ideas to improve St. Pete. (The chapter’s website lists it as currently inactive.)

He also founded Swings Tampa Bay, a community-building project that hung handmade swings in unexpected public spaces. It won Creative Tampa Bay and Creative Loafing newspaper’s 10/100/1000 award in 2011.

Excerpts used with permission from 83 Degrees Media. Read more at www.83degremedia.com, “Check I’m Here: St. Petersburg entrepreneur raises $1 M in angel funding.”
Global sustainability alumna puts degree to work in Africa

INSPIRED BY AN INTERNSHIP that took her to Africa, Aja Estro is not only providing clean drinking water to rural villages, but is also teaching their residents how to maintain the wells. The not-for-profit organization she co-founded in 2015, Just One Humanity, has facilitated drilling borehole wells and introduced animal welfare livestock programs among other projects designed to end extreme poverty through sustainable solutions.

“We’re all about the community empowerment and capacity building so what we do is ... we have the community involved,” says Estro, who earned a master’s in global sustainability at USF’s Patel College for Global Sustainability in 2014. “Everyone learns and trains with the expert on how to dig the borehole, how to maintain it, what it’s made with, how we do water quality checks, things to look for. That way, they’re all involved, and when something breaks, they’re all able to do it themselves.”

Just One Humanity is based in Malawi and Tanzania and has eight employees, including Estro and co-founder Nisha Mandani. In its first year, it raised $44,500 and worked with villages to create 10 borehole wells. This year, the organization aims to raise $97,500 to fund a number of projects, including digging 20 more borehole wells; distributing eco-stoves with minimal fuel needs; and building a community center in Salima, Malawi, with a clinic, orphanage, supply office and training center.

“All of the projects we had slated last year were completed and part of the funding was going toward the community center, which was pushed to this year” because we decided to triple the size, says Estro, who completed her internship in the village of Salima. “So that’s in the works for this year and that’ll be completed by November of 2016.

What’s particularly exciting to the longtime animal welfare activist is a new, sustainable livestock management program that emphasizes proper care of the farm animals.

“We started an animal welfare program this year, and we started it with egg-laying hens,” she says.

Families in need each receive 10 hens, but must first attend classes to learn how to care for them. Within a week, they must have coops constructed and approved by the Just One Humanity team, which makes weekly checkup visits. The villagers are not allowed to kill the hens for meat, instead relying on them to provide a steady supply of eggs.

Also new this year, a clothing line, Humane Apparel. It features a variety of shirts with eco-friendly messages, such as “We are not disposable.” It’s available on Etsy, the online arts marketplace, and Estro’s working to get it into boutiques. Fifteen percent of profits go to Just One Humanity.

“The clothing line focuses on all kinds of social issues that we have going on around the world,” Estro says. “We’re one community, and I really want people to be able to see that. No matter where it is in the world, everything is connected at some point.”

Learn more about Just One Humanity at justonehumanity.org.

— NICOLE CATE, Class of ’17
FOOTBALL

Taggart’s grand vision for USF Football

HEAD COACH WILLIE TAGGART’S GRAND VISION for USF Football is coming to fruition.

USF’s 20th season of football began with the Bulls winning seven of their first nine games in record-setting fashion. USF set the school’s new single-game mark with 412 rushing yards in a home win over No. 22 Navy on Oct. 28 and headed into the bye week with a program record of 32 rushing touchdowns.

As of Oct. 29, USF ranked seventh nationally with 272 rushing yards per game. The Bulls also ranked ninth in the FBS with 43.4 points per game.

“Guys really believe they can score on anybody,” Taggart says.

One of those believers is star back Marlon Mack, who has made some impressive program history of his own. The junior from Sarasota became USF’s career rushing leader in a 45-20 win at Cincinnati on Oct. 1, passing the Bulls’ previous top mark of 2,731 yards set by Andre Hall (2004-05).

“Since the first game he played here, we all saw signs then that he was going to be something special and help lead us to something special,” says Taggart of Mack.

USF hopes to continue putting up huge numbers in the process of obtaining the ultimate program first. Prior to the season, the Bulls were picked to win the East Division and compete for their first-ever conference football title. Through nine games, USF was tied for first in the East Division.

“Our guys from Day 1, they want to win a conference championship,” Taggart says. “That’s something that’s never been done at the University of South Florida and it’s something we all take pride in doing.”

USF also is motivated to give the home fans victories to cheer about. The Bulls have won 10 of their past 12 games at Raymond James Stadium.

“Fans want to see us winning games at home and that’s what we take pride in,” receiver Marquez Valdes-Scantling says. “We’ve got to protect our house and that’s our motto.”

Watch the Bulls continue their chase for a conference crown in the home finale against rival UCF on Nov. 26.

The American’s football championship game will take place on Dec. 3 at the home stadium of the division winner with the best conference record.

– Stories by TOM ZEBOLD | USF ATHLETICS
Former USFSP student-athlete fought to the finish in Rio

IT WAS A TALL ORDER FOR THE SAILOR but, displaying the valiant effort and determination that got her to the Olympic Games in Rio to begin with, she sailed into the medal race for the Laser Radial, a single-handed dinghy.

Though Paige Railey’s ultimate 10th-place finish meant she did not return home to the Sunshine State with a medal, her effort was no less noteworthy.

Just two years ago, the world champion sailor was seriously injured in a bicycle accident, suffering a fractured spine and concussion. She faced a difficult recovery – at least one physician predicted it would be six months before she’d return to the water.

But the 2010 USF St. Petersburg graduate and former USF sailing team member persevered. In six weeks, she had rudder in hand – and a protective helmet on her head. Eleven months after the accident she earned gold at the Pan Am Games in Toronto.

“After the accident I faced a lot of physical challenges, but it was really a mindset,” says the 29-year-old, who began sailing at age 8 in Clearwater, where she grew up. “I was going to push through it and get myself back to normal as quickly as I could. I think the biggest thing I learned is that inside my head and heart I just had to concentrate, focus and keep pushing through and not let any setbacks get me down.”

Being part of Team USA in Rio, she says, was wonderful.

“It is always amazing representing the country and everybody who has supported me over the years,” says Railey, whose brother, Zach Railey, is a 2008 Olympic silver-medal winner in sailing. “Making it to the finals and having the American flag in the finals really showed that our country is pretty good in this sport. It was a really nice feeling.”

With Rio in the rearview mirror, Railey is already thinking about her third Olympic Games. After all, she has unfinished business; she also competed in the 2012 Olympics in London and finished eighth.

“I am most likely going ... in 2020 because I was pretty disappointed that I did not get a medal this time,” she says.

Third time’s the charm!

– TOM LAYBERGER ’90 | USFAA

War on I-4 rivalry

THE RIVALRY BULLS FANS have grown accustomed to over the years now has a fun format.

USF and UCF announced the official recognition of the “War on I-4” rivalry series that’s underway this season. The Bulls and Knights will compete for yearlong bragging rights with head-to-head winners in each of 14 sports scoring toward a final tally for each program.

The winning university gets to hoist a large trophy shaped like the iconic I-4 road sign that will stay in the winners’ possession for the following year. The winner of the annual football clash on Thanksgiving weekend also will receive a similarly shaped “War on I-4” trophy.

Winning teams can earn up to six points toward the overall, yearlong total. The performances of both programs in the annual NCAA Graduation Success Rate will be used as a tiebreaker if necessary. Follow the rivalry’s progress throughout the year at War-On-I4.com.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

- Alumni can receive a 20 percent discount on season tickets for men’s and women’s basketball. Orlando Antigua’s men’s team opened the season with a home exhibition test against Nova Southeastern on Monday, Nov. 7. Jose Fernandez’s women’s program starts the regular season at home against North Florida on Tuesday, Nov. 15. Call 1-800-Go-Bulls and take advantage of the discount today.

- Join the Hispanic heritage celebration at the Sun Dome on Saturday, Dec. 17, when men’s basketball hosts South Carolina at 1 p.m. USF’s Uniendo Los Toros, “Uniting The Bulls,” game will feature Orlando Antigua and Frank Martin, two of three Hispanic head coaches in Division I men’s basketball.

- Get the latest and most popular Bulls gear at USF’s new team store online at sftampa.shoptrueSpirit.com. Also access the site by clicking on “shop” and “team store” at GoUSFBulls.com.
Kundlas clan makes mark at USF Honors College

Unstoppable

THEIR SPACIOUS, STATELY HOME IN WINTER Haven is filled with far more than ornately styled wooden furnishings and countless framed portraits. Inside this two-story house on a quiet, Central Florida street, a third story unfolds – of a modern family that honors tradition and, you might say, honors college.

These days, Dr. Kulmeet Kundlas and wife Manjit, natives of India who made a new life in America some 30 years ago, have grown accustomed to being empty-nesters. They return from work at night from their nearby internal medicine practice to a strangely quiet household. That’s because their two children – son Ajay, 21, and daughter Anmol, 19 – are busy thriving as pre-med students in the Honors College at the University of South Florida.

The good news is that Ajay and Anmol are less than an hour’s drive from campus to home, meaning that Anmol can easily continue performing with her mother in colorful, classical Indian dance recitals and competitions around the state when time permits, and Ajay, who towers over his family members at a strapping 6-foot-5, can get away for a home-cooked meal. Meanwhile, mom and dad don’t have to wait months at a time to see the kids they love so much.

But that’s hardly all there is to the tale of the tight-knit Kundlas clan. It’s also a narrative of gratitude, generosity and a growing family affair – with a USF twist.

Bear in mind that Ajay and Anmol — each of them boasting stellar academic and athletic accomplishments in high school – could have attended any of dozens of top schools around the country to pursue their ambitions. But they chose USF.

“We both wanted to go here because it has so much to offer us in the Honors program,” says Ajay, during a recent short visit home with his sister. “And obviously, that made our parents very happy, too, because they really hoped we would stay closer to home.”

Much to their parents’ delight, Ajay and Anmol opted for the seven-year pre-med track program in the Honors College. That gives them the flexibility to earn their bachelor’s degree a year early and, if they achieve the necessary grades and MCAT scores, to enter the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine ahead of schedule.

In addition, the promising path each has pursued at USF has now inspired their parents to author a new chapter – this one centered on a theme of philanthropy.

When Ajay and Anmol were growing up, Kulmeet and Manjit saved diligently to be able to send them to whatever college or university in the country would best meet their needs. But the parents increasingly heard rave reviews about nearby USF – courtesy of friends and fellow members of Winter Haven’s medical community, Drs. Caroline and Alan Honculada, who had been inspired to donate to the Honors College after seeing how it benefitted their son.

Soon enough, USF’s Honors College was on the family’s radar, and the kids were on their way to becoming Bulls. That meant Kulmeet and Manjit no longer needed the college funds they’d been accumulating, since their children’s costs would now be covered by Florida’s Bright Futures scholarships and other awards. Yet instead of putting the money back in the household budget, they had another thought.

“Essentially, Ajay and Anmol were going to college almost for free,” explains their father. “So my wife and I sat down one day and came up with an idea. We said, ‘Our children no longer need this money that God has provided, so let’s pass it on to those who do.’ ”

The gift came together gradually in 2013 and 2014 — forged from a process of getting to know then-Honors Dean Dr. Stuart Silverman and soon-to-be Dean Charles Adams, and meetings with the college’s Director of Development, Judy Kane. Finally, on Aug. 5, 2014, one day after Dean Adams’ first day on the job, Kulmeet and Manjit arrived on campus with the agreement in hand to establish a $100,000 scholarship endowment. With that, the K.M. Kundlas Scholarship for full-time Honors College students in need of financial aid was born, providing two deserving students each academic year with funds to defray expenses.

“We love when people get a college education they deserve,” says Manjit. “You can do so much with a foundation of knowledge. We have two wonderful children, and we just wanted to be able to make a difference in the lives of other children with the extra money. It’s our way of contributing to the community, and to the University of South Florida, because it has given us so much.”

Now, the university is getting even more from the Kundlas connection – two new members of the family. Understandably, Manjit couldn’t help but sing the praises
of the Honors College program to her sister in Southern California, Satvinder Gill. And that got the gears turning 3,000 miles away.

Mrs. Gill and her husband assumed that their two teenage children – top high school students planning to pursue pre-med tracks – would stay close to home and attend any of the prestigious institutions that had expressed interest, such as Berkeley and UCLA.

But the more the Gills heard about USF’s Honors College and its seven-year program, the more they were sold.

Fast forward to this fall: Sandeep Gill is starting his second year in the program, and sister Simran is in the midst of her first semester as a freshman Honors student. “It’s very exciting,” says Satvinder. “As parents we looked at all the pros and cons, and we concluded that this would be the best opportunity for them.”

Dean Adams is equally excited by the turn of events. “I’m just delighted that the Honors College is becoming a family tradition for the Kundlases,” he says. “And we’re so appreciative of their generosity – both in material terms with their scholarship, but also in how they’ve spread the word so enthusiastically about USF and the Honors College.”

The result: The Kundlases are on an Honors roll, with a script that’s all in the family.

– DAVE SCHEIBER  |  ADVANCEMENT

$946,682,661 REASONS TO SAY “THANK YOU!”

The USF: Unstoppable Campaign has raised more than $946 million from people like you. Together we are Unstoppable. Read more about the campaign at www.unstoppable.usf.edu.
Baby boomers, expected to live longer than any previous generation, want to age on their own terms. That means not just living longer, but living better – independently as possible for as long as possible, while remaining physically and mentally active and socially engaged.

The rap on aging research is that it has historically focused on declines of aging, losses that can’t be reversed and diseases like cancer, cardiovascular disease and Alzheimer’s that, frankly, increase with longevity. Healthy aging and prevention are part of the equation, but tend to get less emphasis.

On the flip side is the “anti-aging” movement, with claims that often race ahead of the science.

This year the oldest of the baby boomers celebrate their 70th birthday – heralded by some as the new 50. Meanwhile, with every passing day, 10,000 people across the United States turn 65. And, of everyone 65 and older, one in five is here in Florida.

No one is more aware of these developments than the gerontologists, neuroscientists, psychologists, pharmacologists, and biomedical engineers who make up the ranks of the aging research community at USF.

The focus on decline is understandable. As USF Health pharmacologist Paula Bickford says, we need to know “how things fall apart” to reduce or prevent diseases of aging. Research into extending life to 150 or 200 years is alluring, too. But as tens of millions of us reach our 70s, 80s and 90s, the main question is this: Will we be able to remain active and involved through these years or live them out in disability?

Among the many USF researchers who care about this question are several who stand out because of recent developments. We present their work here.
Paula Bickford was into blueberries before blueberries were cool. More than a decade ago, the pharmacologist was part of the research that revealed their antioxidant properties.

And she stayed with it, spending hour after hour in laboratories searching for ways to harness the protective powers of blueberries and other natural products.

When she arrived at USF in 2001, she began working with Paul Sanberg, who was researching stem cells. It was an “ideal combination,” says Bickford, professor in the Department of Neurosurgery and Brain Repair at USF Health Morsani College of Medicine and a senior research career scientist at the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital in Tampa.

Over the next 10 years, they studied dozens of potential ingredients to find those that combined most effectively to fight damaging inflammation and promote new cell growth. Their final product is the centerpiece of a spinoff company called Natura Therapeutics, founded by Bickford and Sanberg, now USF Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation and Economic Development.

Once known only as NT-020, the patented formula called Neutrastem mixes blueberry and green tea extracts, vitamin D3 and L-carnosine, an amino acid found in
meats and vegetables. It is available online at www.naturatherapeutics.com and at the Pharmacy Plus located in the Morsani Center for Advanced Healthcare.

In the lab, aging rats taking NT-020 learned more quickly and retained the information longer. In clinical trials with older adults, Bickford and colleagues, including Brent Small, professor in the School of Aging Studies, found modest but clear improvements in cognitive processing speed, specifically how fast participants performed on timed tasks.

Based on these results, Bickford believes they would see greater improvement in people with some cognitive impairment and is pursuing funding for additional studies.

In the meantime, however, in the less publicized realm of academic research, she, Small and other USF researchers are publishing work on how NT-020 preserves brain function.

One study in the peer-reviewed journal *AGE* examined the serum from blood of aged rats that had consumed NT-020 and those that had not. The serum of the untreated aged rats interfered with brain and bone stem-cell growth. By contrast, the serum of the aged rats that had consumed NT-020 was not different from the young rats’ serum.

Another study published in the peer-reviewed *Journal of Neuroinflammation* looked at how brain cells send messages to one another. The researchers found evidence that NT-020 influences this messaging process to reduce damaging inflammation.

From the start, when she was a child taking things apart and putting them back together in her basement, Bickford has moved steadily toward understanding the basic mechanisms of aging – how we break and how to slow the process. But she also emphasizes the basics of everyday living.

“Supplements can help, but we still need to eat well,” she says. “We need to stay active, to keep our brains active and to be physically active. We still need to get up out of our chairs.”

If we can prevent some of these diseases, or at least slow them down, then we’ll stay healthy longer. Healthy aging is the goal.”

– Paula Bickford
PHOTOS: Jerri Edwards shows the Double Decision exercise, part of the Posit Science BrainHQ cognitive training program. As the game speeds up, users have to distinguish between more distractors in the periphery and finding the Routh 66 sign becomes more challenging.

Training the Brain

Advertisements tout brain training games designed to pump up your mental fitness and prevent cognitive decline. They target anxious, aging baby boomers striving to maintain their mental edge.

Claims that brain training prevented dementia, however, were “devoid” of scientific evidence, according to a sharply worded letter that began at Stanford University and was signed by more than 70 academics in 2014.

Earlier this year the company behind the brain game program Lumosity agreed to pay $2 million to settle Federal Trade Commission deceptive advertising charges.

There was another side to this story, however. USF Associate Professor Jerri Edwards and others who had studied brain training for years, pushed back with a letter asserting that well-designed training does work.

“I knew it worked,” Edwards says. “I’d seen it work.”
And this summer, she presented the evidence. At the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference in July, Edwards presented the first proof that a specific kind of brain training may indeed lower the risk of functional decline and dementia. She works with the USF School of Aging Studies and USF Health Byrd Alzheimer’s Institute.

In addition, at the annual American Psychological Association meeting in August, Edwards reviewed 50 studies, including her own, showing that this training improves health-related quality of life and performance in driving and everyday tasks, like grocery shopping.

This is Edwards’ life work, beginning when she was a student at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. It centers on a multistate National Institutes of Health-funded study called Active Cognitive Training for Independent and Vital Elderly (ACTIVE).

The study tracked more than 2,800 healthy people age 65 or older for 10 years. Participants were randomly assigned to one of three types of training – memory, reasoning or speed of processing – and their performance was compared with a no-training control group. The researchers found that the speed training beat out the memory and reasoning training. The speed training uses computer exercises challenging participants to process visual information progressively faster while their attention is diverted.

Edwards’ recent study found that speed training cut long-term dementia risk by 33 percent among those completing 10 hours of training over five weeks. People who got booster sessions cut their 10-year dementia risk by 48 percent.

She ran some of the earliest speed of processing training sessions. “I would guide people through it. I’d observe and see what worked best,” she says. “I just knew it worked.” That’s why the Stanford-initiated letter was so disturbing.

The speed training technique, now called Double Decision, is commercially available online as part of the BrainHQ program. More study is needed to understand just how the training affects the brain. But it’s not harmful. And in the absence of effective dementia treatments, Edwards asks a simple question. Why not do everything to stay cognitively healthy for as long as possible?

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“...I knew it worked. I’d seen it work.”

– Jerri Edwards

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Hearing Health

After all the loud concerts or years spent near clattering machinery, those “B’s” start to sound like “P’s.” Some sounds are lost altogether.

It happens to about a third of everyone by the age 65 – and half by 75. And it’s not just a matter of having to ask, “What was that?” all the time. People who can’t hear the sounds around them – who can’t afford or find relief in hearing aids – are more likely to be isolated, suffer from depression, possibly experience early onset dementia.

But a group of USF researchers has been searching for answers for years, looking beyond the mechanics of the ear toward new treatments with hormones and brain training. This interdisciplinary team has received a five-year $9 million National Institutes of Health grant to continue work on two fronts.

Robert Frisina, Jr., and others are exploring the best way to replenish levels of the hormone aldosterone, which helps regulate systems involving sodium and potassium. “It’s very important in the inner ear,” says Frisina, a...
Most hormone levels decline with age, so it is likely that the right hormonal intervention could slow or prevent the progression of ARHL.”

– Robert Frisina Jr.

Photo: Robert Frisina, professor of chemical and biomedical engineering, and biomedical engineering PhD student Nicole Febles work on tissue engineering in the auditory system.
People talk about the age boom and what’s coming. It’s not just talk. It’s here.”

— Kathy Black

The Community

Connection

As a psychiatric nurse in training, Kathy Black spent time in nursing homes with older adults. The other trainees just endured the experience. “They wanted to be in pediatrics,” Black says. Not her. “I loved it.”

It was the beginning of her career in gerontology, helping older adults manage their declining health and resources. But decades after she began, her work has taken a subtle turn. The aging studies professor at USF Sarasota-Manatee is directing a project focused not on the losses of aging, but on enabling people “to live fully and thrive” she says.

Sarasota is the first county in Florida to officially become an “Age Friendly” community. It’s one of about 60 across the country to join the World Health Organization (WHO) campaign, which aims to create a network of communities to share ideas about how to adapt their environments to promote healthy aging.

Black was in Geneva earlier this year to talk about Sarasota’s progress. One of her goals is for Florida to become the first WHO Age Friendly state – reasonable for a place where one of every five people is 65 or older.

“People talk about the age boom and what’s coming. It’s not just talk. It’s here,” she says.

The Patterson Foundation is funding Sarasota’s effort. Help also comes from AARP Florida, the Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging at USF, USF Sarasota-Manatee, Sarasota County, and the Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

The work began last year with an assessment of the community’s assets and needs, which included a survey of residents age 50 and older. Nearly 1,200 people participated, about 60 percent of whom were younger than 70. Black also held nine focus groups.

Two issues emerged as top concerns for all participants – affordable home health care and transportation. Also high on the list were affordable housing and having clean, accessible public restrooms, an essential part of being able to go out in public for many people.

The next step is to find solutions – “with people at all levels recognizing their roles,” Black says. With transportation, for instance, county services play a role, as do neighbors driving neighbors, and services like Uber and Lyft.

Black points out that not all the concerns were about services. People also expressed a desire to feel like they have a voice and a place in society. “It’s a matter of keeping people engaged in all these ways,” she says. Without it people become stuck in their houses, perhaps they become depressed or they start falling.

“What we’re doing is prevention.”

Each of these researchers has opened up unique lines of research, but they’re all focused on solving the everyday problems of getting old. They’re linked in other ways. They all say that healthy aging won’t be accomplished through research unless people also try to eat well and stay active, mentally and physically. And there’s one final thing. Each of them has been immersed in their work for years, even decades.

Helping people live healthy lives into their 80s, 90s, even 100s is their life’s work.

— ANNE DELOTTO BAIER and RANDOLPH FILLMORE contributed to this story.
BY PENNY CARNATHAN ’82

SF’S 52-YEAR-OLD DELTA, ZETA AND ETA residence halls have gone the way of student curfews, pay phones and waiting in line to register for classes. Replacing them will be five Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver-certified buildings with room for 2,171 residents, a fitness center and swimming pool, dining facility, and three to four shops.

Demolition began after the last residents moved out in May. While several of those students say they enjoyed their year in the complex called Andros 1, no one was sorry to see the old buildings demolished.

“I like history but I like it somewhere where I’m not living,” says Lexie George, who spent her freshman year in Zeta.

“It was nice being the last ones,” adds Scott Tablin, who lived in Delta for his freshman year. “I had teachers who said they had lived in those dorms.”

Construction is underway on the $133 million student housing project, called The Village, that will replace Andros. The largest such project in the history of the state’s university system, it’s being financed through a public-private partnership with Capstone-Harrison Street LLC. USF will lease the land to the company, which will build and furnish the new complex, and will be responsible for maintenance and asset management for dining, housing and wellness. The company will recoup its investment through student rents. USF will provide all administrative and residential life education for the residential community.

The new residence halls will have traditional and semi-suite-style rooms and comfortable spaces for lounging, studying and playing. Phase 1 of construction is scheduled for completion in fall 2017. It includes two resident halls, Beacon and Summit; a dining facility, The Hub, and the wellness center, The Fit. The following April, the first supermarket on a Florida university campus is set to open. The Publix grocery store will be located just north of the new complex.

Demolition of the remaining Andros buildings – Epsilon, Iota, Kappa, Lambda, Mu and Theta – will continue as part of Phase 2 in the summers of 2017 and 2018.

The new complex will house nearly 1,000 more students than Andros, drawing USF closer to qualifying as a residential campus, where 25 percent of undergraduates live where they learn. Numerous studies show college students who live on campus perform better academically, graduate sooner and are happier than their counterparts.

Goodbye Andros, hello 21st century student Village
MORE THAN 50,000 BULLS made their USF memories in one of the Andros dorms, says Ana Hernandez, assistant vice president for housing and residential education at USF. Here’s a sampling.

■ In 1967-68, I lived in Delta 2 West. We had two phones on the floor, both in the hall. They rang constantly. Finally, someone would answer. If the call was not for the person who answered, the message usually read, “BCWCBL.” I finally asked what that meant – Boy Called. Will Call Back Later. That was early text messaging! - Kathy (McCartan) Spaulding, ’69

■ I moved into Iota in August 1991 and had no idea who my roommate would be. I’m from Pittsburgh; my roommate was from the Cayman Islands. I didn’t think we’d have much in common but turns out he was at least as big of a Pittsburgh Steelers fan as I was. We bonded quickly. I loaned him a blanket; he let me read his comics. He’s still one of my closest friends. - John Jack, ’97

■ Eta-Zeta-Epsilon E-Z-E Council put on a concert, dances and other events to benefit all USF residents. Zeta was noisy, but that was part of the energy of the place – that and wondering if your room’s loft would collapse. I met my wife, Miriam (Floyd) Skeim, ’82, in the Andros cafeteria. - Jeffrey Skeim, ’80

■ Turning the east side of the second floor of Mu into a haunted house for underprivileged kids was one of the many great memories! - Eric Vieira, ’05, ’07 & Life Member

■ I lived in Delta and met my husband, Michael, ’99, who lived in Iota. He passed away this past February. Here are our three sweet babies, Morgan, Trent and Reagan, outside his dorm room window (pictured). - Kendra Keller, ’99 & Life Member

■ My friends Dusty Dunn, John Stephens, Cindy McKinley and I would gather on the third-floor landing of Iota dorm. Some would play guitars and we would sing Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young songs. We sounded pretty good in the stairwell – like singing in the shower. - Ellen Shanks Rosenblum, ’72 & Life Member

■ I lived in Delta 1996-97 and Epsilon 1997-98. Those two made me fall in love with USF. - Heather Scott, ’00

■ I’ll never forget going off that 3-meter diving board into the Andros Pool while riding my bike. What a crazy bet! But I collected! - Kenneth Kralick, ’86 & Life Member

■ I lived in Delta Hall my first term as a Bull ... so did my dad back in the ’70s. - Jay Pridham, ’07

■ As a freshman in 1971, I lived on the second floor in Zeta. There were cinderblocks outside the street-side windows and they ran from the ground up to the roof. When we wanted girls to visit us after hours – no coed dorms and no 24-hour visitation – the cinderblocks made perfect steps. The girls would climb up and easily climb back down to leave. - Gene Estep, ’76

■ The last residents of Delta, Eta and Zeta halls commemorated the impending destruction of the buildings with “Leaving a Legacy”-themed events, including painting a ceiling tile for Beef ‘O’ Brady’s at the Marshall Student Center and a mural in Epsilon. Remaining Andros residents, above, are holding events around the theme “Leave Your Mark.” The puzzle artwork at right was created by the student staff of Andros as part of the commemorative activities.
Andros has been home to the best community-building on campus. I have witnessed students from all backgrounds come together for major events like Big Pink Volleyball, informal hangout sessions and study groups in the kitchens. The residents and resident assistants buy into the magic of the Andros community, which makes this the best place to live. The spirit of Andros will live on.”

– Ericka Roland
Residence Life Coordinator at Delta, Eta, Zeta and Epsilon since 2013
My Fellow Bulls,

Nothing fills me with greater pride than being surrounded by thousands of cheering, enthusiastic Bulls celebrating each other and the university they love. I got that in October – for six days straight – during one of USF’s best Homecoming Weeks ever. Even the impact of a major hurricane couldn’t dampen the tremendous spirit displayed by alumni, students, their families and the many friends of USF.

Throughout the USF System, employees and volunteers hosted more than 60 events. Bulls united at USF St. Petersburg’s always fun and unique Regatta and Cardboard Boat Race; at USF Sarasota-Manatee’s popular Bulls in Biz After Hours Networking event; and at the Welcome Home Party and the Running with the Bulls Parade at USF Tampa. More than half the events were designed specifically for alumni, offering myriad ways to stay connected.

A capacity crowd at the USF Alumni Awards Dinner recognized four very accomplished and exceptionally civic-minded alumni, and one non-alumnus who’s been a friend to USF throughout its entire history (pages 50-52). Thanks to the hard work of volunteers Tanya Bruce and Arupa Gopal, co-chairs of the Music Alumni Society, former Herd of Thunder marching band members performed together once again before the Bulls football faithful (pages 8-9). And at the 4th annual Working Bulls Luncheon, we celebrated the many alumni employees who’ve dedicated their education, skills and talents to USF’s success.

As the chair of the USF Homecoming Steering Committee, I was charged four years ago by President Genshaft and USF Foundation CEO Joel Momberg with reviving and evolving our annual celebration. Obviously, it’s not a one-person job. I want to thank all of the steering committee members, who embraced the president’s request and rose to her challenge. Our Homecoming Week grows bigger, better and more engaging every year.

I want to extend a special thank you to your Alumni Association staff who, through long days and longer nights during 10 months of planning and executing, displayed nothing but mettle and professionalism during Homecoming Week. I admire this great team and I’m honored and grateful to work with them every day.

Homecoming is over, but our efforts to keep you connected to one another and to your university will never end. Check the calendar on page 67 for upcoming events – you’ll find a lot of great activities for alumni at USF. And visit our website, www.usfalumni.org, for even more ways to get involved and support the success of USF and your fellow student and alumni Bulls.

Together, we’ll keep the excitement and spirit of Homecoming alive all year long.

Go Bulls!

Bill McCausland, MBA, ’96
Executive Director, USF Alumni Association
Life Member 2331
Meet Your 2016-17 USF Alumni Association Board of Directors

Front row, seated from left: Betty Otter-Nickerson, ’76, past chair; April Monteith, ’01 & MBA ’03, chair elect; Jim Harvey, ’88, chair; Brian Campbell, ’93, treasurer; Merritt Martin, ’04 & MPA ’06, secretary

Second row: Brian Goff, ’13; Jose Valiente, ’73; Angie Brewer, ’82 & MS ’84; Fadwa Hilili, ’13 & MAcc ’15; Beth Zentmeyer, ’05; Vicki Ahrens, ’73 & MA ’75; Philip Amuso, ’73, MA ’75 & PhD ’00; Zach Pietrzyk, ’11

Back row: Judelande Jeune, USF Ambassadors president; Braulio Colon, ’09 & MPA ’11; Eddie Litton, ’87; Katrina Anderson, ’09 & MA ’11; Monique Hayes, ’01; Justin Geisler, ’04 & MBA ’06; Alec Waid, Student Government vice president; Bill McCausland, MBA ’96, USF Alumni Association executive director

Not pictured: Judy Genshaft, USF System president; Glen Gilzean, ’05 & MS ’09; Ruben Matos, MPH ’92; Joel Momberg, USF Advancement and Alumni Affairs senior vice president; Michael Perry, ’81; Frederick Rich, ’02; Heather Tank, ’05

The USF Alumni Association’s board of directors includes alumni who’ve demonstrated a firm commitment to USF’s success, are Association Life Members and Circle of Excellence donors. It also includes two students: the student government vice president and the USF Ambassadors president. Non-voting, ex-officio directors are the USF System president; the senior vice president for USF Advancement and the Association executive director. The board sets policy and guides the direction of the Association as it builds mutually beneficial relationships between USF and its alumni.
AS A CHILD IN TAMPA, CARL LUM grew up visiting the city’s landmark theme park, Busch Gardens. Now, as the president of SeaWorld San Antonio in Texas, he walks the grounds of the world’s largest marine life adventure park every day.

“The park is like a city,” Lum says. “And it’s my job to empower the people within it, from the first-time guest to the person emptying the garbage can at the end of the day.”

The two-time USF grad and Life Member, who earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1985 and an MBA in 1989, most recently served as president of Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Virginia. In Texas, he’s eager to put the SeaWorld brand, as he says, “back on a growth track.”

Starting at SeaWorld San Antonio in February, Lum’s first weeks followed the death of a dolphin – the fourth animal to die in two years at the park. SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment has also been the subject of controversy after the 2013 release of Blackfish, a documentary focused on SeaWorld’s treatment of animals. The company recently announced the conclusion of its controversial orca breeding and theatrical killer whale shows, which have long been a main attraction for visitors.

These challenges have prompted the company to do a better job of sharing and talking about its wildlife conservation and rehabilitation programs, Lum says.

“We have always had programs and efforts toward saving animals in the wild, but we didn’t really talk about it in the past,” he says. “Now, that’s changing. We’re doing a better job of telling people about our commitment to research and conservation.”

Lum came to Texas ready to implement what he describes as “nature-based” park attractions that focus on educating guests about wildlife conservation. For example, at one of his initiatives, Discovery Point, guests learn about dolphin communication and behavior, and SeaWorld’s research and rescue efforts. Then guests get to swim with the popular sea mammals. The exhibit has sold out every day since it opened.

New messaging highlights SeaWorld’s efforts to save wild animals, and a new “sea-rescue” themed roller coaster is under construction.

Lum also plans to enhance SeaWorld’s special events by greatly expanding the park’s Christmas Celebration and surpassing the award-winning Christmas Town holiday light show he started at Busch Gardens Williamsburg. It’s all part of a strategy to create a park that’s not dependent on killer whale performances.

“We want to deliver a balanced product with shows, rides, and attractions that encourage saving animals and wildlife,” he says. “A little less ‘Hollywood,’ with more focus on nature.”

A typical day for Lum starts at 5 a.m. and is filled with leading team meetings, planning events, handling finances and walking through the park to talk to guests – his favorite activity.

“I spend as much time as I can out in the park,” he says. “I get input from guests and team members about what we are doing well and what we can do better. It’s the best way to do research.”
“Deciding what to do first,” he says. “There’s a million things to work on in a day. I could work for 24 hours straight and still have tons to do.”

However, a close second is making sure that the people he works with are empowered to make decisions to get things done. Lum manages more than 3,000 staff members, or “ambassadors,” as they’re called, and is determined to create a culture where they’re inspired to do the right thing.

“I tell all of our ambassadors, if you see a guest drop a soda in the park, offer them a new one and throw out the old one,” Lum says. “You don’t need to have a lot of rules to limit what people can do. Encourage them to do their job, and they’ll be motivated to do it.”

He initiated weekly brainstorming meetings, where he and other senior leaders discuss strategies and ideas for accomplishing park goals. These “think tanks” provide a productive space for his team to discuss problems and solutions, both short- and long-term.

Despite his growth within SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Lum credits his co-workers and team members for allowing him to serve in executive roles with the company.

“I’m only in this position because of the great things my colleagues have done,” Lum says. “It’s all a collective effort of passionate people. That’s why I’m here.”

Lum is nearing 20 years with SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, starting with the company in 1999 as Busch Gardens Tampa’s director of finance.

“Studying accounting allowed me to understand a part of the business that would be hard to pick up later in life,” he says. “It’s not uncommon for business leaders to struggle managing finances, but that part of the business comes easier to me.”

He worked with Johnson & Johnson while in graduate school, spending time in finance, manufacturing, and product management, which helped him move up the corporate ladder.

More than 25 years later, Lum says he still uses the knowledge gained from his MBA courses—the finance and marketing skills as well as “people skills.”

“You want to have a good influence on people and help them understand,” he says. “People skills are important in a successful financial leader.”

Lum credits the program’s marketing strategies course with helping him learn how to make strategic decisions.

“I’m constantly making decisions, even when I don’t have a lot of information about the issue,” he says. “Sometimes, you’re making so many decisions you can feel transactional. You have to slow down on the important ones and know when to get input from others.”

What’s the hardest part of Lum’s job?
BRAD KENDELL ’03

Communication alum sails away with Paralympics silver medal

BRAD KENDELL, Communication ’03 and Life Member, and teammates Rick Doerr and Hugh Freund won the silver medal for Team USA in sailing during September’s Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

Winning a medal in Rio “was a great accomplishment and being able to share the medal with my family, friends and teammates was an amazing experience,” says Kendell.

He and his teammates entered Rio as the reigning Para Sailing World Champions. They captured their silver in the Sonar class (23-foot keelboat), a career first Paralympic medal for all three sailors.

At an early age Kendell, who lives in Clearwater, inherited his love of sailing from his father, Bruce, a world-class sailor who hailed from New Zealand. A 2003 plane crash killed Bruce Kendell and a friend, and resulted in the amputation of Brad Kendell’s legs above the knee. The healing process was incredibly difficult, but as Kendell began to recover he found sailing both therapeutic and a way to honor his father.

Teammate and skipper Doerr is paralyzed from the chest down; Freund is a single-leg amputee.

Kendell says now that he’s back home he is enjoying taking a little time off and getting back to “normal life.”

– Lauren Hartmann, MS ’15
The recipients of USF’s highest alumni honors – including one non-alumnus – have excelled in their respective professions while giving back immeasurably to the world around them, including to USF and its students. Here’s a look at the honorees and a few of their own inspirations.

Gordon Gillette
Mechanical Engineering ’81,
MS Engineering Management ’85
– Distinguished Alumnus Award
Recognizing a USF alumnus who has reached the pinnacle of success in his career

Gordon Gillette joined Tampa Electric Company as an engineer in 1981, moved into management five years later, and soon assumed executive roles, including vice president of regulatory affairs and chief financial officer. In 2009, he became president of Tampa Electric and Peoples Gas System. A staunch advocate of education, Gillette is a longtime USF supporter. An Alumni Association Life Member, he has served on the Foundation Board of Directors since 2002 and as the Foundation’s chairman in 2011-13, and is currently chair of the Development Committee and co-chair of the Unstoppable Campaign. He’s also a past chairman and board member of the Hillsborough Education Foundation, Inc., one of many charitable and civic organizations to which he gives his time.

Best advice ever: My dad and USF’s Dr. Linus Scott both advised me to take all factors into consideration when making career decisions – short- and long-term career, family, friends, and work and play location.

Tip for aspiring engineers: Don’t stress too much about which discipline of engineering you pick – all disciplines of engineering teach problem-solving and that’s the most important skill for being a good engineer and business person.

Favorite part of the job: The people – the ability to come to work and interact with an amazing, highly competent, high-integrity, results-oriented team every day that is focused on the safety of all team members keeps me excited about work.

Joe Guidry
Mass Communications ’73, MA English ’80
– Distinguished Alumnus Award
Recognizing a USF alumnus who has reached the pinnacle of success in his career

As an editorial writer at The Tampa Tribune from 1984 until the newspaper ceased publication in May 2016, Joe Guidry championed environmental stewardship, wise growth management and his alma mater, USF, among other issues and entities vital to the quality of life in the region and state. Guidry got his start at The Oracle, USF’s student-run newspaper, and went on to work as a reporter and editor at the Tribune’s opinion page editor in 2008. His award-winning editorials influenced public opinion and decision-makers at every level, helping preserve natural resources, prompting reforms and promoting education. A former member of the Alumni Association communications committee, he supports numerous community non-profit organizations.

Favorite quote: My beloved grandmother, Velma Niblack, years ago sent me a birthday note on which she had written the Bible verse Philippians 4:8 and her summary: “There are so many trials, sorrow and ugly things happening it is a blessing to think of good and worthy things and give them praise and thanks.”

Secret for success: Trying to understand and respect the motivations of others, whether they be a political candidate, a boss or colleagues, helps make one realistic about expectations.

Valuable lesson learned at USF: I can still hear unforgettable writing instructor Kenneth Kay stressing, “Be concise; make every word tell.”
The Honorable Catherine Peek McEwen
Political Science ’79
– Distinguished Alumnus Award

Recognizing a USF alumnus who has reached the pinnacle of success in her career

In 2005, Judge Catherine Peek McEwen became the first woman appointed to the Tampa Division of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court’s Middle District of Florida. Throughout her career, she has worked to increase pro bono legal representation for the poor, participating in the Bay Area Volunteer Lawyers Program and serving on the 13th Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee. She received the Florida Supreme Court chief justice’s first Distinguished Federal Judicial Service Award for outstanding service to the public. She has also been recognized for promoting diversity in the profession, receiving the Delano S. Stewart Diversity Award for improving the administration of justice and the lives of African Americans. An Alumni Association Life Member and past board member, her philanthropical beneficiaries include legal aid organizations.

Best advice for aspiring lawyers: Take an advanced grammar or writing course.

One way USF helped shape her life: The urban campus allowed me to work while going to school and the job I had, working for a daily newspaper, was a launching pad for so many positive things, including having some involvement early on at USF.

Favorite TV courtroom show: I don’t like TV courtroom shows because I see so many unrealistic presentations of inadmissible hearsay without objection, and that drives me crazy. And don’t get me started on Judge Judy!
Remember what it was like to be a USF student who wanted to change the world? That passion still burns bright today, and our distinguished alumni are proof positive that all those dreams are possible.”

– Judy Genshaft, USF System President

The Honorable E.J. Salcines
– Class of ’56 Award

Recognizing a non-USF graduate who has provided outstanding service to USF and the Tampa Bay community

Through a long career as a federal and state prosecuting attorney and appellate court judge, Judge E.J. Salcines has been a revered Tampa Bay area cultural and civic leader and an active supporter of USF. He forged relationships with every USF president from the first, John Allen, to President Judy Genshaft, and worked to ensure the institution’s success. He was the first chairman of, and served many years on, the Latin Community Advisory Committee, served for many years as a Foundation director and was the longest serving Library Advancement board member among many other civic and educational contributions. His work in helping fill the USF Libraries’ archives with local historical documents and artifacts has created a rich trove of research materials.

Best advice from a teacher: Master more than the English language. For every other foreign language you become proficient in, you multiply the basic knowledge you have acquired in life – times two for a second language, times three for a third.

Favorite leisure activity: My lifelong hobby of learning and researching history, especially local Tampa and Florida history.

Proudest career moment: Receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association, a peer review from those inside the legal profession who know me best.

Jose Valiente
Accounting ’73
– Donald A. Gifford Service Award

Recognizing a USF graduate who has provided countless hours of service to USF

Throughout his career as a leading Florida accountant, Jose Valiente made giving back his priority. The man who’d immigrated to Tampa as a non-English-speaking child from Cuba helped create the USF Latino Scholarship program 25 years ago. It has awarded more than $2 million to over 500 students and includes an annual giving scholarship program established by Valiente and his wife, Lourdes. He also mentors scholarship recipients throughout their years at USF. An Alumni Association Life Member, he serves on its board of directors as well as the USF Foundation board and the Latin Community Advisory Committee. He is a past chair of the Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy Advisory Council, among other organizations. He gives of his time and money to a variety of USF, community and state entities.

Historical person he’d like to meet: Martin Luther King – it would be an honor to meet an individual who was willing to pay the ultimate price in order to make a difference in this world.

Favorite USF memory: My involvement with the USF Latin Community Advisory Committee’s Latino Scholarship program and watching our students maintain a 98 percent graduation rate.

Greatest pride: My daughter, Lauren.
I think of myself as youthful, but let’s face it, you don’t get to be the dean of a business school at a major research university without having done a few laps around the proverbial block. And as a seasoned business educator, I can’t resist sharing advice with alumni who are early in their careers. Here are tips to help you prepare for that first promotion.

Polish your people skills
If you feel intimidated when you interact with upper management, have difficulty interacting with clients, or can’t clearly communicate your ideas via email, you will struggle as you try to advance the career ladder. Start with self-evaluation. Figure out why you react poorly in certain situations or what causes you to become anxious or shy. Then determine how you might better react in the future.

Envision your career path and seek out mentors
Know where you want to go and discuss this with your supervisor. Be aware of the performance expectations for the next job to determine areas you need to strengthen. Occasionally check in with your manager for feedback on your performance. And find an informal mentor to go to for advice. It could be a colleague in another division, someone with the job you desire at another firm, or someone you don’t yet know. Networking is one of the most important career skills you’ll ever learn and social media has made it easier. But don’t be afraid to network the old-fashioned way. Go to chamber functions. Attend alumni events. Invite people for a cup of coffee in exchange for a brief “brain-picking” session where you learn about their career journey.

Learn how to sell your ideas
The ability to sell or influence others is on almost every Top 10 list of skills employers seek. I’m not talking about pushing products. Selling is something we all must do, whether it’s in a job interview or pitching an idea to a supervisor. It means communicating who you are and what you want to do (and why) in a captivating way. It also means listening to others in order to better understand their needs. There are many great TED Talks videos that can help; watch them — and put the tips into practice.

Never miss a chance to sharpen your analytical skills
This advice is not just for business grads! Every job today requires fact-based decision-making. Without data, you are just a person with an opinion. In every field, you must use data to determine strategy — and justify your decisions. Never miss an opportunity to sharpen your analytical skills. Attend workshops or participate in certificate programs if you don’t know where to start.

Through The Alumni Insurance Program®, Bulls can take advantage of insurance plans that stay with you when you need them most, unlike many employer plans.

Call 1-800-922-1245 today or visit www.TheAIP.com/USF for a full list of products including Life, Health, Dental, and Long-Term Care.
Where’s Rocky?

Thanks to his many globe-trotting friends, Rocky goes places where no bull has gone before. If he joins you on your next trip, send your photo and details to the USF Alumni Association.

a Rocky gets a great view of the Olympic Games in Rio with help from Anson Angail, ‘14, who was sent as an ambassador by global financial services giant Deloitte.

b Jade Primus, ‘12 & Life Member, and Rocky discover it’s a small world after all as they celebrate her 26th birthday at Tokyo Disneyland.

c The Chadonnet family, 100 percent Bull right down to adorabullmastiff Bruno, visits Van Riper State Park in Champion, Michigan, with Rocky. They are, from left: mom Loretta, former USF Equal Opportunity Affairs executive secretary; sisters Nicole, MS ’98, Jacqueline, ’01, and Danielle, ’01 & Life Member; and dad Craig, former senior groundskeeper.

d Don’t rocky the bridge! Manley Jaquiss, ’86, MA ’15 & Life Member, gives Rocky a hand crossing the Capilano Suspension Bridge 230 feet over the Capilano River in Vancouver, British Columbia. Behind him is daughter Megan.

e The Cliffside village of Positano, Italy, smiles down on Dick Puglisi, ’64 & MA ’69, his wife, Janet, ’81 & MBA ’84, and their favorite traveling companion. Dick is a longtime professor in the College of Education.

f Curious puffins check out their visitor at the Látrabjarg bird cliffs, Europe’s westernmost point, in the Westfjords region of Iceland. Rocky joined Amanda Kennedy-Ramos, ’02 & MA ’13, and her husband, Joel, ’16, on their summer vacation.

Email your high-resolution photo (300 ppi) and details to Penny Carnathan at PCarnathan@usf.edu or mail to her USF Alumni Association, 4202 E Fowler Ave., ALC 100, Tampa, FL 33620-5455.
Chapters & Societies

Bulls make an impact

Alumni groups directly contribute to the success of USF, its students, and communities across the country.

Geology students at King Mountain Ranch, Idaho, give a big shout-out to the Geology Alumni Society (GAS), which provides scholarships to offset the cost of their field camp experience, and to member Mike Wightman, MS ’90, for providing equipment.

Members of the Pinellas County Chapter spend an August day helping to build not one but two homes in St. Petersburg and Clearwater. Working with Habitat for Humanity has become a tradition for the chapter.

Miami Chapter alumni including, from right, Matthew Gates, ’12, Lauren Gates, ’12, and Carlos Rodriguez, ’82, pose with “baby Bulls” during a summer Round-Up. The get-togethers give freshmen-to-be a chance to meet future classmates from their community and ask questions of local alumni.

Each October, the Alumni Association recognizes groups and individuals for going above and beyond in keeping alumni connected in meaningful ways. This year’s award recipients include, from left: Engineering, represented by Life Member Bob Andrew, ’89 and ’92; Pinellas County, represented by Life Member Pam Haber, ’86 and MAcc ’97; Life Member Alan Steinberg, ’78, Broward County, Volunteer of the Year; Music, represented by Arupa Gopal, ’07; Tanya Bruce, ’96, and Life Member Kevin Lindow, ’12.
Bulls stay together

Alumni chapters and societies keep Bulls connected through events and communications, so old friends can stay in touch and new friendships and professional relationships can be created.

Pasco County Chapter members and guests throw a spirited tailgate party at the October Homecoming game. They include, from left, Khank Pham Whiteside, ’06, with Daniel and Evan; Dawson (in arms), Lee Roth, Ethan Kupczyk (white USF shirt), Tim Roth, ’15; Life Member Phil Kupczyk, ’97 and MEd ’02; Ben Smith; Bobby Smith, ’93 and MA ’94, and Doug Rhulig.
NO MATTER WHERE YOU LIVE, YOU’LL ALWAYS BE A BULL!

The USF Alumni Association has alumni chapters all over the country. We also have college and special-interest societies for like-minded alumni. It’s easy to get involved. Just email the contact person of the group you’d like to visit.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEREST-BASED GROUPS</th>
<th>E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology Alumni</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bmcewen@cachillsborough.com">bmcewen@cachillsborough.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Architecture Alumni</td>
<td>David Hunter</td>
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<td>Bulls Varsity Club</td>
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<td>Clinical Psychology Alumni</td>
<td>Demy Kamboukos</td>
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<td>Patti Shirley</td>
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<td>Public Administration Alumni</td>
<td>Kim Read</td>
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<td>Public Health Alumni</td>
<td>Natalie Preston-Washington</td>
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GEOGRAPHICAL GROUPS

Atlanta
Greenville, South Carolina
Hernando County
Indianapolis
Jacksonville
Los Angeles
Manatee-Sarasota
Miami-Dade County
Nashville, Tennessee
New Orleans
New York
Orlando
Palm Beach County
Pasco County
Philadelphia
Phoenix
Pinellas County
Raleigh, North Carolina
San Diego
Tallahassee
Washington, D.C.
West Palm Beach
New York
Arian Howard
Bob Cohn
Josh Vozay
Heather Weisbrod
www.USFalumni.org/directory

BE SURE YOUR INFORMATION IS UP TO DATE

Watch for postcards, emails and phone calls from the USF Alumni Association’s partner, Publishing Concepts (PCI), with instructions on how to update your OFFICIAL ALUMNI PROFILE.
Here is a checklist of some tax-wise year-end charitable gifts that can provide you with tax savings and possible income benefits:

- Make a gift of appreciated assets
- Fund a charitable gift annuity
- Establish a charitable reminder trust
- Make a gift of life insurance
- Create a charitable life estate
- Rollover your IRA at age 70½

To learn more about how you can benefit from these gifts, please call the Office of Gift Planning at (813) 974-8761 or visit our website at www.usfgiving.org. We are happy to help!

Sagicor Life Insurance Company is a proud sponsor of the USF Alumni Association.

Sagicor Life Insurance Company
4010 W. Boy Scout Blvd., Suite 800
Tampa, Florida
(813) 387-5590
SagicorLifeUSA.com

Sagicor Life Insurance Company is a proud sponsor of the USF Alumni Association.
Class Notes

70s

WILLIAM A. GOOCH, Engineering & MS '70, has retired from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland after 40 years as senior materials engineer. Gooch maintains an office as emeritus guest researcher in the Weapons and Materials Research Directorate. He established WA Gooch Consulting in Palm Harbor in 2011.

DENISE L. KURT, Political Science '78 & Life Member, received certification as a Master Advertising Specialist from Promotional Products Association International. Kurt is a regional services attorney with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

ANDREW MINTZER, Business '77, MAcc '78 & Life Member, is chair of the California Society of CPAs for 2016-17. Mintzer previously served as CalCPA’s first vice chair.

JOHN B. RAMIL, Engineering '78, MCE '00 & Life Member, has been appointed to the board of directors of Emera Inc., a $27.5 billion energy services company focused on transforming to low-carbon energy sources. Ramil was president and CEO of TECO Energy, recently purchased by Emera, until his retirement Aug. 31, 2016. Ramil serves on the USF Board of Trustees, is a 1999 USF Distinguished Alumnus and the 2016 recipient of the College of Engineering’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

80s

JAMES E. WEBER, Finance '77, MBA '82 & Life Member, has published a book, Fighting Alligators: Job Search Strategy For The New Normal, based on his career service blog. Weber is a former USF Alumni Association board member.

ED BAIRD, Business Administration '82 (USFSP), was one of nine 2016 inductees to the National Sailing Hall of Fame. He was the No. 1 sailor on the 1995 Omega World Match Race Ranking List; 1996 yachtsman of the year; and world sailor of the year in 2007 after helming the America’s Cup winner.

TODD A. CHAVEZ, Anthropology '84 & MA Library Science '98, has been appointed dean of the USF Libraries. Chavez was previously the interim dean.

FRANK CLARK, Sociology '84, has been appointed a Florida judge of compensation claims, handling Workers’ Compensation disputes. He’s been an associate with All Injuries Law Firm, P.A., in Port Charlotte since 2007.

RUSSELL DONNELLY, Chemistry ‘88, has been appointed principal of Ridge Community High School in Davenport, Florida. Donnelly was previously the school’s acting principal.

JULIE GILLESPIE, MPA ‘82 & Life Member, has been promoted to associate vice president for development at USF, where she will oversee development of several new Tampa campus initiatives. Gillespie was previously an assistant vice president of development.

ROBERT GREEN, MPA ‘88, recently celebrated his 25th year as the Auburndale, Florida, city manager and is now 2016-17 president of the Florida City & County Management Association. To recognize his work in helping prepare the next generation of local government leaders, the USF student chapter of the International City & County Management Association was renamed in his honor in 2013.

SAMUEL L. GREEN, Religious Studies ’82, is the new bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church’s seventh district, which spans South Carolina. Green previously served as bishop of the 12th district, which spans Arkansas and Oklahoma.

MICHAEL GREGO, Master of Education ’89 & EdD ’97, has received the Dean’s Lifetime Achievement Alumni Award from the USF College of Education in recognition of his 35 years of service to Central Florida school systems. He is the superintendent of Pinellas County Schools.

SCOTT HOLDEN, Finance ’84, has been appointed area president of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. in Tampa. He has more than 30 years of insurance industry experience, focusing on the technology, broadcasting, social service, and education industries, and has been with Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. for 17 years.

KAREN L. KERR, Nursing ’84, MPH ’00 & Life Member, will serve as president of the Tampa Bay Area Dental Association through May 2017. Dr. McDonald-Chang is celebrating 20 years as an associate at Tomlinson Dental in Tampa.
LORI E. MORGAN, Marketing ’83, joined the Master’s Club for the ninth time at the HelmsBriscoe annual business conference. The designation recognizes her as being in the top 2 percent of the company’s 1,200 associates. Morgan is a senior director of global accounts.

CARLA J. SAAVEDRA, English ’87 & Life Member, has been elected to the National Association of Senior Move Managers board of directors. Saavedra is the president of Clearly Organized.

GLENN W. SUTPHIN, Management ’80, has been appointed as the permanent head of the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs by Gov. Rick Scott. Sutphin was previously the assistant director for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection District. Armstrong was previously named executive director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

ROBERT J. BATZ, Accounting ’96, has been appointed co-attest practice leader for Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C.’s Tampa Bay office. Batz was previously a managing director for CBIZ MHM.

MICHELLE BAUER, English ’90 & MA ’93, is vice chair of marketing and communications on the 2016-17 Florida Economic Development Council board of directors. Bauer is also vice president of marketing and communications for the Tampa-Hillsborough Economic Development Council.

KEN BURKE, Accounting ’95, received the National Association of Counties’ 2016 Achievement Award for his “Same Day Juror Pay Mobile Workstations” initiative. Burke is the Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and comptroller.

Ji-Ann Alessandrini, MA Mass Communications ’98 & Life Member, is the new associate vice president for USF Health Development and Alumni Relations. She held development roles at USF from 1985 to 2008, when she left for Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts.

Brian J. Armstrong, Geology ’96 & MS ’04, has been named executive director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District. Armstrong was previously assistant director for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Southwest District.

Chris Caddell, Accounting ’96, has been promoted to properties director at Alexander & Baldwin, a diversified real estate company in Honolulu. Caddell was previously the A&B Properties controller.

Kimberly A. Constantine, Communication ’95, MS ’00 & Life Member, has joined the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Medical and Health Sciences Foundation leadership team as executive director of clinical development. Constantine was previously the associate vice president of USF Health Development and Alumni Relations.

Dale T. Denham, Business Administration ’92, has been selected as the chair-elect of the Promotional Products Association International 2017 board of directors. Denham is the CIO for Geiger advertising specialties company and has been recognized as one of the nation’s 100 premier IT leaders by Computerworld media.

Dr. Daniel Dent, MD ’90, was elected president of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery. He was also elected to the executive committee of the American College of Surgeons Board of Governors as the lead of the education pillar.

Maria B. Ehrlich, Wellness ’93, has been named the new marketing director at Focus Development. Ehrlich was previously the marketing manager at Reiss Engineering, Inc.

James C. Filson, Civil Engineering ’93, has been promoted to associate vice president of Dewberry professional services firm’s Fairfax, Virginia, office. Filson was previously a water resource manager.
WENDY RAMIREZ GATTIS, Finance ’94 & MBA ’99, has been promoted to chief operating officer at DITEK Corp., which specializes in the design and manufacturing of surge protection devices and systems.

ROXANNE GAUSE, Civil Engineering ’91, has joined TKW Consulting Engineers’ Fort Myers, Florida, office as a senior environmental engineer. Gause was previously an environmental engineer at GHD, a global professional services company.

TIM W. JACKSON, English ’96, has published his second novel, **Blacktip Island**, through Devonshire House Press. The novel is winning praise from numerous critics. Jackson’s debut novel, **Mangrove Underground**, was a USA Book News Book of the Year finalist for literary fiction. Jackson is a former journalist who works as a boat captain in the Cayman Islands.

DR. DANIEL LAMAR, MD ’98, has joined the Tennessee Titans in Nashville, Tennessee, as lead orthopedic consultant. Dr. Lamar is a sports medicine specialist and orthopedic surgeon with Coastal Orthopedics Sports Medicine & Pain Management and was an orthopedic surgeon for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers for 10 years.

BRIAN LAMB, Accounting ’98 & Life Member, was elected chair of USF’s Board of Trustees. Lamb is EVP, Chief Corporate Responsibility & Reputation Officer, Fifth Third Bancorp.

MICHAEL P. MCCOY, MBA ’93, has been named market president of Bank of America’s Sarasota-Manatee region. McCoy was previously market manager for the region.

JULIE L. REED, English ’98, has released *Serving the Nation: Cherokee Sovereignty and Social Welfare, 1800-1907* through University of Oklahoma Press. Reed is an assistant professor of history at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

MARK REED, Accounting ’93 & MAcc ’94, is celebrating the 20th anniversary of ReedTMS, a third-party logistics broker of which he is president and CFO. The Tampa company has grown to 225 employees, seven branch offices and a 34,000-plus square foot headquarters. Reed played on the Bulls baseball team and was named an Academic All-American all four years.

TZEPORAW SAHADEO, Biology ’99, MPH ’01 & ME ’05, has been appointed principal of Sandy Lane Elementary in Clearwater, Florida. Sahadeo was previously an educational consultant and staff developer for the Learning Sciences Marzano Center, provider of research-based educational tools and training in West Palm Beach, Florida.

ELENA A. TOMEO-CASSELLA, Elementary Education ’95, has joined the Foundation for Dreams, Inc. as executive director. The nonprofit in Bradenton provides therapeutic camping programs for children with special needs and chronic or terminal illnesses. Tomeo-Cassella previously served as the interim executive director.

BETTY VIAMONTES, Accounting ’95, MAcc ’97, MBA ’03 & Life Member, has been appointed to the Hillsborough Community College Board of Trustees and was named chair of the Florida Institute of CPAs Healthcare Conference. She recently published her second book, *Candela’s Secrets and Other Havana Stories*. Viamontes is the corporate controller at Tampa General Hospital.

DONALD BLAKE, Industrial Arts Education ’06, is the 2017 Pasco County Teacher of the Year, and one of five finalists for 2017 Florida Teacher of the Year. Blake teaches in Marchman Technical College’s electricity program, which has a 100 percent employment placement rate.

GENEVIEVE BORELLO, International Studies ’08, was awarded the Certified Association Executive credential, a designation...
obtained by less than 5 percent of nonprofit executives. Borello is a membership manager at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

NIKOLE COLLINS-PURI, Political Science ’01, Life Member & USF’s Outstanding Young Alumnus of 2012, has been named CEO and executive director of TechBridge, a nonprofit that provides IT consulting and services to thousands of other nonprofits. Collins-Puri was previously the chief strategist of the Women’s Foundation of California.

CHRISTINA DICKSON, Management ’03 & MBA ’06, USFSP, has been named vice president, market manager at NorthStar Bank at its Belleair Bluffs, Florida, office. Dickson was previously the retail market manager at USAmeriBank’s Belleair Bluffs office.

MARY LOU DOCKSEY, Interdisciplinary Social Sciences ’00 & MA Guidance ’02, has joined Envision Counseling Services in Lakewood Ranch, Florida, as an associate therapist. Docksey has expertise in mental health and family counseling.

ANGELA EWARD-MANGIONE, English ’03, MLA ’07 & PhD ’14, received the 2016 Aaron Swartz Best Webtext Award presented by the peer-reviewed Open Text Writing Commons. Eward-Mangione is a faculty member at Hillsborough Community College.

THOMAS J. HERNANDEZ, Marketing ’02 & MBA ’05, has earned the SIOR Designation, awarded to top-producing real estate professionals specializing in industrial and office markets by the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors. Hernandez is the associate director for Ciminelli Real Estate Services of Florida.

JENNA LAINE, Mass Communications ’07, has joined ESPN as an NFL Nation reporter covering the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Laine was previously a sideline reporter for USF Football Radio Broadcasts.
Class Notes

SNAPSHOTS

Wedding Bells

CARA ZEPH, Criminology ’14, and SERGIO ZAMUDIO, Public Health ’15, met as high school freshmen and the relationship continued to blossom when both chose to attend USF. They planned for months to take a photo at Alumni Drive once both graduated, and when they finally got the opportunity, Zamudio had a surprise for his sweetheart. She said yes. The wedding is Jan. 17.

RACHEL LIVINGSTON, Interdisciplinary Social Sciences ’09, is the new marketing manager for the Protect Our Reefs specialty license plate and grants program at Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium in Sarasota.

HEATHER MEGLINO, Marketing ’08, has founded and is managing partner of Meglino Morse Law in Orlando, Florida. The firm practices business, employment and family law.

CHRISTINE PURCHELL, Psychology ’07, has been named one of the Top 25 Emerging Training Leaders for 2016 by Training Magazine. Purchell is a senior learning consultant at Duke Clinical Research Institute in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina.

LIZ WOOTEN RESCHKE, English Education ’01, MPA ’06 & Life Member, has published her first book, Board Engagement and Empowerment in the Fundraising Process, a handbook for nonprofit board members and executives. Reschke teaches Fundraising Success through Udemy, an online education platform, and is president of Connectivity Community Consulting.

LINDSEY SHANK, Finance ’04, has been elected to the national board of directors of InVEST as an agent representative. Shank is currently the BB&T Insurance regional agency operations manager in St. Petersburg.

VICTOR J. TESCHEL, MEd ’09 & Life Member, has joined USF’s College of Engineering development team as associate director of development. Teschel was previously associate director of young alumni engagement and philanthropy at the USF Foundation.

MICHELLE McINTYRE WASIELEWSKI, Biology ’05, completed the Tampa Connection leadership program. Wasielewski is an attorney for ROIG Lawyers.

LATONYA WILLIAMS, Mass Communications ’01, MA Ed ’14 & Life Member, has been promoted to operations supervisor at Bay News 9, a 24-hour local news broadcast organization operated by Bright House Networks in the Tampa Bay area. Williams has been a director/technical director for 15 years with Bay News 9/Charter Communications.

JENNIFER R. WILSON, Political Science ’07, has joined Adam and Reese’s Tampa office as a government affairs advisor. Wilson was previously chief legislative aide for Florida Senator Tom Lee.

RICHARD BASKAS, MAT ’10, has finished his first year as an education specialist of General Educational Development (GED) and English as a Second Language programs at U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas. Baskas is the special housing units educational program developer and coordinator for inmates at the federal prison.

ISABELLA CHAN, MA ’13 & MPH ’13, is one of 16 recipients of the 2016-17 Inter-American Foundation Grassroots Development Fellowships. Chan is a doctoral student at the USF College of Public Health and is completing her dissertation research in Peru.

STEVE KNOBL, PhD Curriculum and Instruction ’10, has been named CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County, the agency responsible for early childhood care and education in the county. Knohl has worked as a middle and high school principal, college director and dean, among other positions in education.
STEPHANIE KUNKEL, MBA ’14, USFSP, has been appointed vice president of human resources at Memorial Hospital of Tampa, where she previously served on an interim basis. Kunkel also serves as vice president of human resources at Tampa Community Hospital.

KIMBERLY LACINA, Nursing ’96 & MSN ’10, is the new director of quality and clinical services for Paramedics Plus, the 911 service provider for Alameda County, California. Most recently, she was director of clinical services for Sunstar Paramedics operated by Paramedics Plus in Pinellas County.

HILARY LEHMAN, MBA ’15, has joined the Pinellas County Planning Council as communications outreach manager. She was previously a communications and marketing specialist for USF’s Muma College of Business.

MADISON MCGREW, Dance & Biomedical Sciences ’16, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study dance science in London. McGrew will study the physical and psychological aspects of dance at Trinity Laban Conservatoire.

JAMES M. NICHOLS, Biomedical Sciences ’10 & Biology ’11, has graduated from Mississippi State University with a doctorate in veterinary medicine.

DR. BENJAMIN OSTERRIEDER, MD ’12, joined Sacred Heart Medical Group and the practice of Dr. Shane Medlock, with offices in Pensacola and Pace, Florida. Dr. Osterrieder specializes in obstetrics and gynecology.

LUIS PIERETTI, PhD Public Health ’10, has been promoted to industrial hygienist manager at The MEMIC Group, a Maine-based workers’ compensation specialist. Pieretti joined the company in 2013 as a safety management consultant.

JOEL RANEY, Engineering ’11, president and CEO of Raney’s Inc., has joined the 2016 INC 5000 list – the 5,000 fastest-growing companies in the United States as identified by Inc Magazine. Raney’s, based in Ocala, Florida, specializes in truck parts and accessories. It was also recognized this year as a USF Fast 56 Award recipient.

In Memoriam

JUDGE CHARLOTTE W. ANDERSON, English ’64 & MA ’70, May 24, 2016
MARK AWIMILLER, Mechanical Engineering ’93 and Life Member, June 14, 2016
MICHAEL HAMILTON BEACH, Theatre ’66, Engineering ’80 & ME ’93, July 14, 2016
DOROTHY BRADLEY BIERKE, Special Education ’68, May 27, 2016
CAROL LYNN CAMERON, Business Administration ’64, Aug. 9, 2016
PATRICIA DELANEY CARTE, ME ’80, July 9, 2016
GARY CHAWK, Accounting ’77 and MBA ’94, May 31, 2016
CHARLES T. COKER, Elementary Education ’73 and MA Library Science ’76, Sept. 2, 2016
MICHAEL A. DEANGELIS, Special Education ’70, May 16, 2016
MANUEL DURAN JR., Elementary Education ’66, Sept. 19, 2016
WALTON D. DUTCHER, Management ’88, July 10, 2016
LARENCE “LARRY” ELLISTON, Communication ’72, Aug. 25, 2016
JOHNATHAN FERNANDEZ, Class of ’16, June 30, 2016
ANGELINA (LAZZARRA) GARCIA, MA Guidance and Counseling, ’71, Sept. 21, 2016
DEBRA E. GAUDET, Art ’78, July 28, 2016
DEBRA SPINELLA GIVENS, History ’77 & Accounting ’91, July 9, 2016
SCOTT D. HAMILTON, English ’96 USFSP, May 22, 2016
DONALD HAYNES, Physical Education ’70 & MA ’72, June 9, 2016
MATTHEW R. HESTER, Nursing ’13, July 25, 2016
DR. EDAHN JOSHUA ISAAK, MD ’91, Sept. 22, 2016
LAWRENCE F. “LARRY” JONES, Finance ’74 and Accounting ’78, June 25, 2016
THOMAS D. LIND, Special Education ’85, July 9, 2016
EMMA DIDIER MCNAIRY, MA French ’69, July 31, 2016
BARBARA A. (IACONETTI) MURPHY, Political Science ’74, Sept. 6, 2016
EVA MARIE (BENSON) NESBIT, MA Library Science ’68, Sept. 9, 2016
TERESA NESMAN, MA Biology ’80 and PhD Anthropology ’03, Aug. 6, 2016
CHRISTINE E. REYNOLDS, Business Administration ’82, May 20, 2016
NATHANIEL RIVERS, Accounting ’84, May 28, 2016
JULIE (HOWELL) ROBINSON, MA ’98, Aug. 1, 2016
DARRIN ROGERS, Accounting ’98, June 8, 2016
LOUIS ROWLAND, ME ’02, Aug. 19, 2016
PATRICIA COOK SCARFONE, English ’94, Sept. 18, 2016
CAROLINE SINE, Music Education ’98, Aug. 16, 2016
SANDRA SLOUHA, Political Science ’87, Aug. 24, 2016
ANDREA STORER, Nursing ’91 and MS ’95, May 19, 2016
HELEN F. VACHER, English ’65 and MA ’73, June 27, 2016
ALEXENDER B. WANG, Class of ’16, June 22, 2016
CHARLES E. WARD, MS Electrical Engineering ’96, Aug. 25, 2016
ALFRED W. WATTON, Special Education ’64, Aug. 31, 2016
DOLLY WILSON, Exceptional Child Education ’75, June 4, 2016

Send Class Notes submissions and high-resolution (at least 300 ppi) photos to pcarnathan@usf.edu or mail to Penny Carnathan, USF Alumni Association, Gibbons Alumni Center, 4202 E. Fowler Ave., ALC100, Tampa, FL 33620-5455
**Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation**

1. Publication Title: USF Alumni Association Members Magazine
2. Publication Number: USPS # 025-203
3. Filing Date: 9/26/2016
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7. Mailing address of Publisher’s Business Office: 4202 E. Fowler Ave., ALC100, Tampa, FL 33620-5455
8. Mailing address of Publisher’s Business Office: 4202 E. Fowler Ave., ALC100, Tampa, FL 33620-5455.
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10. Owner: University of South Florida Alumni Association, 4202 E. Fowler Ave., ALC100, Tampa, FL 33620-5455.
11. There are no known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders.
12. Tax status has not changed in the previous 12 months.
13. Publication Title: USF Alumni Association Members Magazine
14. Issue Date for Circulation Below: August 4, 2016 (Summer 2016 issue)

**15. Extent & Nature of Circulation**

| A) Total number of copies printed (Net Press Run): | 41,750 | 42,500 |
| B) Requested distribution: | 27,592 | 27,426 |
| (1) Outside County Requested Subscriptions, including written, internet, telemarketing requests, advertiser’s proof copies and exchange copies: | 0 | 0 |
| (2) In-County Requested Subscriptions, including written, internet, telemarketing requests, advertiser’s proof copies and exchange copies: | 0 | 0 |
| (3) Sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors and others paid or requested distribution outside USPS: | 0 | 0 |
| (4) Requested copies sent through other USPS mail classes: | 27,592 | 27,426 |
| C) Total requested circulation: | 3,598 | 4,689 |
| (1) Outside County Nonrequested Copies, including sample copies, requests over 3 years old, requests induced by a premium, bulk sales and names obtained from other sources: | 51 | 68 |
| (2) In-County Nonrequested Copies, including sample copies, requests over 3 years old, requests induced by a premium, bulk sales and names obtained from other sources: | 0 | 0 |
| (3) Non-requested copies sent through other USPS mail classes: | 10,497 | 10,297 |
| (4) Non-requested copies distributed outside of the Mail: | 14,146 | 15,654 |
| E) Total Non-requested distribution: | 41,378 | 42,480 |
| F) Total distribution: | 12,090 | 13,540 |
| G) Copies not distributed, including spoiled after printing: | 0 | 0 |
| H) Total: | 41,750 | 42,500 |
| I) Percent requested circulation: | 66% | 65% |
| J) Total: | 0 | 0 |
| K) Percent foreign distribution: | 0 | 0 |
| L) Distribution by Mail: | 41,750 | 42,500 |
| M) Distribution to non-mail subscribers: | 66% | 65% |
| N) Total: | 0 | 0 |
| O) Percentage of single issues published nearest to filing date: | 66% | 65% |

**16. Average No. Copies Each Issue During the Preceding 12 Months**

| A) Average No. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: | 41,750 | 42,500 |
| B) Average No. copies each issue during the current year: | 27,592 | 27,426 |
| C) Average No. copies each issue during the previous year: | 0 | 0 |

**17. The Statement of Ownership will be printed in the Fall (November) 2016 Issue.**

**18. Rita B. Kroeber, Managing Editor**

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**HIRAM J. RIOS**, International Studies & Economics ‘15, (pictured) spent the summer interning in Taipei, Taiwan, as a Pickering Fellow. Rios is a former USF Ambassador and was a 2015 USF Outstanding Graduate.

**SUSAN SCHERER**, Nursing ’13, participated in a Cancer Moonshot Initiative Task Force meeting at the White House with Vice President Joe Biden. Scherer is a certified oncology nurse and owner of RN Cancer Guides Solutions, a Tampa based health-care business.

**MICHAEL A. WATERHOUSE**, Accounting ’10, received the Mission Award presented by the Lehigh Valley (Pennsylvania) Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Waterhouse received the award for his efforts in raising $500,000 for the society.
Nov. 26
**UCF VS. USF football at Raymond James Stadium, Tampa.**

Nov. 28
**KENNESAW STATE VS. USF men's basketball at USF Sun Dome, Tampa, 7 p.m.; tickets at GoUSFBulls.com**

Nov. 29
**WITH LOVE FROM ENGLAND: USF Wind Ensemble and renowned English wind band scholar Timothy Reynish, guest conductor, perform; School of Music Concert Hall-Stage, USF Tampa; 7:30-9 p.m.**

Nov. 30
**FIU VS USF women's basketball at USF Sun Dome, Tampa, 7 p.m.; tickets at GoUSFBulls.com**

Dec. 9-11
**FALL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES; 6 p.m. Dec. 9, and 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Dec. 10 at USF Sun Dome; 6 p.m. Dec. 11 at Mahaffey Theater for USFSP; 2 p.m. Dec. 11 at Bradenton Area Convention Center for USFSM.**

Dec. 11
**USF DAY WITH THE BUCS at Raymond James Stadium, Tampa; watch the Bucs vs. the Saints with ticket discounts; a portion of proceeds goes to the USF Alumni Association, and funds USF scholarships; designated Bulls tailgate area; visit http://bit.ly/2e24A1Y for tickets by Dec. 5.**

Dec. 18
**FLORIDA WIND BAND: TIDINGS OF GOOD CHEER; music for December holidays; 7:30 p.m.; $14.02, available in advance through Ticketmaster**

Jan. 7
**TULSA VS. USF women’s basketball at USF Sun Dome, Tampa, 7 p.m.; tickets at GoUSFBulls.com**

Jan. 11
**TULANE VS. USF men’s basketball at USF Sun Dome, Tampa, 7 p.m.; tickets at GoUSFBulls.com**
USF Alumni Association
Gibbons Alumni Center
University of South Florida
4202 E. Fowler Ave., ALC100
Tampa, FL 33620-5455

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