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University of South Florida.

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**USF to strengthen diversity efforts**

President Judy Genshaft announced that USF will strengthen its diversity efforts by consolidating two existing administrative units into the Diversity and Equal Opportunity Office and implementing policy changes recommended in a review by former U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Joseph Hatchett.

"USF has an absolute commitment to diversity in all aspects of university life," Genshaft said. "We will fulfill that commitment."

The two existing units -- the Office of Diversity Initiatives and the Office of Equal Opportunity Affairs -- have very closely related functions. But one reports to the provost, while the other reports to the vice president for Budgets, Human Resources and Information Technology.

"I believe that increased coordination of these two operations is a very important step USF must take to improve the university's diversity effort," Genshaft said.

"I also believe that for USF to continue its progress in the area of diversity, the top leadership's commitment and interest must be clear. The top two officers of the university -- the president and the provost -- will assume responsibility for this very important function."

**Lindsey named interim research VP**

USF has named Bruce Lindsey, the chairman of the USF Department of Physiology and Biophysics, interim vice president for research.

Lindsey will oversee USF's growing research program while the university conducts a national search for a vice president. George Newkome, USF's former vice president for research, left the university in December for a similar position at the University of Akron in Ohio.

"Dr. Lindsey is an excellent researcher and a very able administrator," said President Judy Genshaft. "I know we will continue to have a great performance in research."

Last year, USF researchers attracted $171.4 million in contracts and grants.

A USF professor since 1974, Lindsey started as an assistant professor of physiology and rose through the ranks to chair the department. He was one of the founders of the university's neuroscience program, and he served as chair of the committee that established a doctoral concentration in neuroscience. He is one of the researchers for two National Institutes of Health grants totaling $1.8 million to investigate how the brain controls breathing.

Lindsey's goals as interim vice president include encouraging research partnerships and cooperation and enhancing communications between the Office of Research and researchers.

A magna cum laude graduate of Williams College, Lindsey earned an undergraduate degree in biology with highest honors.
Look Who's Talking

USF faculty continue to receive national media attention. Some of their accomplishments in January include:

**The New York Times:**
Visible genetics has developed a test of sequence genes of the virus that causes AIDS, providing information to help doctors choose which of the 15 or so available drugs will work best against a particular patient's infection, *The New York Times* reported. The testing doesn't always provide useful information, but USF Professor of Medicine Jeffrey P. Nadler says "resistance testing can contribute very significantly in a few areas."

**The New York Times:**
USF English Professor Rita Ciresi has "a lovely ear for dialogue and the ability to nail the details in descriptions that are both funny and painfully accurate," according to *The Times* book review. Ciresi's *Sometimes I Dream in Italian*, a collection of short stories about two modern American girls who are trapped in a traditional Italian family is "simultaneously blunt and artful."

**Space.com:**
USF Engineering Professor Stuart Wilkinson is developing a robot that eats and runs on food. The robot crosses an evolutionary line, but scientists say it's not likely artificial intelligence will ever be anything humans should fear.

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**Inside USF**

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Contact the Equal Opportunity Affairs Office at ext. 4-4373 at least five working days prior to an event listed in Inside USF if a reasonable accommodation of a disability is needed.

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**PCard wins Davis Productivity Award**

The USF PCard Team won a Davis Productivity Award for the USF Visa Purchasing Card Web-based training. This award program is sponsored by Florida TaxWatch, The Florida Council of 100 and the state. More than 625 award nominations were received saving the state $270 million in costs. Nominations were received from across Florida from state employees and private citizens.

The Davis Productivity Award recognizes the work of USF staff from eight USF departments including project leaders Lisa Deal and Sandra Ruzycik, and team members Audrey Charles, Bill Gill, Maria Du, Nick Trivunovich, Sherry Anderson, Judy Kohout, Mike Upledger, Damon Borozny, Robert Waldrop, Jeb Holub, Carole Dann, Gina Delulio, Sue Ellen Humberton, Kim Kegler and Mary Hayhurst.

The PCard Web site provides on-line training and reference materials for PCard program support. The PCard web-based training has saved USF $17,798 the first year. Future savings will be $20,922 annually. The site reduces the time required for traditional standup training with an estimated savings of 756 hours annually — representing one-third of a normal work-year.

The PCard website is http://usfweb.usf.edu/pcard/index.html

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**CUTR’s Brosch takes on new role**

Gary Brosch, director of the USF Center for Urban Transportation Research, will assume the post of USF's congressional transportation liaison for the Tampa Bay Partnership. The Partnership is a business-led economic development organization for the seven-county Tampa Bay area.

Brosch will help the partnership continue to revise and update its regional transportation priorities, maintain communication with members of Congress, and keep the Tampa Bay region abreast of transportation developments in the 107th Congress.

Congress is scheduled to begin working on a redraft of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, known as the TEA-21 bill, which is the source of federal funding allocations to the states, this year.
In addition to his new role with the Partnership, Brosch will continue as chair of CUTR’s National Center for Transit Research and editor of the *Journal of Public Transportation*.

Brosch began devoting a portion of his time to the Partnership project in mid-January, and will phase in greater involvement when a national search for his replacement is completed.

Under Brosch's leadership, CUTR has grown to one of the top university transportation centers in the nation, with annual research grants of $5 million per year.