Join in Celebrating Black History Month

Lowell E. Davis
THE AMBASSADOR CLUB

Sunday, March 29, 1987

A FUTURE LOOK AT USF—ST. PETERS

1. Good Things Happening:
   a. City acquisition of St. Pete — ~$22M.
   b. Progress in getting — Multipurpose Bldg.
   c. Director of Development’s Closure. Robin in board
   d. Student increase: ~ 3000+ Headcount ~ 1000 FTE

5. New building for Marine Science remains high on USF priority plans

6. Support from many groups — notably:
   a. The City
   b. Rotary Club Scholarships
   c. Minority Student Scholarship Fund

7. Community Advisory Board

8. Proposal: — funds for studying
   Need for USF—St. P. to provide academic

9. Presentation to Regents/Counselor Staff/President’s Staff
   Resolution of All Children’s Hosp.
Dean's activities to date:

1. Studying all academic programs
2. On-going discussions with
   Director
   Students
   Coordinator
3. Meetings with individual faculty members
   [Review & C.V. of all faculty]
4. In Tampa—Meetings with
   President, Provost
   Vice President
   All Deans
   Directors
   Meetings on Master Plan for Physical Plant
5. Meetings/Spokes in the Community —
   St. Pete Progress
   United Way
   Upper Pinellas County Mental Health Services
   Rotary Club / Kineticians Club
   City Hall Meetings — Testified in Court
C. Consider Status & Needs in College:

1. Arts & Letters:
   Only English & Mass Comm. perform.

   NEED: Balanced courses in Humanities, Philosophy, Classics, Religion, Ethics.

   DEVELOPMENT: Provost's Approval
   a. Faculty for Mass Comm. (Center Inst. Collab. for Grad. Program)
   b. Faculty for Humanities.

2. Business:
   Several areas represented up to MB.
   Including:
   [Good Programs]
   Accounting, Marketing, Management, Finance, Gen. Bus. Admin.,
   ISDS (Inf. Syst. & Decision Science)

   NEEDS:
   a) ISDS - 2 faculty
   b) Dept. of Gen. Business should be established.
3. Engineering:
- Only Engineering Technology program
- Offered with WO Adj. Fac. + MTE
- Core program — needs improve.

**NEEDS:**
- Additional Fac./labs/handcraft

4. Education:

**Collaboration with:**
- Marine Science
- Children's Health

Several areas represented, including:
- Elementary Ed./Secondary Ed.
- Early Childhood Ed./Reading
- BA: Level Educational Measurement, etc.

**NEEDS:**
- Faculty for Math Ed.
- Science Ed.
- Early Childhood Ed.
- Special Ed.
- (c) Grad Courses & Programs
5. Natural Sciences:
   Only Marine Science (Distinguished)
   Food, Teaching only x Research
   NEEDS:
   (a) Undergrad Fac. in Biology/Chemistry/Physics
   (Only Elem. Action now offered)
   (b) Textbooks and designed labs
       at least to begin program
   (c) Lecture courses could be initiated
       e.g. Cell Physiology, Hist. of Science
       Elem. Genetics, Biochem.

6. Fine Arts:
   Only 1 course offered – Music Appreciation
   With good piano, could involve groups
   Various ensembles, small concerts and recitals on campus
   NEEDS:
   (a) Art Courses/Program (Studebaker Bldg.)
   (b) Use in collaboration – Dale Museum
       St. Pete Museum
       The Art Center
       Clearwater/Indian Museum
7. Social Behavioral Science:
   - representation in
     History - Public Administration
     Seminology - Geography
     Political Science - Psychology
     Sociology

**NEEDS:**
(a) More faculty diversity in each program
(b) Development of P/F St. Program in Social Work
(c) Development of Seminology Programs - interdisciplinary

8. Other Considerations:
(a) Endowed Chairs -
(b) Distinguished Professorships -
(c) Review of Procedures: Tenure Promotion
(d) Master Plan for Physical Plant -
(e) International Programs -
(f) Expansion of Rye State Library

(g) Student Affairs Development/University Relations
   Administrative Functions
   Support Areas - not discussed now.
9. **Bottom Line Considerations:**

(a) **USF - SP - Programs of Excellence -**
   - USF cafeteria or smorgas
   - Board type & education

(b) Programs of distinction may be
   - Arts & Science Programs
   - Professional Programs
   - Unique Programs only on the campus

(c) Availability on St. Pete's Campus —
   - wisest possible course offering program

(d) Affirmative Action

(e) Planning for ~ 6500 Students FTE
This brings me now to the Black Agenda.

The business of educating our young people is very serious business!! It is without doubt our greatest task, our greatest calling and the greatest legacy which we can leave to this younger generation and for posterity. It is and will be the difference between success and failure, or the life of middle-classdom and better and a life of multiple hardships and poverty. The education of a mind, the securing of a membership card by way of what they call a degree, licensing or certification, or the finely tuned skill in a pair of trained hands are all what the Black Agenda should be—in terms of its priorities.

We should be helping one another and supporting one another in this effort. Just last night, I attended the Tenth Annual Leadership Program.
for Higher Achievement Commencement Ceremonies. This is a special program sponsored by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for Black High School Students, and accommodated at Eckerd College. The program is designed to assist and prepare and encourage high school students for college careers. I applaud those efforts and would encourage other organizations to join in this all-important type of service. Also, at Eckerd College last night, the college awarded four scholarships to Black Students. I commend those efforts. Regrettably, we at the University of South Florida cannot do that because (unlike Eckerd), we are a state institution and bound by regulations. However, with much lower tuition rates and community organization which are in a position to help financially, several scholarships for Black students could be arranged.
The recent Supreme Court decision regarding Affirmative Action for Women and Minorities is an important decision. But like the Civil Rights laws and other Affirmative Action laws, we still have a great deal of work ahead of us. The letter of the law is one thing; the spirit of the law is another.

It is inexcusable and absolutely unacceptable that on the USF - St. Pete Campus there should be only one Black professor (excluding me). The student body is composed of 32% Black students. This, too, is unacceptable.

I call on you to join me in making the University of South Florida at St. Petersburg a place where we teach, learn, we nurture, we care, and educate the Black youth of this community. We must put pressure on those who make the decision.
On university budgets, we must educate the law makers that adequate appropriations must be made for us to bring Black educators into positions of honor, scholarship, and authority.

At this time in history, we have a golden opportunity to make a change and a difference at the University of South Florida. The community...
HAS ANOTHER "AMBASSADOR" SITTING
IN A HIGH PLACE, A PLACE
WHICH CAN HELP TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE:

WE MUST MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. WE MUST HAVE AN INCREASED ENROLLMENT
   OF BLACKS AT U.S.F.

2. WE MUST HAVE AN INCREASED OF
   BLACK WOMEN AND MEN WHO
   TEACH AND WORK AT U.S.F.

3. WE MUST HAVE INCREASED INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY
   DECISION MAKING CONCERNING U.S.F.
-13-

IT IS THE BEST OF TIMES — TO ACHIEVE OUR GOALS.

WE HAVE EVERYTHING BEFORE US AN LITTLE TO LOOSE.

IT IS THE AGE OF INNOCENCE.

IT CAN NOT BE THE SEASON OF DESPAIR. 1

WE MUST USE THIS UNIVERSITY TO FULFILL OUR DREAM.

A DREAM OF FREEDOM, PROSPERITY AND EDUCATION.

THEN WE CAN TRULY SAY FREE AT LAST, FREE AT LAST
THANK GOD ALMIGHTY
WE WILL BE FREE AT LAST.
A. Good Things Happening:
1. City acquisition of approx. 24 acres--approx. $12 M.
2. Progress in getting--Multipurpose Bldg.
3. Director of Development & Univ. Relations on board
4. Student increase: approx. 3,000+ headcount
   approx. 1,000 FTE
5. New building for Marine Science remains high on USF priority plans
6. Support from many groups--including
   (a) The City
   (b) Rotary Club Scholarships
   (c) Minority Student Scholarship Fund
   (d) St. Pete Progress
7. Community Advisory Board
8. Proposal: Funding for studying need for USF-St. P. to provide
   academic programs.
9. Presentation to Regents/Chancellor & Staff/President & Staff
   (resolution of All Children's Hosp.)

B. Dean's activities to date:
1. Studying all academic programs
2. On-going discussions with
   Directors        Students
   Coordinators     (Meetings with individual faculty members)
   (Review of C.V. of all faculty)
3. Meetings with support groups:
   Physical Plant Personnel
   Custodians       Registrar
   Security         Student Affairs
   Bookstore        Development
   Misc. Groups
4. In Tampa--meetings with
   President, Provost
   Vice Presidents
   All Deans
   Directors
   Meetings on Master Plan for Physical Plant
5. Meetings/Speeches in the Community:
   SPJC
   St. Pete Progress
   United Way
C. Consider Status & Needs in Colleges:

1. Arts & Letters:
   Only English & Mass Comm. represented

   NEED: Balanced courses in Humanities
       Philosophy, Classics, Religion, Ethics

   DEVELOPMENT: Provost's Approval
      a. Faculty for Mass Comm.
       (Poynter Inst. Collab. for Grad. Program)
      b. Faculty for Humanities

2. Business:
   Several areas represented up to MBA
   including: Accounting, Marketing, Management,

   NEEDS: a. ISDS--two faculty
      b. Dept. of Gen. Business should be established

3. Engineering:
   Only Engineering Technology for present
   (Offered with approx. 10 adj. fac. + 1 FT
   good program--needs improve.

   NEEDS: a. Additional Fac./Labs/Hard & Soft ware
      b. Faculty/labs in other areas--
      c. Courses in non-lab areas:
         statics, thermodynamics, fluids,
         materials, statistics
      d. More math courses/faculty in math through
data calculus

4. Education:
   Several areas represented including:
   Elementary Ed./Secondary Ed. )
   Early Childhood Ed./Reading ) BA
   Educational Measurement, etc. ) Level

   NEEDS: a. Faculty for Math Ed.
          Science Ed.
          Early Childhood Ed.
          Special Ed.
      b. Grad Courses & Programs

5. Natural Sciences:
   Only Marine Science (Distinguished)
   Grad. Teaching only & Research

   NEEDS: a. Undergrad Fac. in
   Page 2
Biology/Chemistry/Physics
(Only Elem. Astron. now offered)
b. Two properly designed labs at least
to begin program
c. Lecture courses could be initiated
e.g., Cell Physiology, Hist. of Science,
Elem. Genetics, Biochem.

6. Fine Arts:
   Only one course offered--Music Appreciation.
With good piano, could involve symphony,
varying ensembles, give small concerts and
recitals on campus

   NEEDS: a. Art Courses/Programs (Studebaker Bldg.)
   b. Use in Collaboration--Dali Museum
       St. Pete Museum
       The Art Center
       Clearwater/Tampa Museums

7. Social & Behavioral Science:
   Fair representation in
   History -- Public Administration
   Criminology -- Geography
   Political Science -- Psychology
   Sociology

   NEEDS: a. More faculty & diversity in each program
   b. Development of P-T Grad. Program
      in Social Work
   c. Development of Gerontology) Programs
      & Interdisciplinary

8. Other Considerations:
a. Endowed Chairs
b. Distinguished Professorships
c. Review of Procedures: Tenure/Promotion
d. Master Plan for Physical Plant
e. International Programs
f. Expansion of Poynter Library
g. Student Affairs
   )
   Development/Support areas--not
   University Relations discussed now.
   Administrative Operations)

9. Bottom Line Considerations:
a. USF-SP -- Programs of Excellence, Distinction
   -- Not cafeteria or smorgasboard type of education
b. Programs of distinction may be
   (Arts & Science Programs
   Professional Programs
   Unique Programs only on this campus
   c. Availability on St. Pete's Campus--
      widest possible course offerings/programs
   d. Affirmative Action
   e. Planning for approx. 6,000 students FTE

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The business of educating our young people is very serious business!!
It is without doubt, and greatest task, our greatest calling and the
greatest legacy which we can leave to this younger generation and for posterity. It is and will be the difference between success and failure, the life of middle-classdom or better and a life of multiple hardships and poverty. The education of a mind, the securing of a membership card by way of what they call a degree, licensing or certification, or the finely-tuned skill in a pair of trained hands are all what the Black Agenda should be in terms of its priorities.

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At this time in history, we have a golden opportunity to make a change and a difference at the University of South Florida. The community has another “ambassador” sitting in a high place, a place which can make a difference: We MUST make a difference.

1. We must have an increased enrollment of Blacks at USF.

2. We MUST have an increase of Black women and men who teach and work at USF.

3. We MUST have increased involvement in community decision making concerning USF.

It is the best of times--to achieve our goals.

We have everything before us and little to lose.

It is the Age of Innocence. It CANNOT be the season of despair. We must use this university to fulfill our dream, a dream of freedom, prosperity and education. Then we can truly say, “Free
at last, free at last, thank God Almighty, we will be free at last."

"A mind is a terrible thing to waste."