



PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY

*We the students, alumni, faculty, staff, and administrators of the University of South Florida unite as a community to propel the success of "One USF." We celebrate our accomplishments and respect our complex differences. We commit ourselves to shaping the future in a community that cherishes justice, accessibility, and meaningful participation by all of its members. USF starts with US. In this spirit, we state the following Principles of Community.**

EXCELLENCE WITH EQUITY

We affirm the value of excellence. Our essential pursuit of truth and wisdom depends upon fairness and equity. We recognize that individual and collective excellence entails a responsibility to ensure that every member of our community has the opportunity to succeed.

DIVERSITY WITH INCLUSION

We affirm the value of diversity, individual dignity, equity, and our common humanity. Diversity of lived experiences, thought, and values enriches our lives and our whole university community. We seek the intentional inclusion of the broadest possible range of these perspectives essential to a university with local, state, national, and global impact.

FREEDOM WITH RESPONSIBILITY

We affirm the value of academic freedom and the inherent value of people's right to express themselves respectfully, freely, safely, and with civility. We reject the demeaning acts of bullying, violence, prejudice, and discrimination as they undermine the community we aspire to be.

DIALOGUE WITH RESPECT

We affirm the value of evidence and seek perspectives to foster productive communication, dialogue, and constructive disagreement. We listen respectfully and reject language that demeans any member of the community. We embrace differences by learning through open debate in a spirit of curiosity.

TRANSPARENCY WITH ACCOUNTABILITY

We affirm the value of a clear and transparent working and learning environment that promotes honesty, fairness, and trust. We commit our time, talents, and resources to building a culture of caring that promotes the integrity of our relationships and the sustainable well-being of the entire community. We are personally responsible, across every level, for treating each other with respect, candor, and accountability.

President Steven C. Currall created the Principles of Community Task Force to develop essential aspirational principles collaboratively and with input from students, alumni, faculty, staff and administrators across the USF community. The President appointed Dean Charles Adams as Chair of the Task Force and USF Ombuds Steven Prevaux as Facilitator.

These Principles of Community have been endorsed on this the 24th day of March 2020, by the following:

Dr. Steven C. Currall, President and Professor
Dr. Ralph Wilcox, Provost and Executive Vice President
Dr. Charles Adams, Dean, Judy Genshaft Honors College, Chair
Dr. Raymond Arsenault, USF St. Petersburg Faculty Senate President
Dr. Timothy Boaz, USF Tampa Faculty Senate President
Ms. Roberta "Bobby" Collins, President of the Administrative Advisory Council
Dr. Deirdre Cobb-Roberts, Associate Professor and Program Coordinator, Social Foundations of Education
Dr. Michael Cross, Director of Undergraduate Research
Ms. Britney Deas, USF Tampa Student Government President
Dr. Jacob Diaz, Regional Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Success and Dean of Students
Ms. Jazzia "Jazzy" Duarte, USF St. Petersburg Student Government President
Dr. Alfred "Tom" Frontera, USF Morsani College of Medicine Faculty Council President
Dr. Michael Gillespie, USF Sarasota-Manatee Faculty Senate President
Mr. Bill McCausland, Vice President and Executive Director, USF Alumni Association
Mr. Corey Posey, USF Sarasota-Manatee Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer
Dr. Diane Price Herndl, Professor and Chair, Women's & Gender Studies and Professor, English
Ms. Meredith Scerba, Senior Associate Athletic Director
Dr. Dwayne Smith, Senior Vice Provost and Dean, Office of Graduate Studies
Ms. Isabelle Starner, USF Sarasota-Manatee Student Government President
Dr. Maya Trotz, Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Handwritten signatures of the endorsing individuals, including Steven C. Currall, Charles Adams, Raymond Arsenault, Timothy Boaz, Roberta Collins, Deirdre Cobb-Roberts, Michael Cross, Britney Deas, Jacob Diaz, Jazzia Duarte, Alfred Frontera, Michael Gillespie, Bill McCausland, Corey Posey, Diane Price Herndl, Meredith Scerba, Dwayne Smith, Isabelle Starner, and Maya Trotz.

* The USF Principles of Community set forth aspirational ideals and expectations for campus interactions both in person and in virtual formats. Members of our community should treat each other with respect and dignity, refrain from displays of inappropriate anger or intimidating conduct, shun epithets or abusive language, and find effective means to disagree, to persuade and to inform through rational discussion. The Principles of Community are not official University of South Florida Regulation or Policy; nor do they alter the terms and conditions of existing collective bargaining agreements, the Student Code of Conduct, or departmental or professional codes of conduct.