USF RECEIVES AWARD FOR MCOM BUILDING

The USF Health Morsani College of Medicine + Heart Institute received two awards of excellence in the categories of “Mega Projects over $100 million” and “Fire Protection”.

Left to right: Michael Brown (Skanska), ABC Presenter, Carole Post (USF Health), ABC Presenter, Steve Lafferty (USF), Tracy Hunt (Skanska).

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) is a national association with 69 chapters. ABC's membership represents all specialties within the U.S. construction industry and is comprised primarily of firms that perform work in the industrial and commercial sectors. ABC's mission is the advancement of the merit shop construction philosophy, which encourages open competition and a free-enterprise approach that awards contracts based solely on merit, regardless of labor affiliation.

Member companies have the opportunity to compete for honors in the construction industry’s premier bi-annual awards program (the ABC Excellence in Construction Awards competition) that recognizes the outstanding merit shop project’s innovation, quality, and vision of the project team. Projects are judged on criteria such as safety, personnel management, quality control, and degree of difficulty.

The ABC Florida Gulf Coast chapter held their 2021 Excellence in Construction awards event on Friday, May 7th. This was the largest group of submissions ever received; over 124 projects were submitted and the total accumulated construction value of the projects submitted was $2.1-Billion. Two USF projects were presented awards. The USF ESPN Broadcast Studio and the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine + Heart Institute.

DANIEL GESSMAN
GEORAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Daniel Gessman has been with the Office of Administrative Services for almost three years, and his current title is Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Analyst.

As a GIS Analyst, most of his work is project-driven, so it varies each day. The project Daniel is currently most excited about is a new Interactive Campus Map. This map will provide detailed campus information and wayfinding throughout all USF campuses, to assist students, parents, visitors, faculty, and staff.

Daniel never saw himself working with and learning from so many departments and areas throughout USF. Thanks to Emergency Management, he also gets the opportunity to work on projects that reach outside the boundaries of campus, such as working with Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Manatee county agencies.

For new employees, Daniel recommends taking time to learn and understand the needs of your colleagues, as this allows you to truly understand the impact of the work that you will be doing.

Outside of work, Daniel spends a lot of time outdoors. Some of his favorite activities are taking his dog, Khali, to the park, being on or by the water, and going to theme parks. He also enjoys going to sporting events in Tampa. Some of Daniel’s favorite places to eat around Tampa are Armature Works, the Columbia Restaurant, and Tampa Bay Brewing Company.
“Inside USF: The Podcast”, launched on May 21, was created for USF faculty, staff, and alumni. The podcast gives you a way to learn about the important work taking place across the three campuses, on-the-go. Every other Friday, podcast host Tom Woof, a member of the University Communications and Marketing team and co-editor of USF Magazine, will speak with members of the faculty and staff about their expertise and their contributions. From ground-breaking research and inspiring community service efforts, to arts and athletics, these endeavors are pushing USF to be the fastest-rising public university.

Currently, there are two episodes. The first features an interview with USF College of Public Health Dean Donna Petersen, who’s also the head of the COVID-19 Task Force, and Angie Sklenka, vice president and chief human resources officer. They discussed the COVID-19 pandemic and how it will shape the future of work at USF. In the second episode, Kyaien Conner, associate professor in USF’s Department of Mental Health Law & Policy, speaks on the inaccessibility of healthcare among the Black community.

These, and future episodes, can be found on the “Inside USF” website, usf.edu/InsideUSF, and platforms such as iTunes, Spotify, Google Play, and Stitcher.