Dear Colleague:

Welcome to the University of South Florida!

The University’s New Faculty Orientation begins **Monday, August 12, 2019**, and I invite you to participate in this nearly week-long set of events. For your convenience, a tentative schedule has been attached to this message; please review it to get a sense of the many events that are planned. There is much to learn about life at USF, and this kick-off forum provides a great opportunity to begin that process and get off to a good start.

To mention a few highlights:

- The week begins with a **Provost’s Office Welcome to USF Breakfast** on Monday morning. You will have the opportunity to meet a number of your fellow new faculty members here and to be introduced to members of the University’s administrative leadership team.

- Following the breakfast, I will be providing a brief overview of the University and discuss some aspects of the complex roles of faculty in higher education today, especially at USF. Let me encourage you to attend this session because the topics covered may be particularly useful to you in adjusting to your new position.

- Next, **USF World and the Office of Research and Innovation** will discuss the operation of their offices in their support of the faculty.

- At 11:45am, you can attend the **Campus Resource Expo and Lunch** where many of the offices and service operations of the University will have information booths/tables.

- Presentations from several other offices follow in the afternoon, providing information that will be of interest to you. One of these is particularly important because it provides a federally-required training that you must attend before classes begin so that you will understand your responsibilities under the federal regulations of Title IX, as well as the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). A separate mailing will be sent regarding this training.

- Finally, we will have a photographer taking professional portraits free of charge from 11:45am to 5:00pm in Marshall Student Center, Room 3708.

**Tuesday, August 13** and **Thursday, August 15** have been devoted to a variety of teaching workshops and instructional technology sessions. You will find these particularly useful in learning about a number of support and developmental services that are available to USF faculty to assist in their teaching efforts.

On **Wednesday, August 14**, you are invited to attend the **Historical Tour of Tampa**. Those able to take advantage of this will find it both informative and entertaining. Members of the tour will travel by bus and stop in historic Ybor City for a hosted luncheon at the famous **Columbia Restaurant**. While there, you will have the opportunity to meet leaders in the arts, historical, and political areas of our community. Space for the tour is limited and available on a first-come-first-served basis; please confirm your attendance on the New Faculty Orientation RSVP website at [http://usfweb3.usf.edu/nfo](http://usfweb3.usf.edu/nfo) as soon as possible, but no later than **Friday, August 2**. We regret that because of space limitations, the tour is available only to individuals in the new faculty cohort. Once you have RSVP’d for the tour, please make all efforts to attend this event. Let us know as soon as possible if you are unable to participate so that we may replace you with someone on the waitlist.

**[NOTE: USF Health faculty will have their own set of activities this day, so should not sign up for this event.]**
New Faculty Orientation concludes at **4:30 P.M. on Thursday afternoon, August 15** with a reception to be held in the Marshall Student Center/Room 3707. You are invited to bring your spouse/partner to this event. It will provide you with another opportunity to meet and interact with university leaders as well as fellow new faculty members from across the campus in an enjoyable setting. Dress for this occasion is business casual.

To help assist us in preparing for the many orientation events available to you, and because some events are on a space available basis, **please be sure to submit an RSVP as soon as possible.** To reiterate, RSVPs may be made at [http://usfweb3.usf.edu/nfo](http://usfweb3.usf.edu/nfo).

Further information about New Faculty Orientation week is available online at [http://www.usf.edu/provost/faculty-info/faculty-events.aspx](http://www.usf.edu/provost/faculty-info/faculty-events.aspx). If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to nfo@usf.edu or call 813-974-2267. I hope things have been going well for you as you transition to USF, and look forward to meeting you in August.

With best wishes,

M. Dwayne Smith, Ph.D.
Senior Vice Provost & Dean, Office of Graduate Studies