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## Press release : 2017 : 04 : 06 : Florida Studies Faculty to Speak at Library of Congress

University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Office of University Advancement.

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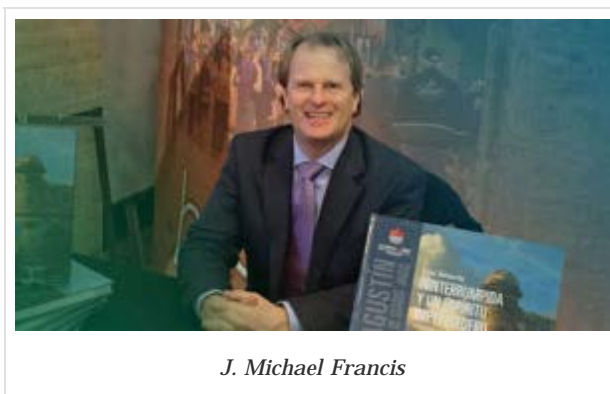


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## FLORIDA STUDIES FACULTY TO SPEAK AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

USF St. Petersburg historian [J. Michael Francis](#) will speak at the Library of Congress, the nation’s oldest federal cultural institution, on Monday, April 10. Francis will speak to the creation of a new initiative that aims to make colonial Florida history accessible to users across the world with the click of a mouse.

This comprehensive, interactive and multidisciplinary digital project will contain infographics, maps, original documents, and a historical database of people who lived in Florida between 1513 and 1821. The first phase of the initiative is expected to launch in the fall.



*J. Michael Francis*

Francis, Hough Family Chair of Florida Studies and Professor of History, is a leading expert on colonial Florida and Spanish history. He has taught in the fields of colonial Latin America, early Florida, Spanish borderlands, the pre-Columbian Americas, and Spanish paleography.

Francis recently presented about the initiative with two graduate students at a national conference in Alabama. [Learn more.](#)

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