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USFSP Board Reports

Campus Achieves Accreditation

USF St. Petersburg made history on June 23 when the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools approved the university for separate accreditation within the USF system. USF St. Petersburg is the first regional campus in the state to achieve this recognition.

Residential Housing Begins

Residence Hall One opened its doors to USF St. Petersburg’s first class of over 220 residential students. The hall can house 354 students and includes a number of amenities including: laundry facilities, study and social lounges on each floor, cable TV, high-speed Internet, local telephone and all utilities.

Over 250 faculty, staff, students, city and state representatives and downtown St. Petersburg business representatives attended the residence hall dedication on August 22. It is projected to have an economic impact of $2 million on downtown St. Petersburg.

New Parking Garage Eases Parking Crunch

As part of the $100 million Master Plan for USF St. Petersburg, the Fifth Avenue Parking Facility opened to faculty, staff and students on August 16. The seven-story garage provides over 1,000 spaces to visitors, staff, students and residential students.

The garage offers space for the USFSP Police Department and will also house a 15,000 square foot Barnes & Noble Bookstore slated to open Oct. 24.

Fall Enrollment

Fall 2006 started successfully at USF St. Petersburg with the largest freshman class campus history, 257, an increase of 33 percent from last year. The 2006 FTIC class is not only the largest but also the most diverse with an increase of 29 percent African American students, 186 percent increase Hispanic students, 50 percent increase in male students and 24 percent increase in female students. Two National Merit Scholars are part of the Fall 2006 FTIC class.

Transfer students are not to be left behind with a 14 percent increase in enrollment, a total of 558 students, a 14 percent increase in African American students and 27 percent increase in Hispanic students. The overall increase in freshmen accounts for a one percent increase in USFSP students, bumping SCH by approximately six percent from last year.