

USF – A COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA 2012-2013 UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG

Vision, Mission, Goals, and Values

Vision

The University of South Florida envisions itself as a premier research university with state, national and global impact, and positioned for membership in the Association of American Universities (AAU).

Mission

As Florida's leading metropolitan research university, USF is dedicated to excellence in:

- Student access and success in an engaged, and interdisciplinary, learner-centered environment,
- Research and scientific discovery, including the generation, dissemination, and translation of new knowledge across disciplines; to strengthen the economy; to promote civic culture and the arts; and to design and build sustainable, healthy communities, and
- Embracing innovation, and supporting scholarly and artistic engagement to build a community of learners together with significant and sustainable university-community partnerships and collaborations.

Goals

The University of South Florida will pursue its rising stature as a pre-eminent research university with a state, national and global impact, and position itself for membership in the Association of American Universities (AAU) through:

- Expanding world-class interdisciplinary research, creative, and scholarly endeavors.
- Promoting globally competitive undergraduate, graduate and professional programs that support interdisciplinary inquiry, intellectual development, knowledge and skill acquisition, and student success through a diverse, fully-engaged, learner-centered campus environment.
- Expanding local and global engagement initiatives to strengthen and sustain healthy communities and to improve the quality of life.
- Enhancing all sources of revenue, and maximizing effectiveness in business practices and financial management to establish a strong and sustainable economic base in support of USF's growth.

Values

The University of South Florida values:

- Excellence in teaching and learning; scholarship and research (both basic and applied/translational); together with community engagement and public service based on the highest standards of discovery, creativity and intellectual attainment,
- Outstanding research and scientific discovery, including the application of new knowledge to solve state, national and global problems,
- Recruitment and retention of world-class faculty and high potential undergraduate and graduate students,
- Access to a world-class, globally relevant and affordable education, including utilization of alternative modes of delivery,
- Student competitiveness, success and academic achievement through knowledge, communication and critical thinking skill acquisition,
- Cultural and ethnic diversity and inclusion along with an enhanced global experience, understanding, and appreciation,
- Integrated, interdisciplinary inquiry and collaboration across departmental, college and campus boundaries,
- Facilitating the optimal development of personal and professional potential of students, faculty, and staff, and enriching the quality of an engaged campus community,
- Shared governance structures that empower all USF stakeholders, campuses and entities to reach their full potential,
- The creation and support of a premier university system that adds value to the region, state and nation while ensuring necessary levels of autonomy and preserving the distinctive regional and strategic identities of all member campuses and entities,
- An environment of collegiality based on the principles of academic freedom, respect, integrity, civility, the freedom to engage in debate, the exchange of ideas and intellectual discovery, and professional responsibility,
- Mutually beneficial partnerships and community engagement that increase the understanding of, and present solutions to, local and global challenges, with a mind to strengthening the economy and building sustainable healthy communities,
- An entrepreneurial spirit and innovation with a focus on defining, informing and generating "next best practices",
- The utility of proven and emerging technologies to enhance instruction, learning, research and engagement, and to improve service quality and efficiencies in institutional business practices,
- Focus and discipline in aligning the budget and fiscal resources with institutional priorities and action, and
- Transparent accountability along with timely and effective communication.

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Commitment to Honor & Living the Commitment

As an ethical community, the University of South Florida is dedicated to the ideals of excellence in student development, academic learning, scholarship and research. By joining this community, each member is expected to accept and live these commitments.

I resolve to maintain the honor and integrity of the university community in pursuit of student development, academic learning, scholarship and research.

Living the Commitment: A commitment to this resolution upholds our core values of honesty, diligence and trust within our academic and professional lives. This means that authentic and sincere efforts motivate our work while we strive for genuine, trustworthy interactions.

I resolve to respect the dignity and intrinsic value of all persons.

Living the Commitment: A commitment to this resolution requires appreciation for another's personal right to explore freely, to express oneself responsibly, and to participate actively in building an environment of mutual respect and inclusion for each individual. This means that we will support equal rights and opportunities for all people, while exhibiting behaviors which are compassionate and considerate to others.

I resolve to contribute to the progress and greater good of the community.

Living the Commitment: A commitment to this resolution motivates us to serve the University with words and actions that generate a positive impact on the future of the whole community. This means that active and creative thought and contributions within a collegial environment will expand both the nature and scope of knowledge and the quality of community life.

I resolve to strive for excellence and discovery for myself, others, and the University.

Living the Commitment: A commitment to this resolution confirms the shared values that make the University a strong community. We hold high expectations for our own academic and professional work. Concurrently, we endeavor to support the success of others as we *all* seek to contribute to the mission of the University.

About the USF System

The University of South Florida System (USF System) is composed of three separately accredited institutions, USF, USF St. Petersburg and USF-Sarasota-Manatee. USF consists of the main research campus in Tampa, which includes USF Health, its College of Marine Science in St. Petersburg, The USF System was awarded \$380.4 million in research contracts and grants in FY 2008/2009. It has a \$1.8 billion annual budget, an annual economic impact of \$3.2 billion and serves more than 47,000 students. The USF System is a member of the Big East Athletic Conference.

About USF

Founded in 1956, the University of South Florida opened its doors in 1960 to 2,000 students. Since then, USF has achieved distinction in all areas — academics, sports, research and funding. USF, including USF Health, is located in northeast Tampa, a vibrant metropolitan area. The University serves more than 40,000 students and offers more than 230 degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, specialists and doctoral levels, including the doctor of medicine.

USF comprises 12 colleges: Arts & Sciences, Behavioral & Community Sciences, Business, Education, Engineering, Honors, Marine Science, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, and The Arts. It is the largest and most comprehensive institution of the USF System and the only institution offering doctoral degrees. USF offers an Honors College for high-ability students, an extensive study abroad and internship program, interdisciplinary research opportunities, and a Center for Global Solutions that enables students to address real-world challenges affecting communities around the world. USF offers specialized academic guidance services for veterans taking advantage of the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Bill.

With more than 2,000 faculty members from some of the world's most prestigious universities and research institutions, USF is the university chosen by many of the nation's brightest students. Students come to USF from every state, every U.S. territory, and 157 countries around the world. Thirty-five percent of the student body is African American, Hispanic, Asian, Asian/Pacific Islander, Native American or other ethnicity. USF is included in the *2010 Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education's* annual list of the top 100 U.S. institutions that conferred the most college degrees on Hispanic students.

USF is included in the *2010 Princeton Review* "Best 371 Colleges" listing of the country's best institutions for

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undergraduate education. Only about 15 percent of America's 2,500 four-year colleges (and two Canadian colleges) are profiled in this ranking. In 2010, *The Princeton Review* also ranked USF as one of the nation's 50 "Best Value" public colleges and universities.

Research and innovation at USF is focused on creating local, national and global solutions to society's most difficult problems. With a strong focus in medical treatment and research, bioengineering, life sciences, and the arts, USF is one of Florida's top three research universities and the USF System was awarded nearly \$394.1 million in research contracts and grants during the 2009/2010 fiscal year. USF's federal funds for academic research and development increased 213 percent from 2000 to 2007. According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, no other American university grew its federal research funding at a faster rate than USF.

USF is one of only three Florida public universities classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in the top tier of research universities (RU/VH), a distinction attained by only 2.2 percent of all universities. The University is also one of only 25 public research universities nationwide that holds both a RU/VH and community engaged designation by the Carnegie Foundation. USF is included in the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement.

A member of the BIG EAST Athletic Conference, USF competes with NCAA Division 1 Conference rivals in 17 varsity sports. The men's soccer team earned the 2008 BIG EAST championship title, men's tennis earned the 2009 BIG EAST title and women's basketball the 2009 WNIT championship. The USF Bulls excel on the field and in the classroom, with 162 student-athletes named to the 2009-2010 BIG EAST All-Academic Team.

USF Facilities

Since its inception, USF has endeavored to provide facilities that assist students and scholars in achieving their educational and professional goals.

USF, which includes USF Health, is situated on more than 1,500 acres in northeast Tampa, one of the fastest growing areas in Tampa Bay. USF features more than 250 buildings valued at over \$1.5 billion, including modern science and engineering labs; a communications building with a full range of broadcast facilities; foreign language listening labs; fine art studios and display spaces; education teaching labs; open-use computing labs with free Internet access in addition to being a Wi-Fi campus; a public television station; and a listener-supported radio station.

USF continues to be in a construction mode to provide facilities with the projects currently being developed totaling more than \$250 million. Construction projects in progress include the Patel Center for Global Solutions, a new learning facility for the College of The Arts, the Interdisciplinary Science Teaching and Research Facility, the USF Student Wellness and Nutrition Center, College of Medicine improvements, and USF Athletic facilities for basketball, baseball, softball, football, soccer and recreation.

In addition, projects to enhance the campus pedestrian walkways, bikeways, and lighting have been implemented for use and enjoyment. Future planned projects include an expansion and renovation of the Sundome arena and convention center and continued campus facilities enhancements.

The campus also offers a wide variety of recreational facilities, including a multi-million dollar recreation center featuring a 6,500-square-foot weight room, an indoor pool, racquetball courts and various fitness studios; two outdoor swimming pools; 22 lighted tennis courts; an 18-hole golf course and driving range; a running trail; three softball fields; four outdoor basketball and volleyball courts; 10 lighted multi-purpose fields; a riverfront park/recreation activities area; and a new recreation field facility adjacent to the Juniper/Poplar Residence Hall.

USF offers a wide range of living options for students who wish to live on campus, including traditional-style, suite-style and apartment-style resident halls. Greek housing is also available for members of USF's sororities and fraternities.

Diversity and Equal Opportunity Policy

It is the goal of the University to create and maintain a work and study environment free of discrimination and harassment. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, disability or age is prohibited by University policies, federal and state laws. The USF system protects its faculty, staff, and students from discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation. Any person who believes that he or she has been subjected to discrimination may file a complaint with the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity, ADM 172. The telephone number is 974-4373. It shall be prohibited for any employee of USF to discriminate or take retaliatory action against any individual who, in good faith, has opposed an alleged unlawful practice or has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under the provisions of applicable law or the university equal opportunity policies.

Center for Victim Advocacy & Violence Prevention

The Center for Victim Advocacy & Violence Prevention (part of the Division of Student Affairs) provides free and

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confidential services to students, faculty and staff (both men and women), who have experienced crime, violence, or abuse in incidents occurring on or off campus, recently or in the past. Services are provided by professional Victims Services Practitioners and may include: crisis intervention, emotional support, personal and systems advocacy, court accompaniment, victim helpline, safety planning, and assistance filing for injunctions (protective orders) and crime victim's compensation claims. We also provide prevention and education presentations, programs and events. The Center is home to REAL (Relationship Equality and Anti-violence League), an initiative to develop men as allies and leaders to end relationship and sexual violence.

Appointments are available in our office or other safe locations on campus. Walk-ins are welcomed, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. After hours, weekends and holidays, an advocate is available for victims of violent crimes by contacting the University Police.

Important Contact Information

Crime Victim Helpline: (813) 974-5757; Office: (813) 974-5756; SVC 1138; www.sa.usf.edu/advocacy/

Guide to Resources for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 Of the Rehabilitation Act, The Americans with Disabilities Act and The ADA Amendments Act, the University of South Florida provides reasonable classroom accommodations for otherwise qualified students who have documented disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must register with the Services for Students with Disabilities Office. See <http://www.sds.usf.edu> for a list of common accommodations and more information on the accommodations process.

Admissions: Students with disabilities apply under the same guidelines as all students through the Offices of Undergraduate or Graduate Admissions.

Course Substitution: Students with disabilities requesting substitution of coursework for General Education, or Foreign language requirements should contact Students with Disabilities Services. Students with declared majors requesting substitution of departmental graduation requirements will need to contact the chair of their department. In either case, students will be requested to submit documentation to SDS to support their request for an exception.

Parking: Students with state parking privileges need only supply their state card as documentation for eligibility to Parking and Transportation Services. Students without state privileges need medical documentation to be considered for on-campus parking. Contact: http://www.usf.edu/parking_services.

Housing: Accessible on-campus residence hall housing is available for students with special needs. Specific information is available through Housing and Residential Education. Contact: <http://www.housing.usf.edu>.

Diversity and Equal Opportunity: Students with disabilities are encouraged to participate fully in all University events, programs, and other campus activities. Information on whom to contact to request accommodation or assistance should be listed on program information and advertisements. If unable to secure the requested assistance or if additional help with accessibility is needed, contact the ADA Coordinator in Diversity and Equal Opportunity (DEO) at <http://usfweb2.usf.edu/EOA/>.

USF - Reasonable Academic Accommodations and Services for Students

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