



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA  

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COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES



## **College of Arts and Sciences**

Annual Report, AY 2017-18

April 16, 2018

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## Mission

The College of Arts and Sciences is the intellectual heart of the University of South Florida. We are a community of teachers and scholars united in the belief that broadly educated people are the basis of a just, free, and prosperous society. By focusing on the big questions facing all of humanity, we prepare students for successful personal and professional lives. By conducting innovative, interdisciplinary research and scholarship, we advance knowledge in ways that prepare us to address vexing social problems and enhance quality of life for people and communities.



## Vision

The College of Arts and Sciences aspires to be a national model for integrating the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences into a dynamic, trans-disciplinary entity focused on knowledge generation, global problem solving, skills development, and real-world applications. We will nurture academic success for a diverse population by creating engaged, inclusive learning environments that prepare students for productive personal and professional lives as global citizens. Through innovative, interdisciplinary research, creative activities, and mutually beneficial community partnerships, the college seeks to become a global leader in scholarship that addresses vexing social and environmental challenges and consequently enhances quality of life for all.



## Strategic Priorities for AY17-18

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### Undergraduate and Graduate Student Success

#### *Enrollment*

Enrollment in the college remains strong at all levels. The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) continues to lead university enrollments at the undergraduate levels with over 53% of the total student credit hour (SCH) production on the Tampa campus. Reflecting this trend, CAS continues to grow in number of undergraduate majors (48% of the undergraduate headcount) because departments have made ongoing efforts to connect with their students and to provide more detailed information on career opportunities and alumni success. Enrollment in the natural sciences and Health Sciences Programs has been especially robust.

Graduate enrollments have remained stable even while graduate enrollment nationally has declined. Overall, the college accounts for about 18% of the total graduate SCH at USF. Of note, our Masters level enrollment has shown modest increases led largely by increasing interest in Urban and Regional Planning, Cybersecurity, and Intelligence Analytics. Growth at the doctoral level is stable and has largely been limited by the availability of graduate stipends. Recent increases in graduate stipends and the availability of more graduate scholarships from the Office of Graduate Studies will make many of our programs even more attractive to top prospective students.

#### *Online Enrollment*

Online enrollments continue to increase at all levels (undergraduate lower and upper level as well as Masters). This is a direct result of the college's ongoing investment in the development of new online course offerings and our support for teaching assistants to expand the number of students served per course. CAS now contributes over one-third of the Tampa campus online enrollment and online courses now account for 26% of CAS undergraduate student credit hours.

#### *Retention*

Freshmen retention rates continue to be outstanding at over 90%, a direct reflection of the effort put forth by our advising team and faculty in our introductory courses. Four- and six-year graduation rates exceeded expectations at over 65% (four year) and 75% (six year)—both above the overall university rates for the second year in a row. Similarly, two- and four-year transfer student graduation

rates are over 30% and 70%, respectively. Over 77% of CAS students now graduate without state defined Excess Hours.

### ***Degrees Awarded***

Degrees awarded at all levels have increased concomitant with the enrollment and progression success described above. While final numbers for this year will not be available until after spring graduation, Bachelor degrees awarded are trending over 4,000, Masters degrees are projected to come close to last year's numbers (around 400), while Doctoral degrees awarded are on track to surpass last year's numbers of 119 Ph.D.s. Of note, nearly half of the undergraduate degrees and over 40% of the graduate degrees were awarded in the Board of Governors Areas of Strategic Excellence.

### ***Student Awards***

Student Awards are not yet finalized, but this year's numbers are on trend to slightly exceed last year's. Our students are some of the best and brightest at the University of South Florida including Gilman and Goldwater scholars and many others.

### ***Experiential Education and High-Impact Practices***

The college has continued its commitment to providing high-quality experiential education opportunities for our students (including Internships/Practica, Service Learning, Undergraduate Research, Course-based Research, and Study Abroad). Some highlights include:

- We currently have 13 Departments that offer coordinated, faculty led internship experiences and 984 students completed internship credits with CAS faculty this year.
- We doubled the number of course sections designated as Service Learning sections compared to last year, demonstrating our commitment to community engagement.
- CAS makes up 52.53% of the total number of students who earn undergraduate research credits and our faculty continue to plan innovative research experiences for students.
- We also exceeded our goal of enrolling 750 students in Study Abroad programs. Departments have been collaborating to provide discipline-specific, as well as interdisciplinary study abroad programs that are sustainable. This will enhance students' abilities to plan their Education Abroad experiences early in their college careers. Moreover, our faculty are committed to participating in the Global Citizenship Program.

### ***Textbook Affordability and Cost Containment***

The average price for all textbooks required per course section in CAS is approximately \$114. We are about average when we compare ourselves to other colleges (we are ranked fifth in terms of textbook affordability). The college continues to collaborate with the library and departments to bring down instructional materials costs.

### ***Undergraduate Curriculum Assessment and Revision***

While the College of Arts and Sciences faculty discuss curriculum regularly, those conversations are not obvious to students, parents, community partners or executive leadership. In an effort to capture those conversations, and to clarify the intent of the curriculum, the college conducted comprehensive curriculum reviews for each undergraduate program and developed curriculum matrices that reflect the courses, learning outcomes, and level of achievement expected of students upon degree completion. A representative from each department was also given access to Burning Glass Technologies' Program Insight platform to investigate labor market data relevant to our degree programs. The tool provided unbiased insight into skills and employer needs to inform curricular revision. Many departments made or plan to make curriculum changes as a result of the review.

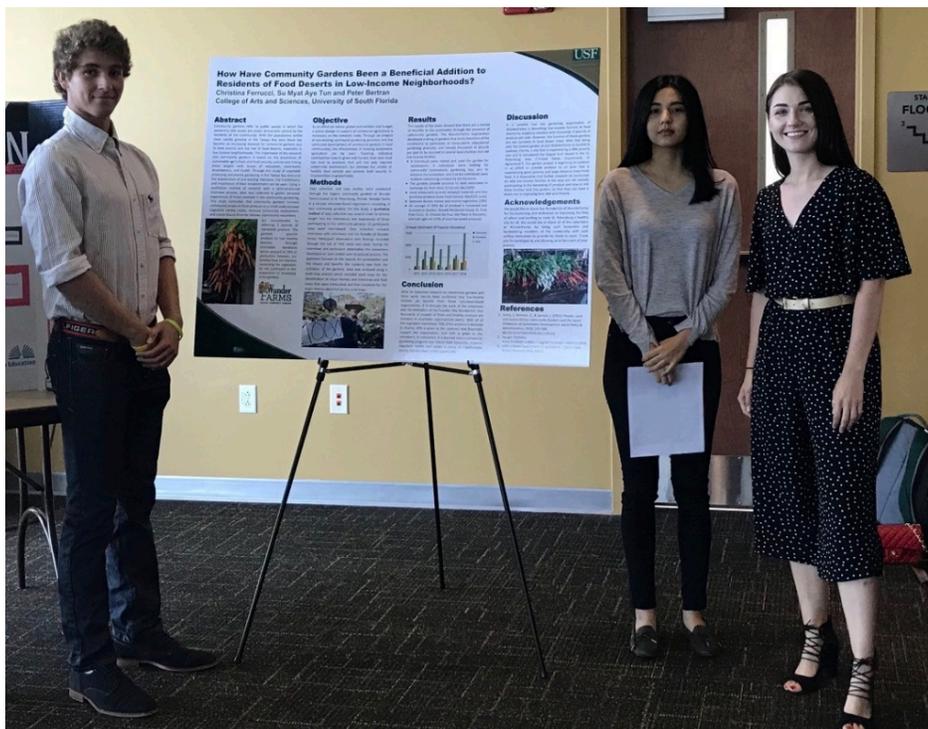


Photo: Undergraduate Research Open House, Department of Sociology, April 11, 2018.

## Faculty Success

### *Faculty Hiring, Tenure & Promotion*

In 2017, twenty-five new faculty were hired in the College of Arts & Sciences (for a current total of 595 faculty). These include:

- 9 Instructors
- 10 Assistant Professors
- 2 Associate Professors
- 4 Professors

Effective August 2017, twelve faculty were tenured and promoted from Assistant to Associate Professor, and thirteen faculty were promoted to Full professor. Information about tenure research records and gender/race/ethnicity tenure outcomes is updated each year and is available at the Faculty Affairs webpage: <http://www.usf.edu/arts-sciences/faculty-staff/faculty-affairs/tenure-promotion/tenure-research-records-and-outcomes.aspx>.

Effective August 2017, six Instructors were promoted to Instructor II; five instructors were promoted to Instructor III. The Instructor promotion ladder has been in effect since 2011.

Retiring faculty Dr. Graham Tobin, Dr. Mark Amen, and Dr. Darrell Slider were all granted Emeritus status.

### *Faculty Awards*

CAS Faculty earned a total of 30 external awards in 2017 (see Table 1). Internal to USF, 15 faculty received awards.

Table 1: External Faculty Awards

Faculty Award	Award Name
Arthur Bochner	The H.L. "Bud" Goodall, Jr. and Nick Trujillo "It'
Bradford Gemmell	Sloan Research Fellowship
Carolyn Ellis	The H.L. "Bud" Goodall, Jr. and Nick Trujillo "It'
Cassie Childs	Catherine Macaulay Prize
Darrell Slider	Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar
David Jacobson	Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar
Dennis Killinger	NAI Fellow
Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman	Charles Horton Cooley Book Award
Elizabeth Schotter	APA Div. 3 New Investigator Award
Fenda Akiwumi	The Higher Education Distinguished Teaching Award
George Nolas	Dresden Senior Fellow
Henry Mushinsky	Henry S. Fitch Award for Excellence in Herpetology
H.L. (Len) Vacher	Bernie Madison Outstanding National Numeracy Netwo
Hunt Hawkins	Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar
Jason Nethercut	Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship
Jason Rohr	AAAS Fellow
Jeffrey Ryan	GSA Fellow
Jennifer Cazenave	ACLS Fellowships
Jennifer Lewis	AAAS Fellow
Lilia Woods	American Physical Society Fellow
Lilia Woods	APS Woman Physicist of the Month
Lynn Martin	AAAS Fellow
Rita Ciresi	Jeanne Leiby Chapbook Contest
Roger Ariew	Distinguished University Professor
Ryan Carney	National Geographic Emerging Explorer
Sara Green	Distinguished Career in the Sociology of Disability
Shengqian Ma	Highly Cited Researchers
Wen-Xiu Ma	Highly Cited Researchers
Xiaodong Shi	CAPA Distinguished Faculty Award
Xiaopeng Li	CAPA Distinguished Junior Faculty Award

Source: ORI Research Reporting Database

**Internal Awards:**

Distinguished University Professor

Professor Roger Ariew, Department of Philosophy

Faculty Outstanding Research Achievement Award

Dr. David Arbesu, World Languages

Dr. Arthur Bochner, Communication

Dr. Manh-Huong Phan, Physics

Dr. Ghanim Ullah, Physics

Dr. Sameer Varma, Cell Biology, Microbiology, and Molecular Biology

Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award

Dr. Fenda Akiwumi, School of Geosciences

Dr. Nathan Johnson, English

Dr. Marleah Kruzel, Communication

Dr. Susan MacManus, School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies

Dr. Heather Sellers, English

Dr. Erica Toothman, Sociology

Outstanding Undergraduate Community-Engaged Teaching Award

Dr. Roberta Baer, Anthropology

Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor Honorable Mention

Dr. Jonathan Rottenberg, Psychology

Other

Dr. Ylce Irizarry, English, Jerome Krivanek *Distinguished Teaching Award*

***Recruiting World-Class Scholars***

The College of Arts and Sciences recruited Professor Charles Stanish from the University of California-Los Angeles as part of the University's World Class Scholars program. He was a Senior Fellow at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library, is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States. Professor Stanish's research focuses on the roles that trade, war, and labor organization play in the evolution of human cooperation and complex societies. Professor Stanish's appointment resides in the Department of Anthropology and he was the former director of UCLA's Cotsen Institute for Archaeology. He is currently developing a new Institute for the Advanced Study of Culture and the Environment (IASCE) at USF.

Professor Charles Chalfant also joined the CAS faculty as the Chair of the Department of Cell, Micro and Molecular Biology. Professor Chalfant joins us from Virginia Commonwealth University where he was the Paul M. Corman, M.D. Endowed Chair in Cancer Research, VCU Massey Cancer Center, Director of the VCU Lipidomics/Metabolomics Core facility, Vice Chair of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, School of Medicine Virginia Commonwealth University and Co-Director of the VCU Johnson Center for Critical Care and Pulmonary Research. Professor Chalfant's research is focused broadly on cell signaling and human pathophysiology.

### ***Faculty Development***

#### **Supporting Diversity**

In 2017, CAS provided \$20,000 for minority women faculty and graduate students' participation in the Sisters of the Academy Research Bootcamp. Two CAS faculty, Professor Jennifer Lewis, Chemistry, and Professor Elizabeth Aranda, Associate Dean for Global Engagement and Professor of Sociology, joined the Bootcamp in summer of 2017 as senior scholars, bringing CAS faculty participation as leaders in the Bootcamp to eight—more than any other college at USF.

#### **Travel Awards Program**

The CAS Travel Award Program supports foreign and domestic travel for faculty presenting a paper at a major conference. International travel funding requests are not to exceed \$1500, and domestic travel funding requests are limited to \$750. The CAS Faculty Development Committee is considering 50 travel applications in anticipation of funding 30-35 for the spring cycle. A second call for proposals will be made in July in anticipation of a fall 2018 funding cycle.

#### **CAS Equipment Acquisition and Improvement Request**

Based on need and funding availability, CAS provides support for small equipment acquisition, maintenance, repair, or enhancement. Requests are for one-time needs and are reviewed upon receipt of the request. The CAS Office of Research and Scholarship supported four equipment proposals to date and has provided matching funds for an additional six USF- ORI EAIG applications (Equipment Acquisition and Improvement Grant). Commitments year to date total ~\$160K with an additional \$70K in matching funds provided by individual faculty and departments.

## Research and Scholarship

### *Proposals and Awards*

The College of Arts and Sciences continues to rise in research profile particularly with regard to external funding (see Table 2). Faculty within the college have submitted 262 proposals (104 non-federal and 158 federal proposals). Year to period, faculty have requested over \$108 million—over \$97 million in federal support and over \$10 million in non-federal support. Faculty within CAS have secured 180 Awards Year to Period with 105 Non-Federal and 75 Federal. The corresponding awards dollars received is \$15,807,280, with \$4,256,879 non-Federal and \$11,550,401 federal. In addition, our active award count is 251 with \$60,761,437 in active award dollars. Active award dollars include the total amount of award dollars received thus far for a particular grant.

Table 2. Proposals and Awards\*

	<b>Non-Federal</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Proposals Submitted</b>	104	158	262
<b>Proposals Awarded</b>	105	75	180
<b>Dollars Requested</b>	10 million	97 million	108 million
<b>Dollars Awarded</b>	4.2 million	11.6 million	15.8 million

Source: ORI Reporting Database

\* The number of non-federal awards exceeds the number of non-federal proposals because the former may include subsequent yearly installments of grants from previous years.

### *Research Expenditures and F&A*

As of the March 2018 closeout, CAS research expenditures have exceeded \$11 million with federal comprising over \$10 million of these expenditures. The college has one of the largest distribution of federal expenditures in Academic Affairs. The College of Arts and Sciences effective F&A rate remains one of the highest at USF with an average F&A rate 27.6%.

### *Post-Doctoral Fellows*

The college of Arts and Sciences participates in postgraduate education by supporting 54 post-doctoral fellows.

## Innovations in the College of Arts and Sciences

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### New Budget Model for FY2019

For many years, USF experienced sustained enrollment growth that resulted in *incremental new resources each year that could be used to hire additional new faculty*. Now that undergraduate enrollment at the university is capped we find ourselves challenged to *do better without getting bigger*—to continue our journey toward excellence with the resources we currently have in hand.

The college has shifted away from holding annual budget meetings wherein chairs put forward requests for incremental new funding. In the new model we are working with chairs any time that they *project or experience turnover in the department*, which allows them to consult with their faculty and to make informed decisions about how to use the newly freed up resources.

### New Institutes

CAS inaugurated two new Institutes: The *Institute for the Advanced Study of Culture and the Environment*, (directed by Dr. Charles Stanish) and the *Institute on Russia* (directed by Dr. Golfo Alexopolous).

The mission of the Institute for the Advanced Study of Culture and the Environment is to support transdisciplinary research through the creation of research clusters, hosting thematic workshops, fellowships, and visiting scholars, and the promotion of innovative graduate and undergraduate education at USF.

The mission of the USF Institute on Russia is to advance knowledge and understanding of Russia in a global and historical context. The Institute's current focus is broad, and includes politics and history, business and trade, science and medicine, as well as culture, sports, and the arts. An improved understanding of Russia is critical for our democracy and for global security. The USF Institute on Russia seeks to educate students and the public not only about Russia, but about various points of US-Russian conflict and cooperation.

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## Community Engagement

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### Events and Conferences

Our events continue to support the operation and growth of the college showcasing our extraordinary depth of knowledge across many disciplines. This year alone we produced over 125 events that included lectures, workshops, academic conferences, receptions, scholarship banquets, and alumni events. Below are some of the highlights:

- The Frontier Forum series brought in Scott Friedman (Beatles expert); Wesley Lowery (Black Lives Matter expert and Journalist) and Ellen Prager (Marine Biologist & Author)
- The Trail Blazers lecture series (bringing distinguished CAS researchers into the community) celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year
- The R. Kent Nagle Lecture featured Colin Adams, Ph.D. and his work on topology – this year’s event was well attended with nearly 300 guests
- The School of Public Affairs held its first event to celebrate the Masters in Public Affairs students and alumni. Emilio Gonzalez, Class of 1977, received the Gladfelter Award
- The Botanical Gardens took their annual Taste of Honey event to a new level and incorporated a garden luncheon into the event
- The new Institute on Russia launched this year and hosted many events including Marvin Kalb (Journalist), Former U.S. Ambassador to Russia John Beyrle and David Filipov (Journalist)
- The Department of English was a major sponsor at the Association of Writers & Writing Programs at the Tampa Convention Center.



Photo: Keynote Speaker, Dr. Lilia Shevtsova, at Launch of Institute on Russia, October 9, 2017.

## Development

The College of Arts and Sciences Unstoppable Campaign goal was \$19,311,125. As of April 13, 2018, we have raised a total of \$26,335,430, which puts us at 136% of that goal. 14,029 donors contributed to the college to support student success and research.

Below are several examples of philanthropic support making a difference in this FY18:

- A \$250,000 grant from the William and Ella Owens Research Foundation supports the Breast Cancer Survival Project in the Pre-Clinical Cancer Biochemistry Program.
- A \$125,000 gift by Phillip and Paulette Furman established the Phillip and Paulette Scholarship in Biology.
- A \$75,000 gifted by Sylvia Carra-Hahn and William Hahn established an endowment to support the Trail Blazers Lecture Series in honor of the Series 40th Anniversary. The Hahn's also established the Sylvia Carra-Hahn Clinical Psychology Graduate Fellowship.
- A \$67,000 gift by Ron Ovarlet established the Ron Ovarlet Scholarship in Psychology and book award.
- A \$60,000 donation made by Compound Solutions/ Matthew Titlow supports Ketosis Research in the Psychology Department.
- A \$26,000 gift by Thai Hutchinson established the Greg Hutchinson Memorial Scholarship in Geology.
- A \$25,000 gift from Michelle Turman established a study abroad scholarship in Ancient Studies.
- A \$24,000 donation by Management Concepts funds enhanced outreach in the School of Public Affairs.

## Creation of Communication, Community, and Global Engagement Unit

This year we created a new unit in the College focused on Communication, Community, and Global Engagement. Its mission is to better integrate our communication/marketing, events, technology, and development areas and their staff. Under the leadership of Associate Dean Elizabeth Aranda, this new unit will collaborate to ensure that the College has an integrated branding strategy with a unified message across departments and institutes. This reorganization will continue into the summer and we will launch it in full next fall.

