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Aug. 30, 2013

HarborNotes Weekly

Your source for USF St. Petersburg news

Regional Chancellor Wisniewska welcomes the Class of 2017



Regional Chancellor Sophia T. Wisniewska (above) welcomed the Class of 2017 during Freshmen Convocation on Sunday, an annual event that filled the University Student Center Ballroom with students and their families.

She told them they are members of the highest-quality freshman class in USFSP history, with an average high school GPA of 3.78, an increase of 6.2 percent over last year, and a median SAT score of 1120, an increase of 6.7 percent. "For each of you, this is a day you will long remember, the beginning of an important new chapter in your life," she said. "I hope you are proud of the accomplishments that have brought you to this place. We are proud of you. You have all worked hard to get here. And it shows."

[USF St. Pete feeling more like true campus, students say](#)

Graduate student places third in national Jane Austin essay contest



A USF St. Petersburg graduate student has won third prize in a national essay contest sponsored by the Jane Austen Society of North America. Ashlie Flannigan (above left), who is pursuing a Master's Degree in Liberal Studies, will be honored during the Society's annual meeting in Minneapolis in late September. She will receive a \$250 scholarship and membership in the Jane Austen Society. Flannigan's essay grew out of a Jane Austen course taught by Amy Robinson, Ph.D., (above right), visiting assistant professor of English Literature. It is the second time one of her students in the course has been honored in the essay contest.

A generous gift from a military veteran to aid wounded warriors



A check presentation ceremony at the USF Foundation included (left to right) Mike Chaves, executor of the estate of Dr. John Allwein; Lynda Webster, a trustee of the estate and longtime friend of Dr. Allwein's; USFSP Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska; and USF System Board of Trustees members Stephanie Goforth, Mark Lombardi-Nelson, Debbie Sembler and Chris Davis, Ph.D.

Wounded USF St. Petersburg veterans will benefit from a generous gift to the USF Foundation from the estate of John W. Allwein, M.D., a St. Petersburg physician who served on the front lines during the Vietnam War and spent much of his adult life caring for veterans. The Dr. John Allwein Scholarship for Military Veterans Injured in the Line of Duty was established in 2008. Upon Dr. Allwein's death earlier this year, his estate provided additional funds to create a lasting legacy in support of wounded student veterans. "He was a very quiet, soft-spoken individual, but his passion was taking care of veterans," said Mike Chaves, a longtime friend and executor of Dr. Allwein's estate.

USF St. Petersburg faculty, students hold city candidate forums



Arts and Sciences Dean Frank Biafara (top left) poses students and St. Petersburg mayoral candidates after the primary election forum.

College of Arts and Sciences Dean Frank Biafara (above, right) and Political Science Professor Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan (above, left), along with student volunteers led two televised candidate forums sponsored by USF St. Petersburg before the St. Petersburg primary elections for [Mayor](#) and [City Council](#). Biafara moderated the

debates and Scourfield McLauchlan coordinated student-submitted questions. Two forums for general election candidates are planned at St. Petersburg City Council Chambers: Oct. 14 for mayoral candidates and Oct. 16 for City Council candidates. Meanwhile, USF St. Petersburg and LocalShops1.com will present [a forum for general election mayoral candidates](#) Bill Foster and Rick Kriseman focused on economic development and small businesses at 6 p.m., Sept. 10 at the University Student Center Ballroom.

Annual Week of Welcome keeps new and returning students busy



Students moved into USFSP'S two residence halls last weekend before the first day of classes for the fall semester Monday. But before the serious academic work began, they had a ball at "First Night," (above) an ice cream social at the University Student Center that kicked off the annual [Week of Welcome](#). Other activities included a Student Government Luau at the Waterfront Pool, a barbecue at the USC, a downtown scavenger hunt by the [Longboarding Club](#) and a comedy show at the Mahaffey Theater.

Upcoming Events

[Waterfront Master Plan Public Forum](#)

Sept. 9
6 p.m.

[University Student Center](#)

St. Petersburg mayoral debate on small business concerns

Sept. 10
6 p.m.

[Student Government Association](#)

Guy Harvey's Tiger Shark Express

Sept. 11

5 p.m.

Nelson Poynter Memorial Library

Surveillance & Censorship in a Changing Culture

Sept. 19

3:30 p.m.

Undergraduate Admissions

Open House

Sept. 28

9 a.m.