William Brewer, Finance & Accounting

William Brewer is all business when it comes to academics. A senior, he has maintained a 4.0 GPA and is a student faculty and peers alike enjoy having in the classroom. As a scholar, he was invited to join Beta Gamma Sigma, an honors organization.

Faculty and peers enjoy being with him outside of the classroom because Brewer's service to others is also exemplary. He served as co-chair of the Scholarship Banquet Committee for Beta Alpha Psi, an international student organization. He has served as vice president of operations and professional pledge trainer of Alpha Kappa Psi, a co-ed business fraternity. These positions that gave him experience in recruitment, training, and leadership.

As a participant in the Corporate Mentor Program, Brewer has enjoyed numerous professional development programs. Brewer graduates from USF in May, 2010 and will continue at Wake Forest University to earn his Master of Accountancy degree.

Jennifer Brody, Management

A full-time student, a full-time professional, and a passionate community volunteer, Jennifer Brody is a quintessential student leader. Her professional development and community service has earned her this award, as well as the 2009 Up and Comers award with the Tampa Bay Business Journal, an award that recognizes emerging leaders under the age of 30.

Brody is a full-time recruiter at RC Associates in Tampa. Through this position, Brody has also participated in many leadership positions within the American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society of Highway Engineers, Tampa Bay Association of Environmental Professionals, and the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

When she is not working or studying, Brody gives back to the Tampa community through service projects in the MacDonald Training Center and Tampa Bay Watch.

Justin Fries, Finance & Entrepreneurship

The 25 Under 25 program recognizes outstanding undergraduate students from the University of South Florida’s College of Business. Students selected for this honor are individuals who are under 25 years of age and have demonstrated excellence in at least two of the following four areas: scholarship, professional development, leadership, and community/campus service.

The goal of this program is to highlight the positive impact students have on campus as well as in the regional community, and to recognize their leadership and academic achievements.

The tagline for USF’s College of Business is “Transforming Minds,” because here, students begin transforming into professionals from day one. For Justin Fries, that transformation is readily apparent.

He credits his active participation in the Bulls Business Community, noting that he took part in nearly every professional development program offered, from improv to etiquette dinners. Fries says the networking training was key because it took him “outside his comfort zone” and boosted his confidence. So much so, in fact, that he won the 2010 Elevator Competition. It helped him secure an internship with Northwestern Mutual, too.

Fries is a member of Alpha Kappa Psi, a co-ed business fraternity, as well as the International Business Board. He helped coordinate this group’s inaugural International Business Summit, bringing more than 250 students to USF to learn about global business.
James Hansen, Accounting

Before arriving at USF, James Hansen traveled the world and attended 11 different schools. Despite the frequent moves (his father was in the Air Force,) Hansen maintained a high GPA and remained active in extracurricular activities, two attributes that followed him to USF. As a freshman, Hansen was awarded the Balance Man Scholarship from Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, recognizing his ability to balance work, school, and student involvement. Now a senior, the Dean's List scholar remains actively involved in the community.

As a sophomore, Hansen spent two years as a missionary in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he served as zone leader, presiding over several missionary districts. He served as a bilingual secretary for six months, handling travel arrangements and managing budgets. His experiences in Argentina and at USF have led him to start a one-on-one Spanish tutoring business to help clients in the Tampa Bay learn a second language.

Joshua Horn, Accounting

Before he became a business student, Joshua Horn owned his own business. When he was just 18 years old, he launched Horn Media, a web development and consulting company producing clean, crisp, professional websites for small businesses at a reduced cost. Four years later, the company serves clients from a variety of industries nationwide. He continued to run the business while enrolled full-time in the School of Accountancy, earning a 4.0 in his business courses while doing so.

Juggling client needs, coursework, and family life is tough for anyone, but Horn added one more element to the mix as he participated in an internship with Northwestern Mutual the summer between his sophomore and junior year. He says he did so to hone his “soft skills,” negotiation skills, and ability to close a sale. That same summer, he decided to sit for the Florida Life, Health, and Variable Annuity exam. He passed, and is now licensed to sell insurance in Florida.

Horn participated in a highly-competitive internship at Goldman Sachs' New York City headquarters the following summer, tracking and managing the firm's capital flows and helping prepare financial statements and regulatory filings. He did very well in the program and the firm extended a full-time job offer at the conclusion of his internship.

Richard Grieder, Accounting

A full-time student who works 30 hours a week (and maintains a 3.67 GPA), Richard Grieder clearly balances a life of leadership, community service, scholarship, and professional development.

Grieder has gained leadership experience as a part of the executive board in Beta Theta Pi, served as an orientation team leader for incoming students, and was marketing director for the winning campaign for student body president. He is vice president of Beta Alpha Psi and earned second place at Beta Alpha Psi’s regional meeting for a speech on ethics and integrity in business. He took third place in the Grant Thornton Speech Contest.

His greatest achievements have been through Rotaract, a service organization he joined while he worked with Personal Energy Transportation. Rotaract led him to recruit students to build wheelchairs for landmine victims in other nations. He plans to continue his education at Notre Dame.

Brittany Grossfield, Marketing & Finance

Brittany Grossfield’s goal is to help others. During her four years in college, Grossfield has participated in service projects on and off campus while still maintaining a 3.76 GPA.

Grossfield’s service to the community includes raising more than $20,000 for Breast Cancer Awareness, serving as a lifeguard and aquatic camp director for hundreds of local children, and as a site leader for Stampede of Service, USF’s largest service project.

Grossfield recently served as treasurer for Zeta Tau Alpha and remains an active member of the sorority. She is now president of both Hillel and the Ice Skating Club at USF and serves as treasurer for the USF Table Tennis Club. She is also a member of Swim Club and Volunteer USF. Through these organizations, Grossfield has attended conferences worldwide, including the National Honors Council Southern Regional Conference, Association of Reform Zionists of America, and a Kesher Conference.
Matthew Kelsey, Finance & Biomedical Science

Nineteen-year-old Matthew Kelsey was recognized in 25 Under 25 for his excellence in scholarship, leadership, professional development, and community service. Majoring in finance and bio-medical sciences, Kelsey has excelled in the classroom as a member of the Honors College and Bulls Business Community. Admitted early into the College of Business due to his excellent high school GPA and test scores, Kelsey has maintained a 3.9 GPA during his two years at USF. For his achievements, he was awarded the Florida Academic Scholars award, a scholarship that pays 100% of his tuition, and the Vincent & Heidi Bekiempis Scholarship from the College of Business.

Kelsey’s leadership experience stems from many service projects he has led. For the past two years, he has been a team captain for Community Plunge, Relay for Life, and a volunteer for the Dr. A.N.V. Rao Gurukulam Program, a program that provides free tutoring to kids ranging from elementary to high school. He has served on the executive board for Stampede of Service, the largest service project at USF.

His professional development has largely taken place within the Bulls Business Community, a community of high-achieving business students. He served as a resident assistant during his sophomore year, participating in professional development programs such as the etiquette dinners, networking events, and company tours. Kelsey was selected to attend the Rising Leadership Summit and was recently named a USF Ambassador.

Torrell Jackson, Management & Finance

Double-majoring in management and finance with a GPA of 3.91, Torrell Jackson is an emerging leader on USF’s campus and the Tampa community. Since 2008, Jackson has been the recipient of two College of Business scholarships and one Corporate Mentor Scholarship.

While actively pursuing a Leadership and Organization Certification at USF, Jackson has been involved in many leadership and civic engagement opportunities. He serves as a mentor in the Adams Middle School SERVE Mentorship program to students every week, and is also involved in the Corporate Mentor Program. Dennis Zank, president of Raymond James Financial, has been Jackson’s mentor since he has been in this program.

Jackson also holds leadership positions in Delta Sigma Pi, a professional business fraternity, including service as senior vice president since April 2009. He is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, an international honor society.

Ryan Kania, Economics & Finance

During what he calls a “heated debate,” a friend challenged Ryan Kania to travel to Guatemala, saying Kania would learn a lot about himself as he saw how others live. Kania accepted the challenge and says that debate led to some life-changing moments. After the journey, he was inspired to launch Advocates for World Health, a non-profit devoted to help developing nations improve health care systems. He sought partnerships with providers locally and abroad and, 16 months later, sent more than $100,000 worth of materials and coordinated two small volunteer trips to Guatemala.

Back in Tampa, Kania noted that youngsters here lack sufficient financial education, so he began volunteering at an F-rated elementary school through Junior Achievement. Observing the younger students’ lack of financial knowledge and “adamant listlessness toward school,” Kania, a member of the Student Finance Association, recruited a number of fellow students to serve as JA volunteers.

Ryan Kearns, Management

Ryan Kearns began his college career at the University of Tampa before transferring to USF prior to his junior year. While there for just two years, an advisor from that university says Kearns “left a footprint that others do not leave after four (years).” UT’s loss was clearly USF’s gain.

He transferred to USF and immediately immersed himself in the campus community. He was hired as an assistant comptroller for Student Government. He became a member of USF’s Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter and within two semesters was elected president of the social fraternity. He was later accepted into the organization’s national Ruck Leadership Institute, a program he refers to as the “Top Gun” of fraternity conferences. He was also one of three men nationwide selected to represent the organization at events in Washington, DC.

Kearns recently opened his own business, Red Door Entertainment, which specializes in product marketing and special event planning.
Angela Martin, Management
Since her first steps onto USF’s campus, Angela Martin has sought out leadership and civic engagement opportunities. During her first year, Martin became involved in Delta Delta Delta, a social sorority. She has served as the sorority’s intramural chair, historian, and new member educator. These positions led her to become recruitment counselor and vice president of personnel for the Panhellenic Council. In fall of 2008, Martin was appointed Panhellenic president. Simultaneously, Martin’s academic success earned her the position of vice president of Rho Lambda Honor Society. Martin’s community involvement stems from her leadership experiences on-campus. Through Tri-Delta, she has helped raise more than $11,000 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, participated in Stampede of Service, and volunteered with America’s Second Harvest of Tampa.

Anthony Morrison, Management & Management Information Systems
Anthony Morrison’s time at USF has been focused on personal growth and professional development. His goal is to create “a lasting impact on the USF community, while at the same time building a lasting impression of USF within myself.”

Creating that impact, Morrison has recently initiated a faith-based monthly concert called “Crave” that promotes unity on campus, as well as finding a greater purpose. Recognized as a Student Government signature event, Morrison has worked to promote and raise funds for this effort, and has designed it to benefit others. Recently, the concert was augmented to be a Haiti Relief Benefit Concert and attracted more than 150 USF students.

Morrison has also served as the marketing chairperson for USF Relay for Life in the spring of 2009, a resident assistant for freshmen students, president of Campus Ministries, and a peer advisor leader for the Office of New Student Connections. He has been a member of Campus Activities Board, Student Government Street Team, Residence Hall Association, and International Business Board.

An avid photographer, Morrison has launched his own photography business while attending school and has been hired as a freelance photographer for theme parks and various other entertainment corporations.

Jamie Kenney, International Business
Jamie Kenney has a passion for international business and has led many events to help connect USF business students with the world.

Kenney has served as president of the International Business Board at USF since 2009. Over the past year, Kenney has recruited more members and enlisted a higher quality of speakers, resulting in better engagement within the university. His largest project has been the Florida Student Summit, a conference that attracted more than 25 global businesses in Florida as well as students from 14 Florida colleges and universities. Kenney committed more than 300 hours to plan and execute the summit, aiming to help students to network and discover the impact of global business. His work at USF has gained the attention of many business leaders, and allowed him to attend the Education without Borders conference in Dubai.

Michael Kotarinos, Economics
Michael Kotarinos has been involved in research queries and presentations with faculty; his first project focusing on econometrics. He soon began a project on time series analysis and later served as a research assistant.

After presenting his research in Houston at the Sigma Xi International Student Poster Research Conference, Kotarinos earned an associate membership into Sigma Xi, an invitation-only international honor society for scientific research.

While at USF, Kotarinos has earned the Dean’s List of Scholars every semester, was named a Phi Kappa Phi emerging scholar, and received the CEO Council of Tampa Bay Scholarship. His most notable leadership roles include efforts in the rechartering campaign for Phi Eta Sigma, an honor society for first-year students. He is currently the president of Phi Eta Sigma, treasurer of the Statistics Club, and a mentor in the Bulls Business Community.

Jamie Kenney, International Business

Michael Kotarinos, Economics

Angela Martin, Management
Carolina Romero, Finance & Economics

Recruited to USF on a full athletics scholarship, Carolina Romero has excelled in the classroom, achieving a perfect business GPA of 4.0 in her double major of finance and economics and a 3.98 overall GPA. A member of the USF women’s golf team (and four-year letter winner), she has landed what many business students might call a hole-in-one: a financial analyst position on Wall Street with one of the world’s most prestigious investment banking institutions awaiting her upon graduation.

A diligent student who carefully manages her time, Romero was awarded a coveted internship with Goldman Sachs’ worldwide headquarters the summer before her senior year. Romero seized the opportunity to participate in this highly-competitive program, despite the fact that it was in New York City, a city where she knew no one, a city thousands of miles from her home in Bogotá, Columbia. Her leap of faith paid off when that internship eventually led to a full-time job offer.

Carefully managing the time commitments of practice, competition and travel with the team, Romero often includes campus service in her schedule. Romero participates in USF’s Stampede of Service every year. She served as an Orientation Team Leader after her freshman year, helping incoming freshmen adjust to collegiate life. She currently serves as a tutor for other athletes and is a member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Ingrid Poole, Accounting & Finance

Ingrid Poole likely never wore a Cub Scout uniform as a youngster, but she calls the Boy Scouts program “one of the most instrumental programs” of her life. At 16, she began volunteering at Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation in her hometown of Lake Wales, Florida, where she learned how to lead others while developing her personal strengths. She served as an aquatics instructor and eventually held leadership positions in the organization’s regional council. She even met her fiancé through scouting!

A double-major who plans to become a CPA, the Beta Alpha Psi member (she serves as recording secretary) is an accounting intern at Masonite International Corporation. She says her multinational background and experiences gained through two study abroad programs (Sweden and Spain) helped her snag the position.

Poole is also a member of Chi Omega, a social sorority, and is part of USF’s Honors College.

Erin Potter, Accounting

It comes as no surprise that Erin Potter was invited to be a part of USF’s Honors College. She was valedictorian of her high school, was deemed “Most Likely to Succeed” by her peers, and received a “Scholar of Distinction” award from the superintendent. Her hometown newspaper even honored her with its “Medallion of Excellence” award, recognizing her scholastic effort and extracurricular activities. A recipient of the USF Presidential Scholarship, she continues to garner similar accolades at USF, making the Dean’s List every semester (she holds a 3.9 GPA).

Just 20 years old, she was recently elected president of Delta Delta Delta and is actively involved in USF’s Greek System. She recently was honored with an invitation to the Order of Omega, a national honor society recognizing the top 3% of Greek students. She is also a member of the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute, a leadership development program for fraternity and sorority members from across North America.

Luke Richardson, Accounting

An Honors College professor calls Luke Richardson a role model, saying the 21 year old “stands head and shoulders above his peers in firmness of resolve, solidity of character, commitment to purpose, and, quite simply, class.” A glance at his transcripts and a review of his campus and community service activities makes it easy to see why Richardson is deserving of such an endorsement.

Bright and motivated, Richardson has earned a 4.0 in USF’s rigorous accounting program, doing so while participating in numerous personal and professional development programs and workshops, including an internship with Deloitte.

He helped launch a brand new organization on campus, recruiting members and executing all the necessary registration steps to begin the Running Club at USF. In addition, he serves as a Peer Leader through USF’s Transitional Advising office and is a member of Beta Alpha Psi.
Kelly Strammer, Finance & Marketing

Kelly Strammer is a driven student who wants to do it all. She says this drive comes in part from the messages she kept hearing from faculty members and fellow students: success in college is not determined by how many organizations you put on your resumé, but by how much of yourself you put into those organizations.

Putting this adage into action, Strammer has strategically chosen organizations where she can hone her leadership skills instead of pursuing membership in a number of organizations that require little participation. She is a member of Kappa Delta, a social sorority, initially volunteering for small roles such as alumnae relations or the organization’s standards board, and is impacting the community through service to the environment, children, and for the less fortunate.

He is more than simply a member of organizations; he serves as the chair of community service for USF Ambassadors and Kappa Alpha Psi, the director of programs of the Student Alumni Association, and is the National Panhellenic Council’s president.

Soleyn has participated in projects ranging from Paint Your Heart Out to a river clean-up event. He is most proud of his work with Pizzo Elementary School, where USF Ambassadors work with children enrolled in the Early Exceptional Education and the Autism Spectrum Disorders Program.

25 Under 25 Judges

We would like to thank the following individuals for serving as judges for the inaugural 25 Under 25 program. They faced the daunting task of scoring each student’s nomination, looking beyond the GPA to evaluate how students excelled in at least two of the four emphasis areas: academics, leadership, professional development, and campus/community service.

Ann Carney, Editor
USF Magazine

Jamie Ellison, Chair
USF College of Business Alumni Association

Bob Fisher, President
Grow Financial Federal Credit Union

Nancy Howe, Publisher
Maddux Business Report

Delroy Hunter, Finance Professor
USF College of Business

Linda Marcelli, President
Lucky’s Real Tomatoes

Rick Meyer, Associate Dean (Retired)
USF College of Business

Bob Trigaux, Business Columnist
St. Petersburg Times

Lindsay Skillman, Marketing

Lindsay Skillman was chosen as one of the top 25 Under 25 for her leadership in and out of the classroom. As a senior majoring in marketing, Skillman has maintained a 3.98 GPA during her four years at USF and led tutoring sessions and study groups for her peers. She was also selected for two internships.

Skillman has been involved with Alpha Kappa Psi, a co-ed professional business fraternity, since 2007, currently serving as its executive vice president. She is also a resident assistant for freshmen students, and has been a site leader for Stampede of Service, USF’s largest service project.

While a student at USF, Skillman traveled around the world for different conferences and study abroad experiences. She participated in the Principled Business Leaders Institute, the National Association of College and University Residence Halls, and studied abroad in Quebec, Canada with international students.

Dazaun Soleyn, Management

Dazaun Soleyn knows how to balance academics and service. Just 20 years old, he was named “Mr. USF” for 2010-2011. In addition, he is an active participant in the Corporate Mentor Program, has landed an internship with Senator Mel Martinez, and is impacting the community through service to the environment, children, and for the less fortunate.

He is more than simply a member of organizations; he serves as the chair of community service for USF Ambassadors and Kappa Alpha Psi, the director of programs of the Student Alumni Association, and is the National Panhellenic Council’s president.

Soleyn has participated in projects ranging from Paint Your Heart Out to a river clean-up event. He is most proud of his work with Pizzo Elementary School, where USF Ambassadors work with children enrolled in the Early Exceptional Education and the Autism Spectrum Disorders Program.

Kelly Strammer, Finance & Marketing

Kelly Strammer is a driven student who wants to do it all. She says this drive comes in part from the messages she kept hearing from faculty members and fellow students: success in college is not determined by how many organizations you put on your resumé, but by how much of yourself you put into those organizations.

Putting this adage into action, Strammer has strategically chosen organizations where she can hone her leadership skills instead of pursuing membership in a number of organizations that require little participation. She is a member of Kappa Delta, a social sorority, initially volunteering for small roles such as alumnae relations or the organization’s standards board. She later served as vice president and is currently president of the sorority. Strammer has taken a similar strategy as a member of the American Marketing Association, where she currently serves as a member of the ScramBULL committee. Off campus, Strammer is a volunteer with the Children’s Home Society, where she currently serves as a junior board member. She has volunteered with the Girl Scouts as well.

While community service is a priority for her, Strammer’s highest priority is on academics; the Dean’s List scholar was recently accepted into two honor societies, Rho Lambda Greek and Phi Kappa Phi.
Stephanie Wagenfohr, Accounting

Stephanie Wagenfohr has earned her place on the inaugural 25 Under 25 roster due to her leadership at USF and her community involvement in the Tampa area. With a passion for accounting, leadership, and community, Wagenfohr is currently president of Beta Alpha Psi, an international accounting honors organization.

Wagenfohr’s leadership in Beta Alpha Psi has also led to service in her community through Habitat for Humanity, Relay for Life, and Paint Your Heart Out projects. She also spent her spring break in Memphis, Tennessee in 2009 to volunteer with a community center that helps families in transition. The list of projects could go on and on.

Wagenfohr is the recipient of a School of Accountancy scholarship and will begin an audit internship with KPMG in 2010. She will also be serving as a teaching assistant in USF’s principles of financial accounting course this fall.

Elizabeth Wilhelm, Marketing

Elizabeth Wilhelm says professors at USF continually reinforce the notion that the most successful business leaders are those who do more than simply earn a degree.

Taking such advice to heart without sacrificing her high GPA, Wilhelm has spearheaded a variety of community service projects. She raised funds for Hospice, spent summers working with children at a family center, helped with a “summer around the world” children’s program and participated in Relay for Life. The American Business Women’s Association recently lauded her for her achievements in academics, leadership, and service.

Under her direction, Alpha Kappa Psi, a co-ed business fraternity, won USF’s overall homecoming competition, which included building a parade float and collecting cans for a food drive benefiting Metropolitan Ministries. Utilizing skills she gained as an intern at a community newspaper, Wilhelm also revamped the group’s alumni newsletter.

Anthony Zanella, Finance

Drawn to USF thanks to an athletics scholarship, Anthony Zanella is a four-year letterman for USF’s Track & Field team; the decathlete was named to the Big East All-Academic team.

While he admires athletes for their skill and prowess, Zanella looks to the business world for his mentors. An active participant in the Corporate Mentor Program, Zanella also took part in a mentorship program at PriceWaterhouseCoopers. He also participated in Northwestern Mutual’s internship program, a coveted internship offering mentors as well as real-world experience. The firm honored Zanella with one of its top national awards for interns, the “Power of 10” award.

He is a leader in the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance & Accounting and is part of a multicultural team from Students in Free Enterprise who are crafting a financial literacy website. Zanella has participated in numerous community service projects through these organizations.

Our business school does more than simply disseminate knowledge.

Our business school is shaping business thinkers and equipping students with the skills and knowledge to take leadership positions in business and society.

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