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## **Veterans Week Brings U.S. Department of State Spokesperson, USF Alumnus John Kirby to Campus**

*Kirby will participate in two events on Tuesday, Nov. 3*

**TAMPA, Fla. (Oct. 30, 2015)** – The University of South Florida welcomes Rear Admiral John Kirby (U.S. Navy Ret.), Spokesperson for the Department of State, back to campus during its annual Veterans Week celebration. The USF alumnus and St. Petersburg native will be the Veterans Day Ceremony keynote speaker at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 3 in the Marshall Student Center Ballroom A.

Kirby will also participate in a campus conversation on global security, titled “U.S. Foreign Policy in a Turbulent World” from 1-2:45 p.m. on Nov. 3 in the Patel Center for Global Solutions, Room 138. Both events are free and open to the public.

Retiring from the Navy in May 2015 with the rank of Rear Admiral, Kirby was appointed as the Spokesperson for the Department of State on May 12, 2015. He previously served as Pentagon Press Secretary, serving for more than a year as the chief spokesman for the Department of Defense and for former Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel. More information about his career may be [found here](#).

USF is often recognized as one of the nation’s most veteran friendly universities and is home to one of the nation’s largest student veteran populations, with nearly 2,000. Sponsored by the Office of Veterans Services, [USF’s Veterans Week](#) programs aim to honor the bravery and sacrifice of these students and all those who have served in the United States military. Other key events of the week include:

### **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off**

*Wednesday, Nov. 4, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., MSC Amphitheater*

Campus competition heats up to determine the top chili chef at USF! Attendees can sample the chili, vote for their favorite, and cheer on the judges as the top winners are selected.

### **Salute to Service Football Game: USF vs. Temple**

*Saturday, Nov. 14, Game Time TBD, Raymond James Stadium*

Featuring a special in-game presentation honoring the veterans and active duty military who have served our nation.

To request reasonable accommodations, please contact Evan Itle, Office of Veterans Services, at [eitle@usf.edu](mailto:eitle@usf.edu).

*The University of South Florida is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success. USF is a Top 50 research university among both public and private institutions nationwide in total research expenditures, according to the National Science Foundation. Serving nearly 48,000 students, the USF System has an annual budget of \$1.5 billion and an annual economic impact of \$4.4 billion. USF is a member of the American Athletic Conference.*