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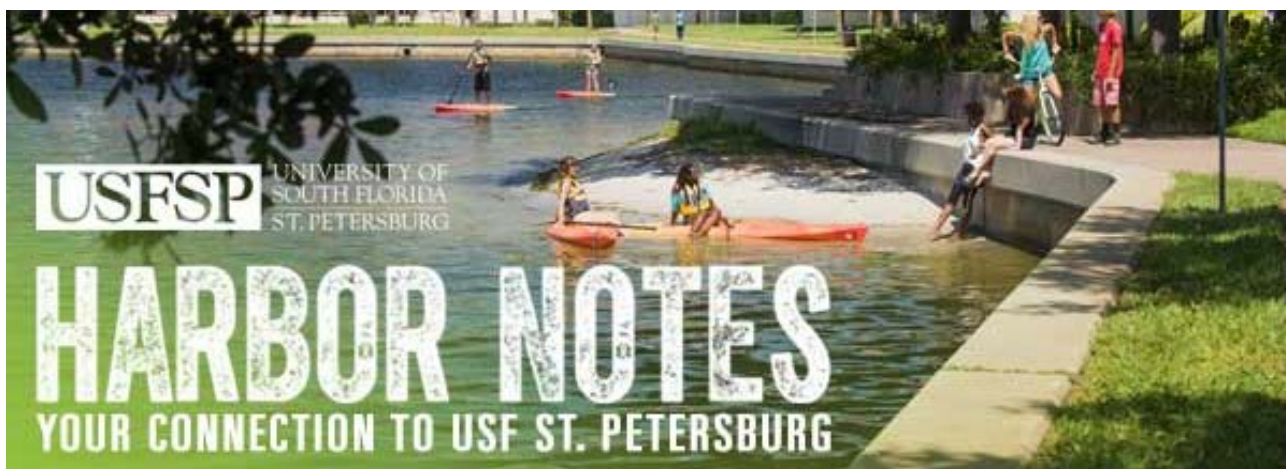
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December 6, 2017

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## USF St. Petersburg Celebrates Student Achievements at Commencement



In front of family, faculty and the greater St. Petersburg community, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg will celebrate the diverse accomplishments of roughly 500 new graduates during its Fall Commencement. USFSP will host two ceremonies to accommodate about 375 graduates who elected to walk on Sunday, December 10 at the Mahaffey Theater, representing undergraduate and graduate degrees from 37 academic disciplines. Graduates from the College of Arts and Sciences are walking at 1 p.m., and those graduating from the Kate Tiedemann College of Business and the College of Education will walk at 5 p.m.

[Read more about our Fall 2017 Commencement and recent graduates.](#)

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## USFSP's Tadlock and Baker Recognized at 2017 Global Achievement Awards

At the third annual Global Achievement Awards last month, USFSP's Interim Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock and Director of Global Initiatives Wendy Baker were part of a select group across the USF System recognized for setting high standards of excellence and innovation in global initiatives. The recognition is a testament to USFSP's commitment to globalizing students' experiences by creating affordable education abroad opportunities while providing regular international and diverse cultural experiences on campus.

[Check out how USFSP is enhancing internationalization opportunities.](#)



*USF President Judy Genshaft (center) presents Global Achievement Awards to Interim Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock and Director of Global Initiatives Wendy Baker.*

## Marine Biology Professor to Explore Ocean's Deep Canyons



*Professor Heather Judkins on board a vessel in the Gulf of Mexico analyzing a recently captured squid.*

Even today, the deep sea and the marine life it contains is still largely mysterious. USFSP Marine Biology Professor Heather Judkins and a team of researchers were just awarded a NOAA Ocean Exploration Grant to reveal a bit of that mystery and explore never-before-reached canyons in the northern Gulf of Mexico. The team will spend two and a half weeks aboard a research vessel in the summer of 2019 conducting bioluminescence experiments and collecting rare and potentially new species from the deep ocean.

"The techniques and knowledge I will learn from this experience and from my colleagues makes this such an incredible opportunity," said Judkins.

[Delve deeper into how the research team will explore ocean canyons and marine life.](#)

## Student Profile: Lis Casanova, English Major and Community Hero

Lis Casanova, a USFSP senior and English-Writing Studies major, was honored this semester by the Tampa Bay Lightning as a Community Hero. She received this recognition and \$50,000 for her winning proposal to enhance an African American collection and create a multimedia innovation lab at the James Weldon Johnson Community Library in St. Petersburg. It was her own life experiences that drove her to help others and work to improve her community.



*USFSP student Lis Casanova receiving a check from*

*the Tampa Bay Lightning for her winning community project proposal.*

[Learn more about Lis' story and her community project that earned this recognition.](#)

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## College of Business Building Receives LEED Gold Certification



Lynn Pippenger Hall, home to USF St. Petersburg's Kate Tiedemann College of Business, has received a Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. This is the third building at USFSP to receive LEED Gold certification, the most widely used green building rating system in the world.

"The more we can construct buildings that meet the highest of environmental standards, we not only improve the health of our college community but it pays in the long run with greater energy

savings and lower day-to-day costs," said Joe Trubacz, Regional Vice Chancellor of Administrative and Financial Services at USFSP.

[Read up on the design elements and features that make Lynn Pippenger Hall a LEED building.](#)

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## News Coverage

### [Why Gridlock Rules Washington](#)

Orlando Sentinel

### [Chris Latvala Goes to Class](#)

Florida Politics

### [USF Alumni Association Names Fall 2017 Outstanding Graduates](#)

Tampa Bay Newswire

### [Sarasota County School District Teach of the Year Finalists Surprised at Three Schools](#)

Sarasota News Leader

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## Upcoming Events

### [USFSP Fall 2017 Commencement](#)

December 10, Mahaffey Theater, St. Petersburg, FL

### **USFSP Holiday Break**

University will be closed December 25-January 1

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