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Bunch resigns; Ron Kaufman named interim dean of College of Medicine

Dr. Wilton H. Bunch resigned March 5 as dean of the College of Medicine.

“There are times in the lives of institutions that, regardless of competency or personalities, a change of leadership is necessary in order to achieve unity,” Bunch said.

“Dr. Bunch came to USF with a strong background and a vision of medical education honed at his former position as Dean of Medical Affairs at the University of Chicago,” said Dr. Ronald Kaufman, vice president for Health Sciences. “It’s sad that a confluence of events have made it impossible for him to carry through with that vision. However, he has made significant contributions to the future of the USF College of Medicine and religious studies.

Dr. Bunch noted several areas in which the college has made progress during his term. "In spite of nearly overwhelming odds we have made a number of significant achievements that are already moving the college toward academic excellence. I offer some of these achievements as tangibles by which I would hope my record of the past 18 months would be judged. I am proud of what we have gained thus far and saddened by some areas that we have not yet been able to improve. I have taken responsibility and would like to be recognized for the accomplishments that are also my responsibility.

Among the college’s achievements, Bunch cited the following:

--- The college has 43 percent more Florida applicants this year, and the highest number of out-of-state applicants (544) in its history. Incoming students have grade point averages and test scores higher than previous years and higher than the national averages.

--- The college recently completed a successful year-long self-study process aimed at securing national reaccreditation. The self-study process is being transformed into a strategic plan for research and education in the college.

--- The college has held workshops and training for faculty intended to help in the teaching of the humanities, computer instruction and the techniques of innovative teaching.

--- The dean’s office has organized internal research funding and support for previously unfunded basic science faculty members.

--- The number of black applicants to the college has increased sharply.

“We have made a number of significant achievements that are already moving the college toward academic excellence. ... I am proud of what we have gained.”

- Wilton Bunch

Karen Spear resigns post as interim dean at USF St. Petersburg

Karen Spear announced she will leave her position as interim dean of USF St. Petersburg to become dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo., beginning July 1.

Spear served as associate dean at USF St. Petersburg since October 1988. She was named interim dean in August 1989, after campus Dean Lowell E. Davis suffered a stroke and later died. She formerly was an associate dean of Liberal Education and an English professor at the University of Utah.

Spear said her professional goals could be better met through the new position.

“The campus faculty, the Campus Advisory Board and the St. Petersburg community have extended extraordinary friendship and confidence in my leadership. Both personally and professionally, I desperately regret departing from that kind of support,” Spear said.

Spear’s work at USF St. Petersburg earned high praise, said USF Provosterry Meisels.

“Dr. Karen Spear has provided excellent leadership as interim dean of the St. Petersburg campus, following Dean Lowell Davis’ untimely illness and death,” Meisels said. “We will miss her insights and her leadership on issues of liberal education as well as her talents as an administrator.”

Spear is credited with helping launch an extensive public lecture series on urban issues that earned her a new level of prominence to the campus. She also has been working to establish a National Writing Project site with a campus program tied to the Poynor Institute for Media Studies that is planned to begin in 1991. The program will offer writing workshops for teachers, in conjunction with a summer writer’s camp for development of a business minor for liberal arts majors and a liberal arts minor for business majors.

The University will immediately seek an interim dean, and one should be named no later than May, Meisels said. A national search for a permanent dean will be initiated in the full, following the completion of a study of the regional campuses. A permanent dean will assume office by mid-1991.

Fort Lewis College is a 4-year, undergraduate, public liberal arts college.

Computing Services moves offices

The University Computing Services open access facility on the third floor of the Student Services building has moved to a new location on the first floor. At the same time, Academic and User Services was also relocated to the first floor. These moves are being made to consolidate primary customer service functions in a more convenient location and to make space available for growth in the mainframe and support staff areas.

Academic and User Services functions moved included Workstation/Telecommunications Support, the User Services Information Center, Academic Support, the training area and the Microcomputer Support Coordinator. The new facility provides mainframe terminal access and enhances output capability through the installation of new laser printers, along with the proximity of a variety of staff information resources. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to consult the “main menu” for further information.

Smokers needed for bronchitis study

Researchers in the Division of Allergy and Immunology are looking for volunteers over age 40 to participate in a study of chronic bronchitis in patients who have a history of smoking cigarettes.

The researchers are studying the effectiveness of new inhalers in relieving such common symptoms as tightness of the chest and shortness of breath.

Participants will receive free medications and will be paid a nominal fee to cover their expenses.

Anyone interested in joining the study should call the USF Center for Allergy and Immunology Research at 972-8857.
Jacob Neusner, 57, called the most prolific scholar of Judaic Studies in the world by the Baltimore Jewish Times, will join the faculty of the University of South Florida in the fall of 1990.

That announcement was made on March 8, 1990 by USF President Francis T. Borkowski and Provost Gerry Meisels. Neusner will come to the university as a tenured Graduate Research Professor in the department of religious studies.

Neusner is currently a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J. He recently left his position as University Professor and Ungerfelder Distinguished Scholar of Judaic Studies at Brown University. As the author of over 250 books and many more scholarly articles, Neusner has written on subjects ranging from a translation of the Talmud to "How to Grade Your Professors and Other Unexpected Advice."

It is Neusner's scholarly analysis of Jewish history, religion, literature and culture that have won him honorary degrees from the University of Rochester, Brown University, the University of Chicago, the University of Cologne, Ohio State University and the University of Bologna. He also received the Columbia University Medal of Excellence, the Von Humboldt Prize from Germany, the Medal of Honor from the College de France and the Medal In Celebration of the 500th anniversary of the University of Tubingen in Germany.

"The University of South Florida is fortunate to have attracted an internationally known scholar of Jacob Neusner's caliber," Professor Neusner's decision to join our faculty reflects the commitment USF has to the advancement of research and teaching in the liberal arts. We look forward with great anticipation to his arrival," USF President Francis T. Borkowski said.

"Professor Neusner is one of the world's most distinguished scholars in the humanitians," said USF Provost Gerry Meisels. "To have someone of such stature join the University of South Florida is a real coup. We are delighted and excited by his enthusiasm and his interest in taking a leadership role on the USF campus."

"Neusner's research touches on all aspects of Jewish life, from the ancient to the modern. Several of his books have focused on the Mishnah, the first two of sections in the Talmud. The Mishnah is a collection of the early oral interpretations of the holy scriptures. Neusner's multi-volume "A History of the Jews in Babylonia" is also considered required reading in most Judaic Studies programs."

"I have known Jack Neusner as a fellow member of the National Council on Arts for three years," said State Senator Bob Johnson of Sarasota. "He is one of the really outstanding minds in Judaic Studies, and I am glad that I could play a role in bringing him to the University of South Florida."

Neusner received his undergraduate degree, Magna Cum Laude, in history from Harvard. He attended the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He received his doctorate degree in religion from Columbia University in 1960. He was appointed to the National Endowment for the Humanities Board by President Jimmy Carter and served from 1978 to 1984. Neusner was also appointed to the National Endowment for the Arts Board by President Ronald Reagan from 1984-1994, becoming one of only two persons to ever serve on both councils. Neusner and his wife, Suzanne, have four children and plan to reside in St. Petersburg.

Art Museum chosen for Guggenheim Collection Sharing Program

The USF Art Museum has been chosen as one of 13 museums nationally to participate in the Guggenheim Museum's Collection Sharing Program.

Begun in 1981, and sponsored by the GTE Corporation, this program allows participating institutions to borrow works on a long-term basis from the Guggenheim's permanent collection during the next five years.

The other museums selected for this prestigious program are The Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio; The Chrysler Museum in Norfolk, Va.; Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.; The High Museum in Atlanta, Ga.; Honolulu Academy of Arts, and the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg, Fla., among others.

The program's agenda for 1990-95 is to offer loans for six months to two years and to provide works that will complement the permanent collections and special exhibitions of the participating institutions.

During its first loan phase, 1983-88, the program sent over 100 works to American museums.

According to USF Art Museum director Margaret Miller, "We reviewed over 1,400 works and plan to borrow a selection of contemporary American and European paintings, sculptures and works on paper. The works will be installed in the USF Museum beginning January 1993 for six months. We are now beginning to formulate a proposal to directly involve students and faculty in planning for the GTE Guggenheim Collection Sharing Program."

USF Golf and Tennis Tournament

Sign-up Form

Eligible: USF Faculty, Staff, and Spouses
Levels: Novice, Intermediate, Championship
When: Saturday, April 21, 1990
Where: USF Golf Course
USF Varsity & Andros Tennis Courts
Entry Deadline: Friday, April 6, 1990
Entry Fee: Bring your own golf and tennis balls

Name(s):

A. 
B. 

USF Golf
Novice ( ) Intermediate ( ) Championship ( )
Handicap (for typical score)

USF Tennis

Name ( ) Women's ( ) Mixed Doubles ( )
Name ( ) Novice ( ) Intermediate ( )

Foursome: Entrees:

Bringing your own golf and tennis balls

Address:

Tennis:

Entry Form

Name ( ) Men's ( )

Name ( ) Men's ( )

St. Pete passes United Way fund-raising goal

USF St. Petersburg far exceeded its 1989 United Way employee campaign goal of $3,000 by raising $4,272, an unprecedented increase of nearly $272 over the amount raised in last year's campaign.

The milestone also broke records by being the largest amount the campus community has ever raised for United Way. In 1984, when USF St. Petersburg began running employee campaigns, the grand total was $715.

"At USF St. Petersburg we believe in the United Way. We believe it's not just a way to care," said Interim Dean Karen Spear. "The support from USF St. Petersburg means that help will be there when it is needed by ourselves, our friends and our neighbors."

The 1989 campaign team included Professor Bob Hall, and staffers Wayne Wilson, Sadie Tschiderer, Maureen Gomez and Deborah Kurelik, campaign coordinator.

"We had an overwhelming response to United Way this year," Kurelik said. "This showed us the campus community has a great big heart that's committed to increasing social services in Pinellas County."