



**University of South Florida St. Petersburg
Fall Commencement Script
December 15, 2012, 6:00 p.m.**

PRELUDE **5:45 p.m.**

PROCESSIONAL **6:00 p.m.**

(SHANK from back of arena.)

SHANK:

Ladies and Gentlemen, please rise for the procession of the 53rd Commencement of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg led by Commencement Marshal Dr. STEVE LANG, who bears the Mace of the University.

(PROCESSIONAL MUSIC STARTS)

PAUSE

The Fall 2013 Master Candidates of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg;

PAUSE

The Student Government Speaker, the Outstanding Graduate, the King O'Neal Scholar, and our Vocalist;

The Regional Chancellor's Award for Civic Leadership recipient;

PAUSE

the Faculty (*pause*); Regional Vice Chancellors (*pause*), and Deans of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg;

PAUSE

the USF Alumni Association President;

PAUSE

the USF Board of Trustees members (*pause*) and USF St. Petersburg Campus Board Members;

PAUSE

the Regional Chancellor of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg;

LONG PAUSE

the President of the University System, DR. JUDY GENSHAFT.

(LANG approaches platform from right side. When the procession is completed and all are at their seats, LANG goes to center microphone.)

LANG:

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a privilege to welcome you to the University of South Florida St. Petersburg's Fall 2013 Commencement. I hereby declare this convocation open. On behalf of the faculty, I offer congratulations to all the graduates.

And now, the Regional Chancellor of USF St. Petersburg, DR. SOPHIA WISNIEWSKA.

(LANG returns to seat; WISNIEWSKA goes to center mic.)

WISNIEWSKA:

Good evening and welcome to the Fall 2013 Commencement ceremony at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Will the assembly please remain standing and join LAURA DAVIS in the singing of our National Anthem.

(DAVIS goes to center mic. WISNIEWSKA returns to seat.)

SINGING OF ANTHEM

(DAVIS returns to seat. WISNIEWSKA returns to mic.)

WISNIEWSKA:

Thank you, LAURA. You may all be seated.

A distinguished Platform Party joins us for today's celebration. I would ask you to please hold your applause until all introductions are completed.

I would like to introduce representatives of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg Faculty...

(WISNIEWSKA gestures to faculty on arena floor and platform. Faculty stand, then sit.)

Our Regional Vice Chancellors and Deans...

(RVCs and Deans stand, then sit)

MONTY WEIGEL, President, Alumni Association

(WEIGEL stands then sits)

COURTNEY PARISH, Graduating Student and Speaker

(PARISH stands, then sits)

Our Outstanding Graduate Award recipient, CHARLES HAMM, and King O’Neal scholar, ABDIEL GONZALEZ, (*HAMM and GONZALEZ stand, then sit.*)

The Regional Chancellor’s Award for Civic Leadership recipient, the Honorable Rick Baker;

USF System Trustees DEBBIE SEMBLER, STEPHANIE GOFORTH, SCOTT HOPES, CHRISTOPHER DAVIS, and MARK LOMBARDI-NELSON; members of the St. Petersburg Campus Board, ROY BINGER, and JUDY MITCHELL;

(Board members stand, then sit)

And the President of the University System, Dr. JUDY GENSHAFT.

(GENSHAFT stands, then sits)

Please join me in acknowledging these distinguished guests. (*pause*)

Today, we happily celebrate the academic accomplishments of 406 graduates, representing majors from 33 academic homes.

I extend my congratulations and my thanks to each one of you. I know how hard you have worked to get to this day in your life. Your accomplishments are indeed commendable.

Over the years that you have studied here at USF St. Petersburg, we have been working hard to teach you to become a good learner—to learn how to learn. While it is important that you understand your discipline and know how to communicate your ideas—it is even more important that you are leaving here knowing how to learn: to analyze data, to synthesize, to think critically—

intellectual tools that will stand you in good stead no matter what the future may hold.

The disciplines that you have studied can have a tremendous impact on the world. Through the careers you follow in education, business, liberal arts, science, technology, and communication, you will enhance the communities where you live and work. I know that you will make us proud.

To the families and friends of our graduating students, I also extend my congratulations and my thanks. This day is your achievement, too. Thank you for your support. We're very glad that you could be here today.

Thanks, too, to our wonderful staff and alumni who reach out as advocates and mentors to support our students.

Thank you to our Campus Board members who devote enormous time and energy ensuring the future health and vitality of this institution.

And, of course, our faculty members deserve special thanks.

They challenged you, demanded much from you and helped you to learn, to analyze and to create. They opened new worlds— traveling with you to Vietnam, Moldova, Guatemala, and other places. Our thanks to you, the faculty — what you have given our graduates will last a lifetime.

I congratulate you, the graduates, on all your achievements. And thank you for the contributions you have already made to our shared academic life here on campus. We will cherish the time we spent together and we look forward with keen anticipation to your frequent returns.

Now, I am pleased to introduce the President of the University System, Dr. Judy Genshaft.

(WISNIEWSKA returns to seat, GENSHAFT goes to center microphone)

GENSHAFT:

On behalf of the faculty, staff and trustees, I want to thank our graduates for being a part of the University of South Florida System.

This semester, over 4000 students are graduating from across the USF System. This diverse group came to us from 44 states and 83 nations.

Our oldest graduate age 67, is receiving a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from USF Sarasota-Manatee.

Our youngest graduate is 19-year-old Britain Taulbee, who is receiving a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from USF Tampa.

We are also proud to have 16 outstanding graduates who will join hundreds of other USF men and women who serve their country as commissioned officers in our armed forces.

All of you had the good fortune to study at the University of South Florida...one of America's leading research institutions.

The degrees we award today signify a special collaboration between students and their professors, advisors, fellow students and university staff. And virtually every degree represents the commitment and help of families and friends.

I would like to ask our graduates' mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, wives, husbands, sons, daughters, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, partners and significant others to rise, so that we may show you how much your contributions mean to us.

(Applause)

You may be seated.

This is indeed a day to celebrate your hard work, careful planning and unwavering determination to reach your goal.

Our national and international reputation has made great leaps forward in recent years due to the hard work of our students, faculty and staff who are tireless in their pursuit of excellence on all levels.

USF is a Top 50 research university as determined by the National Science Foundation among all universities, both public and private institutions.

We are a global leader in generating new U.S. patents – and that’s why there is such an incredible atmosphere of innovation and creativity here. We have given our students and faculty the freedom to explore new ideas and create new technologies and products – and they are doing so in great numbers.

The Institute of International Education and the Chronicle of Higher Education has named USF as a top producer of Fulbright Scholars – placing our university in the same category with Harvard University, Columbia, Cornell and the University of California Berkley in one of the world’s most competitive postgraduate scholarships.

We are recognized nationally as the 4th most veteran-friendly university in the nation – and I especially congratulate the 132 veterans graduating from the USF System today. We not only thank you for your service, but look forward to your future contributions as leaders in our community.

And this is one of my favorite points of pride: USF was recently named by the Sierra Club as the nation’s 12th “Cool School” for our commitment to sustainability in research and education.

This award is a bold statement for USF: We are not only relevant to the times;

we are leading the way into the future.

Economists often talk about the “education dividend” of higher education. Our graduates, faculty, students and staff ARE the dividend in the Tampa Bay region.

As graduates – you have contributed to this success while completing your own personal journey through the university experience.

You are writing your own story and determining your own destiny, but also adding to the great potential that exists in our community and region for lasting success.

One of our favorite parts of graduation is hearing your stories and memories of your time at USF.

Andrew Saint Martin struggled for 2 years persevering with underemployment and menial work after his company laid him off due to downsizing. He decided to return to school and secure a bachelor’s degree with a PTO minor in education to become a high school teacher. After 4 years, Andrew has achieved his goal and has a phenomenal experience at USF St. Petersburg, proving that it’s never too late to pursue one’s dream.

Elizabeth Biasotti attended two different universities before enrolling at USF St. Petersburg and never felt so much at home as she did here. She created long lasting friendships, and enjoyed the opportunity to interact with professors in small class settings. Her professors have inspired her to change the world in such a way that after graduation she is considering joining the Peace Corps.

Frank Johnson comes from a working class family. College was not planned for him. In the year 2000, he recalls working across the street from the university at the Poynter Institute, and thinking that being a student at USFSP

was out of his reach. He credits his mother, who passed in 2009, as his inspiration to pursue his dream. He graduates today with a Master of Arts in Teaching.

These stories are samples of the journey through a university experience, one we have been proud to share with you at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

I hope you will look back at our time together at USF St. Petersburg as some of the best years of your life. It has been our privilege to have you with us at the University of South Florida.

Congratulations!

(Applause)

Now it's my pleasure to introduce COURTNEY PARISH, Former Student Body President

COURTNEY...

(PARISH goes to center microphone. GENSHAFT returns to seat.)

PARISH:

Chancellor Wisniewska, esteemed faculty, staff, and parents, thank you. Your support and guidance helped us make the decisions that bring us together now, in celebration. I couldn't be more pleased to be with you tonight having finished my final semester of college.

As a freshman I considered graduation a milestone that I needed to pass in order to start building my career. My roommate and I even drafted a plan: it was to survive classes, to graduate, to get a job, and to save money to travel and experience other cultures. I was goal-oriented, which moved me forward in my life plan; but dreaming of my future and pinning travel tips to Pinterest is a far cry from living, learning and enjoying the present.

In a moment of social media torpor I came across this quote “People wait all week for Friday, all year for summer, all life for happiness.” This banal sentiment touched a chord. I reflected on the ‘State of my State’ and decided there was room for improvement. The areas that needed immediate attention were being tied too closely to social media and “waiting” for my life to begin, both conditions a reflection of an overall fear of missing out or failing.

Our generation is always plugged in. According to Berry Hadfield, a guest writer for Forbes, “one word that describes Gen “Y”’s communication habits is “constant.” We are so preoccupied with updating our lives in “real time” that we forget to enjoy the moment. In our attempt to appear well rounded, popular and interesting, by constantly updating our constituents on our every thought and action, we undermine the present.

My solution for eroding my fears and living more fully in the present was to become involved in campus life. Joining student government and being elected Student Body President is very present oriented. My goals of increased student involvement on campus were met and exceeded by real time meetings, planning and sweat equity. Mixers, events, budgets and bills that enhance the student experience don’t plan themselves. The student government and numerous clubs and organizations worked in real time to affect a more welcoming and involved campus. The benefit for me was less Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and texting and more experiences, friendships and a sense of accomplishment – unrecorded, except in my memory.

Unplug! Find something that connects you to present activities, friends, and discussions. Take pictures and post later. Your friends came out to see you, not to watch you text. Who knows whom you will meet and connect with when you are not staring at your cell phone trying to impress people who are just trying to impress you.

Class of 2013, enjoy a sense of accomplishment! College is behind us and ahead is a life filled with dreams, goals and wonderful adventures that start at the beginning of each new day. Live in the present and enjoy the moments that lead up to accomplishing our goals. GO BULLS!!!!

(PARISH returns to seat; WISNIEWSKA goes to mic.)

WISNIEWSKA:

Thank you, COURTNEY. It is my pleasure to introduce Dr. VIVIAN FUEYO, Interim Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

(FUEYO goes to center podium microphone. WISNIEWSKA returns to seat.)

FUEYO:

At the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, we take pride in the academic achievements of all our students and we welcome opportunities to recognize and honor students who consistently meet the highest level of academic performance.

Undergraduate students who are graduating with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher are recognized as graduating with honors. In the academy, we acknowledge the work and achievement of our students with the following honors designations.

Students graduating with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher are marked by the designation *Cum Laude*, “with praise.” Will those students please stand *(pause)* please be seated.

The designation *Magna Cum Laude*, “with high praise,” reflects a grade point average of 3.7 or higher. Will those students achieving at this level please stand *(pause)* please be seated.

Finally are those graduates who are recognized for achievement at the highest honor. *Summa Cum Laude* or “with highest praise” recognizes those graduates achieving a grade point average of 3.9 or higher. Will those students please stand *(pause)* please be seated.

FUEYO:

Each Commencement, the USF Alumni Association recognizes the achievements of our graduating seniors with the highest cumulative grade point average, a 4.0 GPA, by awarding the King O’Neal Scholar Award. The King O’Neal award is given in honor of charter graduates Lucas King and Evelyn O’Neal.

The recipient of the King O’Neal award is honored with a certificate of accomplishment and a gold medallion with the university seal.

The Fall 2013 graduating class at USF St. Petersburg has 2 qualifying graduates with a 4.0 GPA and 1 is with us at today’s ceremony.

I would like to call forward the President of the Alumni Association, Monty Weigel, to join President Genshaft in the presentation of the award.

(GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA, and WEIGEL come forward. WISNIEWSKA stands to the right of the podium. GENSHAFT stands to the far right, WEIGEL to her right)

ABDIEL GONZALEZ

(GONZALEZ comes forward and stands between WISNIEWSKA and GENSHAFT)

Today Abdiel receives a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the College of Business. He is currently working as an accounting intern, and starting in the spring, Abdiel plans to continue his education at USF St. Petersburg in order to meet the education requirements to become a Certified Public Accountant. He will sit for the CPA exam and begin working in the accounting field.

Congratulations, ABDIEL!

(FUEYO retrieves certificate from inside the podium and presents to GONZALEZ. WEIGEL, GONZALEZ, GENSHAFT and WISNIEWSKA pose for photograph; GONZALEZ returns to seat); (GENSHAFT and WEIGEL remain standing; FUEYO remains at mic.)

Each Commencement, the USF Alumni Association gives the Outstanding Graduate Award, which recognizes the graduating senior who embodies leadership, school spirit, community service, character and scholarship. Our Fall 2013 Outstanding Graduate is CHARLES HAMM.

Charles, will you please come forward?

(GENSHAFT escorts HAMM to the right of center microphone.)

Charles is graduating today with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and Finance from the College of Business.

Charles is a College of Business student graduating with a Bachelor's degree earned in the dual majors of Accounting and Finance.

He was born and raised in the city of Atlanta, Georgia, and later moved to St. Petersburg, Florida. Beginning in his middle teenage years, Charles held a wide variety of jobs ranging all the way from bus boy and full-service gas station attendant to retail manager and residential loan officer. Along the way, he became fascinated by business and resolved to learn everything he could about it while performing the various jobs he took.

In 2004, Charles began to take a few classes each semester at Saint Petersburg College while continuing to work full time. Progress was slow, and it was not until 2009, with the crucial support of his family, that he decided to renew his stalled efforts. He received his Associate's degree from Saint Petersburg College in the Spring of 2010 and enrolled in USFSP's College of Business the following semester. Soon thereafter, Charles chose accounting as his major. Once underway in the accounting program, he joined Beta Alpha Psi, an accounting and finance honors society that meets on campus weekly.

During his second semester with Beta Alpha Psi, Charles was elected Vice President of Professional Development. In this role, he focused his efforts on identifying and helping to cultivate the skills that were most important to employers, as well as preparing students for making the successful transition from school to work. He also presented a career fair preparation course and worked along with the Poynter Institute to develop a professional writing presentation that was recognized by the Beta Alpha Psi national chapter.

As a result of participating in Beta Alpha Psi, Charles made several close friends and was ultimately introduced to a top local firm, Gregory, Sharer & Stuart, where he has spent the past year working in assurance services while finishing his degree.

Charles was able to earn an overall GPA of 3.83 and is grateful for the unique experience he enjoyed here at USFSP, which he feels was made possible by great professors and positive students, high standards and his participation

in Beta Alpha Psi. Charles is excited about continuing to grow professionally and is planning to sit for the CPA exam next summer.

Congratulations, CHARLES!

(FUEYO retrieves award from inside the podium and presents to HAMM.)

*(WEIGEL, HAMM, GENSHAFT, and WISNIEWSKA pose for photograph; HAMM returns to seat; WEIGEL and FUEYO return to seat; **WISNIEWSKA RETURNS TO MIC.** GENSHAFT briefly returns to seat)*

HONOREE SECTION

WISNIEWSKA:

Thank you, VIVIAN.

I am honored tonight to present the Chancellor’s Award for Civic Leadership to a man whose commitment to education, the arts, diversity and economic development transformed St. Petersburg. The vibrant and engaging city we all know and love today is the direct result of the visionary leadership of Rick Baker.

He is best known for the eight years he served as mayor of St. Petersburg, a period of unmatched growth and progress. He led the relocation of the Dali Museum, preserved the downtown waterfront, and improved neighborhood parks and playgrounds. He also worked to uplift the city’s schools, including serving as a mentor and recruiting hundreds of others to join him. Among his proudest achievements was breathing new life into Midtown.

Before he was elected mayor, Mr. Baker was president of the St. Petersburg law firm of Fisher and Sauls and chairman of the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce. He also is the author of two books -- *Mangroves to Major League*,

a history of St. Petersburg, as well as *The Seamless City: A Conservative Mayor's Approach to Urban Revitalization that Can Work Anywhere.*

After two terms as mayor, Mr. Baker served as Vice President for Economic Development for the University of South Florida, focusing on strategic alliances and business partnerships. Today he is president of The Edwards Group, which includes commercial real estate, hotels and entertainment.

The Chancellor's Award for Civic Leadership is the most prestigious honor granted by USF St. Petersburg. Today we bestow this award upon Rick Baker with deep gratitude for his continuing community leadership.

Rick, it is my pleasure to present you with the Chancellor's Award for Civic Leadership. Congratulations!

(GENSHAFT stands up and gets to the left of WISNIEWSKA; BAKER stands up and gets to the right of WISNIEWSKA. WISNIEWSKA retrieves award from inside the podium and hands it to BAKER. BAKER shakes hands with WISNIEWSKA and GENSHAFT. Photo of BAKER, WISNIEWSKA and GENSHAFT is taken; BAKER returns to seat; WISNIEWSKA returns to seat; GENSHAFT moves to center of microphone.)

GENSHAFT:

Thank you.

And now we come to that part of the program that you have eagerly awaited, the conferring of degrees.

For presentation of candidates, I would like to recognize the Interim Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, DR. VIVIAN FUEYO.

(FUEYO stands up and takes position behind dean's podium. GENSHAFT returns to seat)

MASTERS

FUEYO:

For Fall, 79 individuals have earned Masters degrees and 53 are with us this evening. I would like to call forward DR. TODD SHANK to introduce the candidates.

(FUEYO returns to seat)

SHANK:

For the College of Arts and Sciences, Dean FRANK BIAFORA and hooding assistant, DR. MORGAN GRESHAM.

(BIAFORA goes to dean's podium)

BIAFORA:

Will the candidates for the Masters degree from Arts and Sciences please come forward? PRESIDENT GENSHAFT, on behalf of the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences, I present the Fall 2013 candidates for the Masters degree.

(Masters candidates begin walking across the stage; SHANK reads names; BIAFORA and hooding assistants assume hooding positions. GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER get up and assume greeting position. When the last student has crossed the stage, BIAFORA and hooding assistants return to seat. GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA, and SEMBLER remain in greeting position.)

SHANK:

For the College of Business, Dean MALING EBRAHIMPOUR and hooding assistant, DR. ALISON WATKINS.

(EBRAHIMPOUR goes to dean's podium)

EBRAHIMPOUR:

Will the candidates for the Masters degree from the College of Business please come forward? PRESIDENT GENSHAFT, on behalf of the faculty of the College of Business, I present the Fall 2013 candidates for the Masters degree.

(Masters candidates begin walking across the stage; SHANK reads names; EBRAHIMPOUR and hooding assistant assume hooding positions. GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER assume greeting positions; When the last student has crossed the stage, EBRAHIMPOUR and hooding assistant return to seat. GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER remain in greeting position.)

SHANK:

For the College of Education, Dean BILL HELLER and hooding assistant, DR. LYMAN DUKES.

(HELLER goes to dean's podium)

HELLER:

Will the candidates for the Masters degree from the College of Education please come forward? PRESIDENT GENSHAFT, on behalf of the faculty of the College of Education, I present the Fall 2013 candidates for the Masters degree.

(Masters candidates begin walking across the stage; SHANK reads names; HELLER and hooding assistant assume hooding positions. GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER assume greeting position. When the last student has crossed the stage, HELLER and hooding assistant return to seats. GENSHAFT and FUEYO return to microphone. WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER remain in greeting position. SHANK remains at podium.)

FUEYO:

PRESIDENT GENSHAFT, on behalf of the graduate faculties of the various colleges and the USF St. Petersburg Graduate Council, I present these students for the Masters degree.

GENSHAFT:

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the University Board of Trustees and the State of Florida, I confer upon each of you the Masters degree.

(FUEYO returns to seat.)

BACCALAUREATE

GENSHAFT:

Now we award the Baccalaureate degrees.

SHANK:

For the College of Arts & Sciences, Dean FRANK BIAFORA.

(BIAFORA goes to dean's podium. Marshals begin escorting College of Arts & Sciences students

to stairs stage left.)

BIAFORA:

Will the students from College of Arts & Sciences please come forward?

PRESIDENT GENSHAFT, on behalf of the faculty of the College of Arts & Sciences, I present the Fall 2013 candidates for the Baccalaureate degree.

(GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER assume greeting position. BIAFORA steps to greeting position next to the podium. SHANK reads names as students walk across stage. BIAFORA returns to seat after last student has crossed stage. GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA, and SEMBLER remain standing.)

SHANK:

For the College of Business, Dean MALING EBRAHIMPOUR.

(EBRAHIMPOUR goes to dean's podium. Marshals begin escorting College of Business students to stairs stage left.)

EBRAHIMPOUR:

Will the students from College of Business please come forward? PRESIDENT GENSHAFT, on behalf of the faculty of the College of Business, I present the Fall 2013 candidates for the Baccalaureate degree.

(GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER assume greeting position. EBRAHIMPOUR steps to greeting position next to podium. SHANK reads names as students walk across the stage.

EBRAHIMPOUR returns to seat after last student has crossed the stage. GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER remain standing.)

SHANK:

For the College of Education, Dean BILL HELLER.

(HELLER goes to dean's podium. Marshals begin escorting College of Education students to stairs stage left.)

HELLER:

Will the students from College of Education please come forward?

PRESIDENT GENSHAFT, on behalf of the faculty of the College of Education, I present the Fall 2013 candidates for the Baccalaureate degree.

(GENSHAFT, WISNIEWSKA and SEMBLER assume greeting position. HELLER steps to greeting position next to podium. SHANK reads names as students walk across stage. WISNIEWSKA, SEMBLER and HELLER return to seat after last student has crossed stage. GENSHAFT returns to microphone.)

GENSHAFT:

Will the Deans please stand? ... Will the faculty please stand? ... Will the candidates for the Bachelors degree please stand? ...

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the University Board of Trustees and the State of Florida, I confer upon each of you the Bachelors degree. Please move your tassels to the left! CONGRATULATIONS!

(GENSHAFT returns to seat. WISNIEWSKA takes center podium)

WISNIEWSKA:

Thank you. Please be seated.

(PAUSE)

Please join me in thanking our faculty who have honored the graduates by serving as Commencement Marshals, and especially DR. TODD SHANK for graciously announcing all 256 graduates attending today's ceremony.

(PAUSE)

Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for joining us here to honor these graduates and this university. We are grateful for your interest and support.

To the graduates, again I offer my heartiest congratulations, along with a reminder.

Although today you have completed a period of intense involvement with the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, always remember that this is your university and your home.

we are proud of your achievements in your years at USFSP, and of the distinction you will bring to your university in your professional, civic and family life.

We wish you the best of luck, success and happiness. And we hope you will return often.

And now, would you please stand and join LAURA DAVIS in the singing of our Alma Mater; graduates may refer to the back cover of the Commencement Program.

(DAVIS goes to center microphone. WISNIEWSKA returns to seat.)

SINGING OF ALMA MATER

(DAVIS returns to seat. LANG, mace bearer, steps up to center microphone.)

LANG:

Thank you, LAURA. This concludes the 53rd Commencement of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

Graduates and public at large, please remain standing for the recessional of the platform party.

(Music begins. LANG takes the mace and exits to his left. GENSHAFT follows LANG and exits to her left. LANG leads the processional down the center aisle on the floor to the back of the theater. Remainder of platform party follows.)

-END-