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April 19, 2013

HarborNotes Weekly

Your source for USF St. Petersburg news

Honors Program student heads toward graduation with big goals in sight

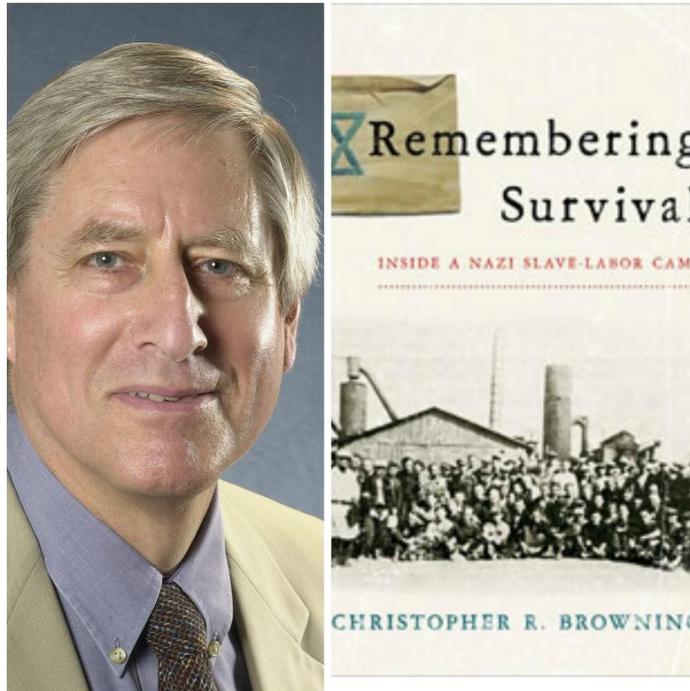


After four years in the USFSP Honors Program, Marco Padilla-Rodriguez is well on his way to achieving his goals.

Honors Program student Marco Padilla-Rodriguez wants to be a researcher and college professor specializing in the environment. He's well on his way. He has published his research as a first author manuscript and published another paper as a second author. And last weekend he was runner-up for the best undergraduate oral presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Florida Branch of the American Society for Microbiology in Islamorada. Now, with graduation just weeks away and his acceptance into the highly competitive five-year Ph.D. program at the University of Arizona, the USFSP senior is one step closer to achieving his second goal. His graduate work will be in Arizona's Biological and Biomedical Sciences Program. He will receive a stipend and tuition waiver to support

the pursuit of his goals. He credits his success to the creative, collaborative environment of USF St. Petersburg. "USFSP has been a good institution to foster my growth as a student," he said. "I really enjoy the small class sizes, the accessibility of faculty members and, of course, the location! St. Pete has so many beautiful areas that set it apart from other universities."

Leading Holocaust expert to discuss survival in a Nazi slave-labor camp



The USF St. Petersburg **Honors Program** and the **Florida Holocaust Museum** present Christopher Browning (above), one of the most distinguished Holocaust scholars in the country, on Thursday, April 25, at the University Student Center. Browning will discuss his latest book, *Remembering Survival: Inside a Nazi Slave-Labor Camp*, at 6:30 p.m. The talk is free and open to the public. Browning's book, which focuses on a Nazi slave labor camp in Poland, was called by the *Washington Post* a "fine, harrowing" account that takes uncharted directions in Holocaust history. It won the Yad Vashem International Book Prize for Holocaust Research in 2012 for exceptional new research on a topic related to the Holocaust. The award committee called the book "a model of a sophisticated, methodologically aware, self-reflective use of testimonial evidence."

Earth Week events include pledges, presentations and sustainability forum



Students sign pledges to protect the earth Wednesday during one of myriad Earth Week event at USF St. Petersburg.

The **Student Environmental Awareness Society** held a series of events leading up to Monday's Earth Day observance, including writing pledges to environmental stewardship on a banner. SEAS worked with numerous other student clubs and organizations, including the Student Green Energy Fund, the Gardening Club, the Wellness Center and Student Government's Department of Sustainable Initiatives to increase awareness of environmental and sustainability issues. The events included a film screening, DIY gardening demos and a presentation by the Everglades Restoration Project. The biggest event is Saturday, April 20, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the University Student Center Ballroom when students, faculty, staff and the community members will gather for an Open Spaces Forum called "Sustainability Without Borders: Education for a New and Profitable Economy." Sponsored by the Sustainability Exploratory Work Group, the forum will discuss ways to weave sustainability into

the curriculum and make it a permanent part of the university and the community . The forum is free and open to the public. Space is limited so **register here**. Monday's Earth Day events include the unveiling of the pledge banner and a birthday cake for the Earth.

This month's 'Breakfast With the Mayor' is at The Reef at the USC



Join Mayor Bill Foster for breakfast and informal conversation during "**Breakfast With the Mayor**," at 7 a.m. Wednesday, April 24, at The Reef, the dining facility at the **University Student Center**, 200 6th Ave S. The mayor meets with constituents at a different restaurant on the fourth Wednesday of every month. He encourages constituents to share their thoughts and ideas and support the host restaurant with a breakfast purchase. Mayor Foster chose The Reef so he can hear from students, faculty and staff as well as the general public. Metered street parking outside the USC will be free until 9 a.m. Also at The Reef on Wednesday, a Top Chef-style cooking competition will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Four "chefs" will compete - Interim Regional Chancellor Bill Hogarth, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Norine Noonan, Student Government President Mark Lombardi-Nelson and student and Reef employee Darrian McRae. They will make a dish using a secret ingredient. The judges will include Janet Keeler, *Tampa Bay Times* food editor and USFSP adjunct journalism professor.

Entrepreneurship Program leader named Florida's small business advocate



Last month, Daniel James Scott, associate director of the [USF St. Petersburg Entrepreneurship Program](#) at the [College of Business](#), was named the Small Business Advocate of the Year for the Small Business Administration South Florida District. Now he has a new honor: The Florida Small Business Advocate of the Year. The award honors the work Scott has done through the Entrepreneurship Program, named the [Outstanding Emerging Entrepreneurship Program in the United States](#) in January. "This award acknowledges your personal achievement and dedication in advocating for and advancing small business ownership and expansion opportunities," Francisco "Pancho" A. Marrero, South Florida District Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration, wrote in an announcement. "Through your work you inspire other entrepreneurs to start and build businesses that will benefit our community. Job creating has a lasting impact on Florida's economy and you are there inspiring others through our work."

Upcoming Events

Sustainability Exploratory Work Group

April 20

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

[Sustainability Without Borders: Education for a New and Profitable Economy](#)

[College of Education](#)

5 p.m - 7 p.m.

April 22

[Presentation of Action Research by Education Graduate Students](#)

April 24

7 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Breakfast With the Mayor @ The Reef

Honors Program

April 25

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Holocaust Historian Christopher Browning

Undergraduate Admissions

April 30

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Transfer Information Session

College of Education

May 1

10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Teaching & Learning Presentations by Education Students