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University of South Florida.

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From an orange grove to a cultural center
USF celebrates 30th anniversary this year

The year was 1956. Elvis was the king of rock-n-roll, and John Allen, the first president of USF, was shown in this picture taken on campus as just another actor and New York Yankee Don Larsen pitched the first and only perfect game in World Series history over the Brooklyn Dodgers.

And a historical event was recorded in Florida that year. When once an orange grove began to mushroom as a cultural center of learning on Florida's west coast, it was 30 years ago this December that the University of South Florida was founded.

In three decades USF has become the second largest university in the state with four campuses — in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota and Ft. Myers — that serve a 15-county area with a population larger than that of 24 states. It has been a giant leap forward for the university which was a hunting preserve 10 miles from downtown Tampa early in the century. The property then became an orange grove until World War II when the government made it part of Henderson Airfield.

State Rep. Sam Gibbons, now a U.S. representative, lobbied to get a state university established on the site in 1956. His successful efforts earned him the affectionate nickname "Father of USF." USF opened its doors for classes Sept. 25, 1960 to 1,960 students. Except for three buildings, the 1,700-acre Tampa campus was a mostly barren sand dune. Gibbons referred to the first ground-breaking as "sand-shuffling."

Today there are 164 buildings on the Tampa campus alone, with the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute and USF Psychiatry Center holding dedications this fall and two more fine arts buildings, an eye institute, a second engineering building, a pediatric hospital, a new J. Clifford MacDonald Center to train mentally and physically handicapped adults in vocations and a major addition to the University Center coming in the next three years.

USF has a $215 million budget, 90 undergraduate programs, 82 masters programs, two specialist degrees in education and 19 doctoral programs, including the M.D. in medicine. Nationally renowned programs include the recognition of members of the Physical Plant, and Robert Densdith, business manager and later vice president of administration. From now left, Mary Lou Barker (Harkins), catalog librarian, Barbara, library typist; Barbara, university typist, and Virginia Getch, secretary and later employed in Personnel.

First Staff
Some of USF's first employees are shown in this picture taken in late 1959 or early 1960. Mary Lou Huckins, director of the USF Library, recently was asked to help identify members of the group and their positions. Back row, left to right, Elliot Hardway, director of the Library, Sidney Perlich, dean of USF College, Ann Strickland, the president's secretary, John Allen, USF president, Clyde Hill, director of the Physical Plant, and Robert Densdith, business manager and later vice president of administration. From now left, Mary Lou Barker (Harkins), catalog librarian, Barbara, library typist, Barbara, university typist, and Virginia Getch, secretary and later employed in Personnel.

National Higher Education Week: use your liberty to learn!

More than 1,000 higher education institutions across the country will plan activities for the week, ranging from recruitment activities to radio and television public service announcements to student cultural fairs. The observance involves students, educators, alumni, business leaders, industry, the community, legislators, parents and future students.

This fifth annual national observance will be proclaimed by governors in 50 states and mayors in at least 30 major American cities.

As part of the celebration here at USF, Tampa Mayor Sandy Freedman has signed a proclamation in honor of the week, urging citizens to acknowledge and show their appreciation of the contributions of college trained minds to the city and nation.

The public is encouraged to emphasize the importance of education to University Community.

Education is freedom. Use your liberty to learn!
Human Resources trains those who help others

Dr. Kern's secretary, Catherine L. Berg, demonstrates use of the APTPMD battery test, designed to test a potential client or student's aptitude or interest.

The Board of Regents also has authorized the program to have a master of arts.

Kerns said there has been a vast increase in interest and expansion of vocational assessment programs across the country. The real "baddies" legislation for vocational assessment has been various acts like the Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act, National Rehabilitation Act, the Education of Handicapped Children Act and the Job Training Partnership Act. This past year, approximately one-half of Kern's time has been spent with the JTPA training both old and new employees in vocational assessment.

Kerns said there is a need for more centers to put clients or students through vocational assessment tests prior to placement in vocational programs. "Only 50 percent of graduates from vocational technical centers go into work or get a job in the field for which they were trained," he said.

Since USF's program began in 1972, approximately 4,000 to 5,000 people have been trained. Kerns said Florida has about 300 vocational evaluation centers, but about half of these are in educational facilities and the others in rehabilitation/human services facilities.

Public safety reminds campus about weapons policy

found in possession of a weapon on campus may be subject to severe disciplinary action or criminal prosecution.

Urwahn said that students who may possess firearms for hunting or other recreational purpose may use a University Police department secure area where weapons may be stored until needed.

Since September 1999, intercom has been shut down or out at any time or day night, he said.

Policy Statement

Deadline: The next issue of Intercom will be published October 29. Please submit copy to Jennifer Thomas, Intercom editor, ADM 264. The deadline for the next issue is October 16. The issue date and deadline for upcoming issues are as follows:

Issue Date Deadline/ADM 264
Oct. 29 Oct. 16
Oct. 16
Nov. 26
Nov. 13

This public document was promulgated as an annual cost of $34,660 or $9.23 each, to provide timely information to Faculty and Staff about University matters.

USF is an equal opportunity institution.

Announcements

Human Resources trains those who help others

Human Resources' program helps the professionals who help the other people make decisions about employment and careers.

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Vincenzo Szentivanyi was appointed to conduct a nationwide search for the next issue is

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