

USF CONSTRUCTION SITES INSPIRE INTERACTIVE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

By Sandra Roa from University Communications and Marketing

USF is taking advantage of some of its current construction projects to offer students who are interested in architecture and engineering a unique interdisciplinary learning opportunity. The Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) Experience, coordinated by USF Facilities Management, is leading site tours and interactive sessions for the future homes of the Judy Genshaft Honors College, the Athletics Indoor Performance Facility and the Student Wellness Center. Students are also learning about the Southeast Chiller Plant, which is being expanded to support the new buildings' infrastructure.

“What better classroom than the real world,” said Stephen Lafferty, USF Design and Construction director. “We have an unusual situation where we have four significant projects, all at the same time and within a block and a half of each other, so we decided to do some student tours and it snowballed from there.”

The AEC Experience is presenting the materials in four sessions each semester through December 2022, when the projects are expected to be completed. Students who complete the program requirements will receive a digital badge supported by Credly, a global credentialing program, which will enhance their professional profiles.

So far, nearly 100 students have toured the sites. During the first round of tours, students learned about different welding processes, support structures and footings. Aside from the tours and online sessions, students who sign up for the program have access to the project plans, where they can learn about the unique features of each site and meet project management and design teams who are in careers that students will potentially pursue.



EMPLOYEE PROFILE

EUSTACE JOSEPH SENIOR GROUNDSKEEPER FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Eustace Joseph, referred to as Joseph, has been with OAS for six years, and works as a Senior Groundskeeper with Facilities Management.

As Senior Groundskeeper, Joseph's duties encompass everything included in keeping campus looking its' best. Joseph oversees the landscaping and detailing activities of his team, along with performing landscaping duties, like mowing and trimming trees and shrubbery, himself.

Joseph takes pride in what he does, and Ray Miller, Assistant

Director of Campus Services, says that's what sets him apart from other employees, along with his reliability and his work ethic. Joseph contributes his success at work to the incredible team he works with. He says they know how to work together and how to communicate, and that makes a huge difference.

Joseph has lived in Tampa for six years. Outside of working at USF, he likes to stay busy with other side jobs, like carpentry and masonry. Prior to moving to Tampa, Joseph lived in the Caribbean, then Cleveland. When Joseph eats out, he enjoys going to restaurants with Caribbean cuisine that remind him of his roots.

Campus Safety Day at the University of South Florida

LEARN ABOUT:
Self Defense
Campus Services
Student and Mental Health and more!

All at MSC Crescent Hill on
Oct 19!

Find more info at usf.edu/safetyday

A SALUTE TO LOUISE WILGUS: THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS

WORK ANNIVERSARIES



Louise Wilgus, retiring after 36 years at USF.

After 36 years of working at USF, mostly as the Space Utilization & Analysis Coordinator for Campus Planning, OAS has said farewell to Louise Wilgus.

Louise's passion for data management has helped guide the university in making sound planning choices that have

benefited our entire campus population. Working at USF has led to personal growth for Louise as well. She says she has built perseverance and a more positive attitude.

"The rewards didn't always come immediately, and keeping positive was the best method for the long run" said Louise, "I feel fortunate to have worked with so many good people at the university throughout the years."

Before Louise started working at USF, she attended the university as a student. Prior to that, she lived in the Ft. Lauderdale area. Now that she is retired, Louise plans on relocating to the East coast to live a typical retirement lifestyle consisting of golf, the beach, fishing, and boating.

Congratulations, Louise, on this milestone, and thank you for your dedication to the university and for the positive impact you have made. We wish you health, happiness, and success in this new chapter of your life!

FACILITIES

David Whetsell	33
Derrick Coleman	29
Timothy Budzban	29
James Neighbours	28
Louis Frazier	26
Jean Antoine	13
Stephen Lafferty	10
Joseph Balloon	10
Elizabeth Clifford	10
Lonnie Austin	8
Robert Okros	7
Jennifer Fleischman	7
Ann-Marie Gorman-Vasquez	7
Frank Rome	7
Antoin Roberts	6
Derrell Drew	6
Marie Pierre	6
Monique Clark	6
Brian Laverty	5
William Martinez	5
Mark Fussell	5
Shuang Hao	5
Ronnie Hunter	5
Frank Bermudez	5
Antonio Morales	4
Jamey Yanarella	4

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

Alvinia Young	18
Yassen Abdel-Baki	8
Pamela McHayle	8
Lizette Rodriguez	3
Virginia Prather	3

RETIREMENTS

Louise Wilgus (36 years)
Space Utilization Planner
Facilities Management

Micheal Gaughan (20 years)
Maintenance & Repair Worker
Parking and Transportation Services

SEPTEMBER: SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

In the United States, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death. It takes more lives than homicide, war, and natural disasters combined. As we observe National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month this September in the midst of the pandemic, we realize that the additional financial pressure, social seclusion, loss of friends and family, and difficulties that accompany the pandemic put a greater strain on individuals. Suicide prevention is more vital now than ever.

USF Employees have access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), so you can find support on the journey to finding a good work-life balance. This program offers online resources, workshops, confidential telephonic consultations, referrals and more. These services are provided by Magellan Health Services, a national leader in behavioral health care. You can access this program and the services offered through Magellan's online portal at magellanascend.com.

You can make a difference by simply learning more about mental health issues and suicide. Discussing suicide may be uncomfortable or painful to some, but the truth is, we can all benefit from honest conversations about mental health conditions and suicide, because just one conversation can change a life.

For more facts and figures on suicide, globally and nationally, and for more information on how you can help spread awareness, learn to spot the signs, and destigmatize talking about suicide and mental health, visit [save.org/about-suicide/](https://www.save.org/about-suicide/).

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a 24-hour, toll-free, confidential suicide prevention hotline available to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. By dialing 1-800-273-8255, the call is routed to the nearest crisis center in their national network of over 140 crisis centers. The Lifeline's network of crisis centers provide crisis counseling and mental health referrals day and night.

How to Help Someone with Suicidal Thoughts

Approaching someone who is struggling can be difficult, but it's worth the discomfort to help save a life.

ASK
Ask the person if they think about dying or killing themselves. Don't hesitate to do this - asking will not put the idea in their head, nor will it make them more likely to attempt suicide.

LISTEN
Start a conversation with the person and listen without judging to show you care. Create a safe space for them to share their feelings and vent.

STAY
Don't leave the person alone. Stay with them or make sure they are in a private, secure place with another caring person until you can get further help.

SECURE
If you suspect the person could be a harm to themselves, take them seriously. Remove any objects that could be used in a suicide attempt.

CALL
Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at **1-800-273-8255** and follow their guidance. If danger for self-harm seems immediate, call 911.

 **NEW DIRECTIONS®**
ndbh.com/suicide
Sources: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services; Centers for Disease Control

WORK ANNIVERSARIES (CONTINUED)

BUSINESS CENTER

Harry Ward	8
Dorian Crews	4
Sarah Grecni	2

OFFICE OF THE VP

Gabriel Montalvo	5
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