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Pam Bellis

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Media Contact:

Pam Bellis

(727) 553-4458

pbellis@spadmin.usf.edu

**New Budget Director
Joins USF St. Petersburg Administrative Team**

May 2, 2003 (St. Petersburg, Fla.) - Numbers seem to be the common thread that weaves the fabric of **Max Kerlin's** life. Whether it is collecting timepieces, watching investment trends, or balancing a multi-million dollar budget for a leading university, Kerlin's life is filled with numbers. As the newly named budget director for USF St. Petersburg, he will be once again immersed in numbers as he takes over the budgetary reigns of the rapidly growing university.

"I am delighted Max Kerlin is joining USF St. Petersburg's administrative team as our new budget director," said Gary Olson, interim associate vice president for Academic Affairs. "In light of possible budget cuts and the budgetary challenges that face any growing university, we are indeed fortunate to find someone with Mr. Kerlin's background and experience."

Kerlin comes to USF St. Petersburg with an extensive background in planning, analyzing and managing university budgets. "I bring to this position 26 years of financial management experience at three well-known multi-campus public institutions," said Kerlin. "I believe I have developed a good understanding of, and appreciation for, the role of regional campuses and the issues surrounding them."

Most recently, Kerlin held the office of director of resource management at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque where he has been since 1992. His prior experience includes similar positions at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

"For nearly 18 years, budget has been the principal focus of my work," said Kerlin, whose entire career has been spent at multi-campus public institutions. Kerlin is seen as a "problem-solver" and a "team-player" who tries to use "common sense and good judgment in making and supporting decisions."

"Mr. Kerlin's past experience is ideal for our needs at USF St. Petersburg," said Olson. "These are exciting times for our university. We are experiencing unprecedented growth as a result of answering the educational needs of St. Petersburg and the surrounding areas. As we travel the road to complete fiscal autonomy, this campus is keeping its eye on the future. We are laying the foundation today that will make USF St. Petersburg a nationally acclaimed model university – a university of distinction," Olson said.

Also with an eye on the future, Kerlin said, "I decided to join USF St. Petersburg because it presents such wonderful opportunities. I believe it is becoming one of the most interesting public university campuses in the country, and I am attracted to helping build that kind of place. And, of course, the gorgeous campus, the great St. Petersburg location, and the livability of the area are big assets."

— *USF St. Petersburg* —

USF St. Petersburg - 140 Seventh Avenue South, St. Petersburg Florida 33701-5016 -- 727-553-4USF

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