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Assistant Vice President  
& Dean of Students

Winston Jones  
Associate Dean  
of Students



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# Letter from the President



I am delighted to welcome you and your families to the USF community.

When you first thought of enrolling at USF, I am sure you did not anticipate a virtual introduction to the university. Like so many aspects of our society, USF has quickly adjusted in recent months, and we're doing so with the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff as our highest priority. Even though the format is different, your orientation experience will provide you with everything you need for a successful start to your time at USF.

We have every intention of resuming face-to-face instruction, support services and some on-campus activities soon, with modifications and precautions designed to support a healthy environment for high-quality academic instruction and student success. We also expect to continue to deliver some courses remotely.

When you decided to come to USF, you did so because you saw in this university

a path to realize your fullest potential. I have no doubt that our world-class course offerings, diverse student body, research opportunities and vibrant community all played a role in your decision.

As one of the great public universities in the world, USF represents opportunity. We provide a welcoming community for students who have high academic aspirations, are first in their families to attend college, are from a broad range of socioeconomic backgrounds, have overcome adversity and who are determined to explore new frontiers. Our university is comprised of a fascinating fabric of individuals with different perspectives that inform each person's individuality.

At USF, opportunity meets excellence. As you get to know your professors, you will quickly find that they are leaders in their fields. In addition to being great teachers and mentors, our faculty

members are outstanding researchers. USF is well-known for high-impact research that makes a difference in many areas, including medicine, science, engineering and the arts.

Research isn't reserved only for graduate students. We have many opportunities for you to experience the excitement of discovering and sharing new knowledge. Participating in research is great for your career; it shows that you are determined to make a positive difference in the global society. Students play an important role in our research success, just as research experience is crucial to your success.

I also encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities to get involved both on campus and virtually. From academic and professional to community service and special interest, there are more than 600 registered student organizations at USF. They offer countless ways to be part of efforts you care about, connect

with fellow students who will become lifelong friends and give you the chance to contribute to a positive campus environment.

Since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, the USF community has demonstrated many of the qualities we are known for, including adaptability, resiliency and compassion. We will emerge from this experience stronger than ever. Our students, faculty and staff are proud to call the University of South Florida their home, and we are excited to welcome you into the USF family.

Steven C. Currall  
President and Professor

# Grab the Bull by the horns with tips and tricks for success at USF



Jorgelina Manna-Rea

STAFF WRITER

With a population of over 50,000 students and three different campuses — Tampa, St. Pete and Sarasota-Manatee — coming to USF can seem overwhelming at first.

Luckily, students have learned some tips and tricks along the way that have helped them make the most of the many resources foundational to USF life, like Canvas, the Bull Runner, the Find My Classes app, the Marshall Student Center (MSC) and the library, just to name a few.

When you aren't physically in class, Canvas is your access point for announcements, assignments and discussions from your classes. For some students, this is a completely new program to them in their academic pursuits.

When USF made the emergency switch to remote instruction, Canvas played a big hand in that shift.

As the summer semester continues online and the fall semester commences with a "blended delivery" of instruction, Canvas will likely continue to maintain that heavy presence in USF's courses.

Keeping up with Canvas is simple so long as you remember to check it consistently. There are some things that you can keep in mind to help you do so:

Always read announcements your instructor puts on Canvas.



While USF's many resources can be intimidating, there are ways that you can use them to your advantage. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

They can contain important information and updates regarding the class.

Make sure to check the due dates on your assignments. Canvas will put assignments in

the "To Do" tab when they are due within a week, but for larger projects and papers, you may need more time.

You can also add your own personal "due dates" on Canvas

to break up large projects.

Your instructor may keep useful resources in the "Files" tab of your class' Canvas course.

You don't have to use your

See **RESOURCES** on **PAGE 8**

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### The Center of It All!

We'll be here when it's time to come home. But for now, follow us on social media to learn about the MSC, meet some of our staff, and find the services and events to help you get involved and connected with USF this summer.

[usf.edu/msc](https://usf.edu/msc)

[/MARSHALLSTUDENTCENTER](https://facebook.com/MARSHALLSTUDENTCENTER)

[@USF\\_MSC](https://instagram.com/USF_MSC)

## RESOURCES

Continued from PAGE 7

laptop to access Canvas either — it's available to download as an app on your smartphone.

Another instrumental app to have is the MyUSF app. It has a variety of features, including access to your USF email, Dining Dollars and Bull Bucks.

One of the more popular features is the Bulltracker, which gives you the live location of each Bull Runner bus on all six routes — Routes A, B, C, D, E, F and G, which all go throughout the Tampa campus and its surrounding areas.

The St. Pete campus has partnered with the Pinella County Suncoast Transit Authority so students can ride public transportation for free. Sarasota-Manatee has also collaborated with the Sarasota County and Manatee County transit departments to make

public transportation free for students.

In 2019, the transit departments and the Sarasota-

six different bus routes can be difficult to navigate, to say the least.

There's an app for that, too.



With services like the Bull Runner, students can ride across campus for free. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

Manatee campus began work to establish a multi-party U-pass program agreement with the New College of Florida and Ringling College of Art and Design, which would lower bus fares for students who attend these colleges.

A campus big enough for

Until you learn your way around campus, the FindMyClass app will be especially helpful. It gives you a virtual map of USF's Tampa and St. Pete campuses and includes the location of each campus' major buildings and facilities.

You can also put your schedule into the app so that it can help you navigate as you learn how to get from class to class.

As you explore campus, you might find yourself at the MSC between classes. The MSC is an excellent place to attend events, hang out with friends or even just get lunch at the food court or Bullpen. One issue is that these two dining spots can be extremely busy and leave you with long waits in lines.

The Grubhub app is an easy fix for this. You can order at all the restaurants ahead of time, not just the ones at the MSC. If you time it right, you can order your food before your class ends so when you get there to pick it up it will be ready.

Even if you manage to skip the lines, seating may still be a difficult feat during lunchtime at the MSC. The MSC doesn't just have seating on its first floor — there is also seating on the

second, third and fourth floors, along with rooms you can use for studying and completing your work.

The same thing goes for the library. Seating is usually somewhat of a challenge, but unlike the MSC, all of its floors are usually busily occupied, especially the lower levels.

The fifth floor is usually the easiest place to find a seat in the library if you're going to study alone. But if you don't have any luck, the library offers rentable rooms where you can sit and do work between classes. All you have to do is walk up to the desk on the first floor and see what's available.

The time may come where checking Canvas is muscle memory, you know the campus like the back of your hand and snatching up a spot in the library gets easier. Until then, you have this guide to help you out.

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# The USF bucket list you didn't know you needed



Hannah Halili

STAFF WRITER

As you start your college career, you will soon realize that some of the most memorable aspects of your college experience will be the little moments you will create around campus.

While incoming students have to experience their orientation online and explore campus through a screen before fall semester begins, there are still things to look forward to and places to add in your bucket list once in-person classes resume and campus officially reopens.

## Watch the sunset from the top of a parking garage

From orange to pink skylines, Florida is well-known for its breathtaking sunsets during any time of the year. At USF, you will soon realize there are many places on campus to enjoy the sunset and Florida weather.

While students can watch the sunset from their dorm windows or even while sitting at the Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza, there's no better spot than the top of a parking garage, like the Richard A. Beard and LeRoy Collins Boulevard's garages, where students can see the horizon as the sun sets at the end of the day.

Sam Szafran, a junior majoring in marketing, said it soon became her favorite spot to watch the sunset on campus, even though she only found out about it after her freshman year.

"Watching the sunset on the top of the garage is something I wish I did my freshman year," Szafran said. "There's nothing like it. You can see downtown [Tampa] and Busch Gardens while watching the sun [move] down the horizon [which] turns the sky orange."

Whether you are having a picnic or sitting on a car's hood listening to music, watching the sunset on top of a parking garage makes the moment one to remember.

## Longboard/Bike around campus

As a way to save time when going to classes, you will see bikes, longboards and even rollerblades as a common mode of transportation for students trying to save some time when going to class.

While campus might seem crowded with thousands of students walking across campus on a daily basis, having an alternate mode of transportation apart from walking can be beneficial when trying to make it to class on time.

Jason Labayne, a sophomore majoring in chemistry, is one of the many students that chose to longboard to class.

"When I boarded around campus, I enjoyed exploring various places around campus," Labayne said. "The feeling of finding new places made me enjoy longboarding."

Labayne said the feeling of riding around campus also helps decrease stress.

"On a good day, when the wind blows by your head after a stressful day of classes, that really hits the spot for relaxation."

See **BUCKET LIST** on **PAGE 19**

## Students with Disabilities Services is now Student Accessibility Services

[usf.edu/sas](http://usf.edu/sas)

Working with students, staff, and faculty to promote equitable and accessible education, meaningful self-advocacy, awareness of disability issues and inclusiveness for the USF community.



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# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

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Our priority is to foster an active community of future health professionals who advocate for wellness practices and mental health.

Past events:

- \* 'How to Succeed in Organic Chemistry Workshop',
- \* Wellness Workshop in conjunction with the Center of Student Well-Being and the USF Counseling Center,
- \* Physician speaker events,
- \* Journal clubs



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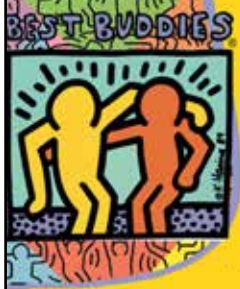
Best Buddies is a **nonprofit organization** dedicated to **enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities** by providing opportunities for **one-to-one friendships** and integrated employment.

Even spending a few minutes with a person with an intellectual and developmental disability makes them feel happy and full of life. Here at USF, we **promote an inclusive environment** where people with IDD can become more confident and social within their community.

[bestbuddiesonline.org](http://bestbuddiesonline.org)

[bestbuddiesusf@gmail.com](mailto:bestbuddiesusf@gmail.com)

[facebook.com/BestBuddiesUSF2020](https://facebook.com/BestBuddiesUSF2020)



**WELCOME**

We are a student volunteer organization based on helping the USF Botanical Gardens and beyond!

Join us on Bullsync for more information on meetings, volunteering, and fun.

[f](#) USF Botanical Gardens Club

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Learn the grappling art that is sweeping the world! Whether you are an average Joe looking to get in shape, a world class fighter, looking to keep yourself safe, or even just have a good time, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu is the art for you!

[f](#) USF JiuJitsu MMA

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## How will you get involved?

Bulls for Moffitt is a student-run organization whose goal is to bridge the gap between Moffitt Cancer Center and the University.



Each semester, we participate in...

- > Hold monthly on-campus socials to raise cancer awareness
- > Host local fundraisers to raise money to support Moffitt Cancer Center
- > Monthly serving more than 80 patients, caregivers, and nurses with a hot lunch at the Moffitt Infusion Center
- > Tabling at Bull Market to spread awareness of our club
- > Create member-led committees within our organization to help members develop leadership skills

Join Bulls for Moffitt on Bullsync

Facebook: Bulls for Moffitt 2019

Instagram: @USF\_Bulls4Moffitt

Twitter: @USF\_B4M



GET INVOLVED!

# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

GET INVOLVED!



On Campus  
Small Groups



Women's Group  
Mondays at 7pm



Catholic Bulls Night  
Wednesdays at 8pm



Men's Group  
Tuesdays at 8pm



Catholic Student Union

[www.catholicusf.org](http://www.catholicusf.org)



Catholic Student Union at USF



Catholicbulls



## Cell Molecular and Microbiology Club (CMMB)

Hello Cellular and Molecular Biology and Microbiology majors! Our mission is to provide useful information for students within our department and enrich the department by coalescing our undergraduate, graduate, and faculty bodies.



[usf\\_cellfies](https://www.instagram.com/usf_cellfies)

BullSync: Cell Molecular and Microbiology Club (CMMB)



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## College of Education Graduate Student Council



USF's College of Education Graduate Student Council is an interdepartmental and interdisciplinary group of graduate students whose mission is to enrich the graduate student experience through fostering college-wide collaboration, promoting excellence in educational research, and advocacy. We represent the interests of all graduate students in the College of Education, assist in addressing student concerns, and disseminate information pertinent to the graduate student experience.

For more information email [jenniferm4@mail.usf.edu](mailto:jenniferm4@mail.usf.edu)

GET INVOLVED!

# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

GET INVOLVED!

Become a part of the USF Cricket Club!



Like our page for updates about tryouts.



USF Cricket Club

Join the USF Women's Cricket Club!



Follow us for updates and information.



usfwomenscricket

Email: usfwomenscricket@gmail.com



The purpose of Engineering EXPO is to bring the College of Engineering and the Tampa Bay Community and kids together. Engineering EXPO also provides an avenue for students to strengthen their leadership skills and display their work as it relates to engineering. All this is accomplished with the Annual EXPO, a two-day event every February, which is solely organized and produced by the Engineering EXPO student organization. The event hosts around 10,000 children from Florida Public Schools and families in the area, for free, at USF.

For more information find us on BullSync or visit <http://expo.eng.usf.edu/visit> <http://expo.eng.usf.edu/>



## ENGINEERING MEDICAL SOCIETY



*Love eating and relaxing?*



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*Interested in Engineering Expo?*



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# Storylines to look forward to this fall



Nolan Brown

SPORTS EDITOR

There's no denying USF programs have storied pasts. Whether it's a deep NCAA Tournament run or a miserable blowout loss in the season opener, the Bulls have been there.

Some teams felt the highest of highs while others hit rock bottom last fall. It may be easy to criticize, especially the teams that didn't perform, but pretend the glass is half full and each team has something to build on heading into the season.

In the spirit of optimism, pretend the teams are mostly unaffected by the coronavirus pandemic and play in somewhat normal conditions.

## Football

When Jeff Scott was hired as head football coach in December, there was a cultural shift that came with it. It was apparent even in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

"Take a challenge to a championship. That's been the message to our players and our staff," Scott told ESPN shortly after USF's first and only spring practice.

A new philosophy came with the goal of keeping Florida's top talent within the state. Of the 17 recruits in the 2020 class, 11 are from the Sunshine State, including Oregon running back transfer and Fort Myers native Darrian Felix.

Last year's quarterback room was alarmingly thin after Blake



With a new coaching staff and philosophy, USF football is in for a potentially pivotal season. **ORACLE PHOTO/BRIAN HATTAB**

Barnett suffered a season-ending ankle injury four weeks into the season. Jordan McCloud became the only healthy option on scholarship.

Now there are an abundance of quarterbacks — North Carolina transfer Cade Fortin, Alcorn State transfer Noah Johnson and freshmen Katravis Marsh and Jordan Smith.

There may be more options under center, but the loss of tight end Mitchell Wilcox, who was picked up as an undrafted free agent by the Cincinnati Bengals, will likely be felt. Wilcox is the USF all-time record holder as a tight end for receiving yards (1,326), receptions (100) and touchdowns (11).

Dwelling on former players isn't something USF can afford, as its upcoming schedule is ranked the second hardest in the NCAA, according to ESPN writer

Phil Steele.

A new philosophy, coaching staff and a strong schedule mean the Bulls could be on track to move past its 4-8 record last season.

## Volleyball

Last season was one to forget for USF. The Bulls went 7-23 with a 15-game losing streak to end the season. It was statistically one of the worst seasons in program history and ultimately led to the dismissal of head coach Courtney Draper after eight seasons in charge.

Within a month of Draper's dismissal, former USF standout Jolene Shepardson took charge.

Shepardson played for the 2002 USF team that won the Conference USA and made it to the NCAA Tournament. Since that year, the Bulls haven't won

a conference or made it to the NCAA Tournament.

An idealistic reunion season could be in the cards for USF and Shepardson, but that doesn't mean the road will be easy. With the loss of Jac'cara Walker, the lone senior last season, the Bulls face the challenge of finding new leadership on the court.

USF won't have any seniors, which, on paper, means it's lacking veteran leadership to guide a relatively young team — junior defensive specialist CC Clausen is the only upperclassman.

Along with the challenge of finding new leadership, there's a significant hill to climb — putting the 2019 season in the past.

With a new coaching staff and a chance to bounce back from a dismal season, 2020 could prove to be a pivotal year for the

program.

After a disastrous 7-23 record last season, USF Volleyball could be turning a new leaf with the arrival of coach and former Bull Shepardson.

## Women's soccer

Last season saw the end of an era. The chapter of Evelyn Viens, Andrea Hauksdottir and Aubrey Megrath, arguably some of the best women's soccer players in program history, came to a close.

The Bulls finished their season as AAC Tournament champions and made it to the third round of the NCAA Tournament, the deepest run the Bulls made in program history.

History was made and a new bar was set, but it also meant

See **STORYLINES** on **PAGE 18**



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Visit [usf.edu/parking](https://usf.edu/parking) to order online. Remember a valid USF parking permit is required to park in non-metered spaces on campus. For additional assistance or inquiries, you can also visit the Parking and Transportation Services office.



## **BULL RUNNER**



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BullTracker™ provides real time information on Bull Runner bus locations, arrival predictions, and many other features.

Visit [usfbullrunner.com](https://usfbullrunner.com) to access BullTracker™.

# 'It goes by in a blink of an eye'

Systemwide Student Body President Claire Mitchell and Vice President Gustavo Spangher talk to Oracle Editor in Chief Leda Alvim about the biggest takeaways from their freshman year and the advice they want to give the incoming class.

**What makes USF feel like home?**

C: When I first got on the campus, what really stood out to me actually were the flowers on the pergola, and it was almost like a symbol that was home for me. So definitely, just the whole atmosphere of the campus, something that I just absolutely love about it is the diversity that you can find on it. And that was something that stood out to me and just makes me feel so at home. There's knowing that no matter where I go on campus, there are students that I can find a home with.

G: The people [make USF feel like home]. When I moved to the U.S. four years ago [from Brazil], I went to Kansas City and attended high school there for a couple years. Even though the people were nice, I never

really felt like I was part of the community. But when I arrived at USF, I felt home. The people welcomed me so well, and I felt comfortable being myself

**What makes the student body unique?**

C: As an extrovert, I love to be around people. So a lot of my experiences will involve them. But I think just what makes USF amazing as a whole — I touched on this a little bit — is just the diversity that we have within USF. I know that is one of USF's largest missions, to have that population that's just so diverse. And I think we've done such an amazing job to create that atmosphere. Something that really makes our student body unique is just how many people of different backgrounds and different cultures are that you're able to connect with, even if you

might not even think that you were able to, and then having those relationships as well.

G: We have higher aspirations, and the diversity at USF is a major thing that I've never experienced anywhere else like any other college that I've been to. I've never seen people from so many different backgrounds coming together as one.

**What is your most memorable moment at USF?**

C: Probably one that will stay with me forever is the moment when I was standing in the Senate chambers and they announced my name for this next upcoming term. That moment will stay with me forever. But even beyond that, I think mostly it was the little moments, like [how] I would go and sit with my friends at the Hub and we would eat food all the time. Those moments are the ones that I will remember most. And so I don't think there was necessarily one big moment that really has stood out to me so far, but it's all those little ones that add up to just make you feel like USF has made an impact on you.

G: The first balloon drop during my freshman year. I remember I attended the event with a few people I had just met at Bull Haul. We went to the [Marshall Student Center] really early, around one or two hours before the balloon drop, because we wanted to be in the best spot ever. But it turns out we were placed in the worst spot, super far from everyone. And we watched the balloon drop, but the view from there was so impressive. I could see so many people together and the energy that I felt there at the MSC got



As the first Systemwide Student Body President and Vice President, Mitchell (right) and Spangher (left) hopes to unite all three campuses under one university. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE** me so excited. I just knew I was in the right place.

**Why do you think students should get involved on campus?**

C: For me, especially being involved has helped me really connect to the university. It helped me as you mentioned, just find my home, and just finding those groups of people, I was most able to find that because I was highly involved and still am highly involved. And so I think it just really helps create a sense of community and helps you connect to the students in the university more just feel that sense of pride as far as being a Bull. I think just having those connections also will help carry on into your alumni years, if you just look back and just know you made an impact on the university.

G: Even though I've learned a lot inside the classroom, the main things that I've learned and developed as a person was outside the classroom. All my extracurricular activities made me grow so much as a person and as a leader. Through my involvements, I met so many people from so many places that made me feel like home, pushed me to grow and connected me with other opportunities.

**What was your biggest takeaway after your first year of college?**

C: It's definitely learning about how to manage your time right off the bat, especially if you're wanting to be involved. That's something I had to learn very quickly, was just make sure you're prioritizing your academics first. But learning

See **Q&A** on **PAGE 34**



Mitchell and Spangher built the platform "Go for G.O.L.D.," which stands for growth, opportunity, loyalty and development. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

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## STORYLINES

Continued from PAGE 14

coach Denise Schilte-Brown was faced with the task of replacing her starting attacking line.

The three holes left in the roster carry more weight when one considers the contribution Viens, Hauksdottir and Megrath made — they combined for 34 of USF's 44 goals in 2019.

Replacing Viens, who set a program record for career goals as a junior, finishing her Bulls career with 73, is even more of a challenge.

New recruit Serita Thurton, who plays for the Canadian National Team development system and played at the 2018 Women's U17 World Cup in Uruguay, is one of nine new recruits.

Given Thurton's international experience, she could be a candidate to take over the mantle of USF's standout striker.

Returning players such as forward Sydney Nasello and goalkeeper Sydney Martinez could carry over their success from last season — Nasello led the team with 10 assists and Martinez recorded six shutouts in 14 appearances.

The search for a new goalscorer and leader means the Bulls likely aren't guaranteed success right away. It could be somewhat of a rebuild season, but the chance for players — new and returning — to prove themselves could mean the potential for a promising start of a new era.

#### Men's soccer

The Bulls started the 2019 season with a loss. But it was a 1-0 loss on the road against the reigning national champs Maryland. A week later, USF dominated then-No. 5 Louisville 2-0 at Corbett Stadium.

That early momentum propelled USF to a noteworthy

postseason.

The Bulls narrowly missed the AAC Tournament final with a double-overtime semifinal 2-1 loss to SMU, the eventual champions. Despite dropping out of the tournament, USF made it to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2016, but was beaten on the road by Louisville 4-1.

New expectations and precedents were set, and players like forward Adrian Billhardt and defender Javain Brown proved to be consistent cogs in USF's starting 11.

Billhardt led the Bulls with six goals in 18 appearances. Brown scored three goals and recorded five shutouts in 18 appearances. He also recorded five shutouts in 18 appearances and established himself as a leader on USF's back line.

While both Billhardt and Brown are expected to return, the Bulls lost seniors to graduation — goalkeeper Harrison Devenish-Meares and midfielders Jonathan Rosales and Emilio Ycaza.

Devenish-Meares played in all but three matches and recorded a season save percentage of 72.1 percent.

Rosales and Ycaza combined for eight goals and two assists and went on to sign professional contracts with Orlando City B and Reno 1868 FC, respectively.

With the loss of three pivotal players, USF could be looking at a rebuild year.

But with returning players like Billhardt and Brown, there's a chance the Bulls could continue to ride a steady wave.

# BUCKET LIST

Continued from PAGE 9

Whether you're taking a walk, going for a jog or resting under a tree on a hot summer day, campus is the perfect place to enjoy an outdoor activity or just spend some time surrounded by nature.

## Experience a football game at Raymond James

With football season right around the corner, it's time to get ready for one of the most awaited times of the year. Besides getting free entry to any sports events, including football, students are also able to enjoy free transportation through Bulls Blitz to all home games at Raymond James Stadium, the home stadium of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, throughout the season.

Watching a football game in an NFL stadium surrounded by your

fellow Bulls and the contagious energy from the cheering crowd is an unforgettable experience. Alumni Andrew Girard said attending football games throughout his college career was one of the highlights of his years as a student.

"I was not only blessed to go to one game," Girard said. "I went to almost every home game during my years at USF as a student."

Besides enjoying tailgating and the bus rides to the stadium, Girard said football games are also a great way to make new friends and make long lasting memories.

"It is a great way to hang out and meet others when attending games," Girard said. "I know I did, and they are my friends for life. When the time comes and you are about to graduate in the years to come, you will thank yourself for taking the time to make the effort in attending your university's football games."

## Ride world-famous roller coasters at Busch Gardens

Located less than two miles away from campus, Busch Gardens is a famous spot among USF students that will give anyone the much needed adrenaline to survive the semester with its world-famous roller coasters.

Instead of paying \$180 for an annual pass, USF students can enjoy a special deal and purchase an annual ticket for only \$99. In addition to paying less, students can also enjoy free general parking, 10 percent off dining and shopping and no blackout dates.

Megan Gillan, a sophomore majoring in biomedical sciences, said she created many memories her freshman year with an annual pass.

"Busch Gardens is great for so many reasons," Gillan said. "It is only five minutes from campus. Whether you want something

fun to do with friends or just need to relieve some pre-exam stress, you can't beat riding roller coasters.

"I have so many great memories of spontaneous trips to Busch [Gardens] from my freshman year, and I can't wait to make more."

## Attend concerts during the year

As part of USF's traditions, incoming students will get to experience two concerts during the fall and spring semesters featuring famous artists for either free or for a small price, usually around \$15.

Each fall, the Center for Student Involvement hosts a homecoming concert featuring famous rap and hip-pop artists like Rae Sremmurd, Big Sean and 2 Chainz.

For an alternative/pop concert, students can attend Bullstock

in the spring. Featuring music artists, food trucks and carnival rides, the annual music festival brings hundreds of students together to celebrate the end of USF Week.

The Homecoming concert typically takes place at Yuengling Center while Bullstock is hosted in Lot 35 at the corner of USF Holly Drive and USF Genshaft Drive.

Alumni Kaylie Caraway said attending concerts over the years was a great experience as a student.

If you want to enjoy a sunset, watch some sports or rock out at a concert, you need not look further than outside your dorm window.

"I would tell freshmen that they should go to make friends that have similar interests in music, go to take a break from school life, and just to have fun," Caraway said.



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## GOLAZOOO F.C.

Join USF's biggest soccer fan club to meet fellow fans on campus and together participate in soccer tournaments, intramurals, FIFA tournaments, USF Bulls games, and more!



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Discover the love of Christ by bringing together those who are faithful, seeking, or skeptical.

Weekly meetings and events will provide an opportunity for people to worship, study the Bible, share life, and find healing.

## HOSA: Future Health Professionals

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<https://orgsync.com/login/university-of-south-florida>



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOSA:  
[www.hosa.org](http://www.hosa.org) or [www.flhosa.org](http://www.flhosa.org)

## TAKE UP THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM!

The International Youth and Students for Social Equality is dedicated to mobilizing young people in the fight for the socialist transformation of society.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE IYSSE:

[www.IYSSE.com](http://www.IYSSE.com)

IYSSE

INTERNATIONAL  
YOUTH & STUDENTS FOR  
SOCIAL EQUALITY

Every semester, there has been at least one major event hosted by the University of South Florida IYSSE. For the past two semesters, we have hosted lectures by Socialist Equality Party National Secretary Joseph Kishore and other prominent figures within the socialist movement. Our activity on campus has involved intervening in protests in the USF and the broader Tampa area.

Contact us to get involved:  
[iyssetampa@gmail.com](mailto:iyssetampa@gmail.com)

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# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

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## Iranian Students Association



The Iranian Students Association (ISA) is a voluntary student organization with the objective of sponsoring Persian social and cultural activities and events, promoting an understanding of Iranian culture, helping foster friendship among different cultural groups, and providing a source of union and support for the Iranian community at the University of South Florida. Everyone is welcome to join. Hope to see you in the near future!



@isa.usf



BullSync / Iranian Students Association at USF



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KENDO CLUB AT USF



USF.KENDO

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~Open to all students~

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opportunities

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Sharonda Lovett, President of MCHSO, at  
slovett1@usf.edu for additional information.

## Join USF Model United Nations

Model United Nations is a mock simulation of the United Nations where  
students from across the country and around the world convene to  
discuss and solve some of today's most pressing issues from the  
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We're a good fit for students interested in international affairs.

<http://usf-model-un.webflow.io/>



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# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

## OUTDOOR CLUB AT USF

We provide educational experiences for students to learn how to care for our natural environment and resources safely and responsibly and enable students to get outside more, in order to raise awareness and appreciation of our natural resources and enjoy the outdoors as a regular part of their college experience.

**Connect with us!**



Outdoor Club at  
University of South Florida



Outdoor Club at USF



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## LGBTQ+ STUDENT ORGANIZATION

### USF No LGBTQ+ Child Left Behind Student Organization

Identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community and want to give back to your fellow USF Bulls? As a member of No LGBTQ+ Child Left Behind Student Organization, you can participate in sharing your personal experiences about education with other students that are enrolled in courses preparing them for careers in education. As a student organization we give back to our community through sharing on student panel discussions that are unique to the LGBTQ+ community. Join us in discussions of academic pursuits, interactions with teachers and coaches, and reactions of student peers as a member of the LGBTQ+ community to help others that may one day be responsible for educating students like us!

Students sharing with Students

Educational Experiences as LGBTQ+

30-60 Minute Panel Discussions

Raising LGBTQ+ Awareness

Giving Back to Our Community

EMAIL SUBJECT LINE: LGBTQ+ PANEL

Trish Hanson  
yaa1@usf.edu

Jennifer Hodnett  
jmh3@usf.edu

Alexis Sanchez  
asanchez14@usf.edu

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Phi Mu Alpha- Upsilon Psi



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- Have **fun** at our on campus events!

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# USF graduates give the inside scoop on success in college



Lauren Pieper

STAFF WRITER

While starting at a new school can be intimidating and uncertain, nobody knows the feeling better than former USF students. For USF's incoming class, some graduates have provided input and advice on things they wish they had known before starting their college careers.

## Get involved

With over 600 student organizations, students are faced with plenty of different opportunities to get involved on campus.

Mackenzie Bennett, who graduated with a bachelor's in nursing in spring 2020, wants new students to know that getting involved will help them expand their friendships while also building their resume.

Bennett came to USF as a freshman, and said her four years at the university flew by.

"I was involved in a lot and did so much, like joining a sorority and a mentorship program for younger nursing students," Bennett said. "I do feel like I could have done more though."

She said USF is full of opportunities for all interests, and new students should not be fearful of putting themselves out there by joining a new organization.

"Things might sound scary to do, but do them because it is worth it," she said. "I always said

in high school I would never join a sorority, but I did and it helped me grow so much."

## Network, network, network

Planning for the future may seem daunting to new students, but going to career fairs and other professional events can create connections and introduce future opportunities.

Shannon Murphy, who graduated in spring 2020 with a marketing degree, cannot stress the importance of networking at USF enough.

Initially, she was unaware of the importance of networking, but she soon found out.

"Career fairs and networking events really helped me," Murphy said. "I really benefited from those events and when you show up to things like that, you learn more."

Murphy even said attending a career fair her first semester at USF landed her a job after graduation.

"I found a job at a career fair in 2018 and had received an internship with USAA," Murphy said. "After I completed the internships, they hired me for a full-time job after I finished my undergraduate degree."

Going to networking events is important, but Murphy also sees building relationships with professors to be just as beneficial.

"I feel like the faculty at USF is very caring and wants to see you succeed," she said. "Building relationships with your professors is helpful. I would go to office hours and email them outside of class."

From creating relationships with her professors, Murphy found her classroom experience to be more enjoyable knowing that her professors wanted her to do well and would help her



Former Bulls emphasized the importance of time-management skills while in college. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

succeed.

## Start looking for your own opportunities

As mentioned before, USF has many different opportunities, but not all of them are well-known or advertised. Some require a little searching to find.

December 2019 graduate Maria Larcomb, who transferred and received her degree in English at USF, said she wishes she would have taken more time to search for more opportunities at USF.

"I wish I had known more about the scholarships, events, clubs, conferences and more available to students," Larcomb said. "There were so many opportunities open to me that I had no knowledge of until my last semester at USF."

Although opportunities are available to all students, Larcomb said she had to search hard to find some of them that were not

advertised or mentioned to her by peers.

Since graduating, Larcomb said that knowing there is opportunity that awaits if searched for has helped her outside of college.

"This has helped me by reminding me that there are always far more options and opportunities available to us than we realize," she said. "We cannot always rely on others to show us this; rather, sometimes we need to put in the extra work ourselves to see the reward."

## Money matters

For many college students, finances are an issue, and the addition of the cost of living can leave some students wondering how they spent so much in so little time.

Sharvil Verma came to USF from India as a graduate student and graduated after the spring 2020 semester. Verma said he was

not prepared for the cost of living in America.

"I felt the financial pressure after my first semester here," Verma said. "I took up two jobs after at the Campus [Recreation] Center and the other at the Bull Runner."

Verma was able to work both jobs in the summer months, but said he had to choose between the two come fall because having two jobs while taking classes was too much to handle.

Working helped Verma pay for essentials and his rent he said.

"If I knew the cost of living before, I would have made certain preparations by working somewhere beforehand," he said.

Even though it brought some financial burden, Verma said he does not regret traveling overseas to study here.

"It provided me with work experience at USF and lots of friends and colleagues," he

See **SUCCESS** on **PAGE 31**



**Campus Lodge**

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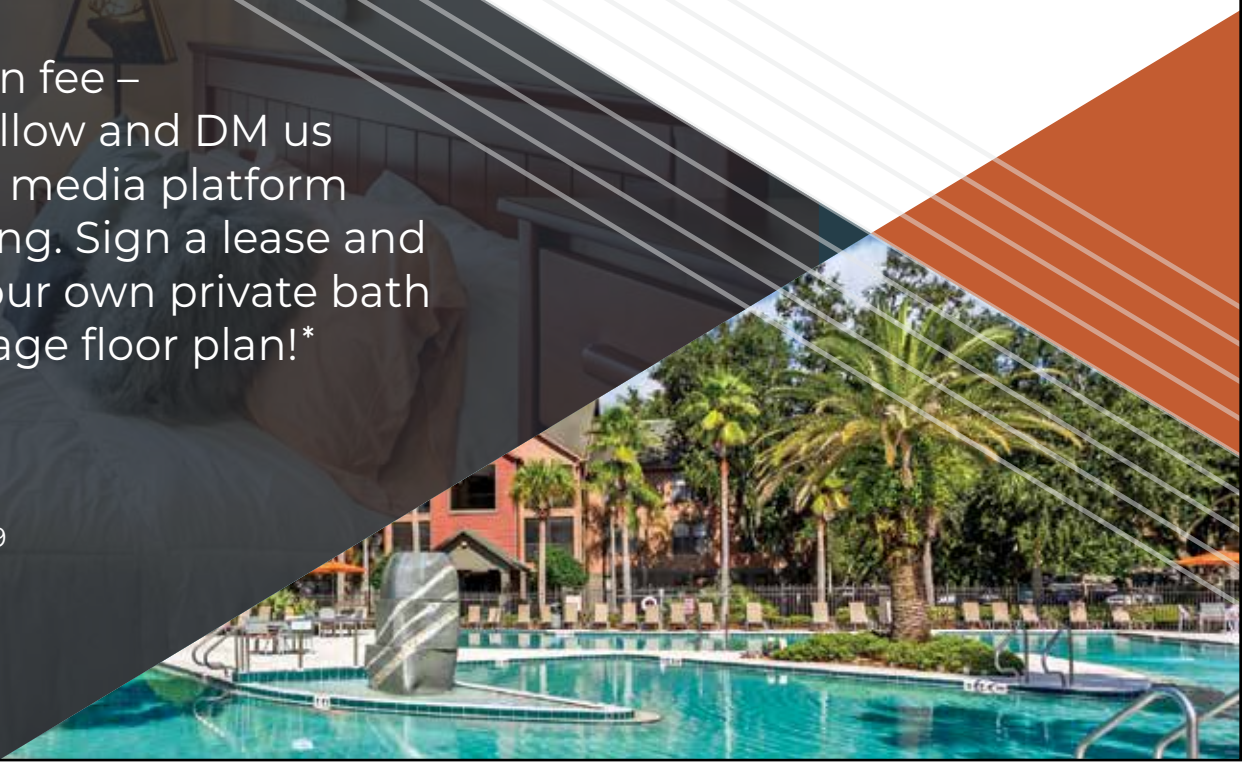
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Founded in 1974, P.R.I.D.E. is the premier LGBTQA+ club on campus.

Join us Thursdays for fun activities and free food.

Everyone is welcome no matter how you identify or who you love.



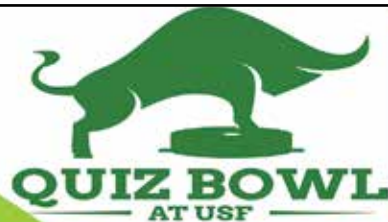
P.R.I.D.E. Alliance @ USF

**BullSync:** P.R.I.D.E. Alliance



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<https://www.usfpridealliance.org/>



Interested in competing in fun, trivia-style competition?

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LOVE OTHERS.  
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DIVERSITY INCLUDES YOU!

Love to dive?



The Scuba Diving Club serves as the official body of recreational SCUBA divers at USF and provides a forum, enhance communications, organize activities, and represent student SCUBA divers interests before the Student Government.



Connect with us today to learn  
about future meetings and dives!



USF Scuba Diving Club



usfscubaclub

BullSync: Scuba Diving Club

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FAMILY AND HELP  
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FACE OF STEM!!!

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## SERTOMA COLLEGIATE CLUB

**OUR PURPOSE:** To meet the needs of communities through volunteer service and to provide young people the opportunity and experience to learn and to value service. **OUR VISION:** To create communities of change under common leadership and with a common voice that will serve the many in need.

**OUR MISSION:** To improve the quality of life today for those at risk or impacted by hearing loss through education and support.

 @sertoma\_usf

 usfscppresident@gmail.com

 Sertoma Collegiate Club at USF - Tampa

 BullSync - Sertoma Collegiate Club



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**Student Alumni Association**  
The bridge between students and alumni

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**USF Alumni Association**



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**Preparing Bulls for Careers in Finance  
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# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

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**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA'S  
STUDENTS OF INDIA  
ASSOCIATION**  
*Bringing the essence of India into the USF community*



Keep an eye for the finest events of the year with one of the largest student organizations at USF.  
Join SIA at:  
Fall and spring Welcome back dinner  
Diwali Dhamaka  
Holi  
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[@siausf](#)



## STPB

Student Theatre Production Board



CONNECT with us  
to get involved!



@STPBUSF



@stpb\_usf



@STPB\_USF



The purpose of Technology and Second Language Acquisition Research (TESLA) is to enhance its members' research skills and to encourage research collaboration among its members. Similarly, the goal of this organization is to enable members to conduct successful research in a collaborative manner. This student organization will be composed of students from the TESLA Program in COEDU, but it will also be open to students from any other programs or colleges who may share our interests.

**Connect with us on BullSync!**

## UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT ASSOCIATION



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# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

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## USF VIDEO GAME CLUB

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JOIN

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## SUCCESS

Continued from **PAGE 24**

said. "I wouldn't change things, but rather motivate people to work and gain as many diverse experiences as they can."

### Go at your own pace

Changing majors, transferring schools and studying for more than the traditional four years are stereotyped as setbacks, but doing any of these things could be the ultimate set-up to a happy and successful future.

Sydney Sultenfuss graduated in spring 2020 with a degree in humanities and cultural studies. She said that USF was the third college she attended.

Sultenfuss' biggest piece of advice to new students, whether they be freshmen or transfers, is to take their time.

"There is really no rush," she said. "You should not compare your journey to anyone else's.

Focus on yourself and your journey because before you know it you will be submitting your final assignments."

Changing majors may seem daunting to many students, but

Sultenfuss said she did it about three or four times in her college career.

"Don't be so hard on yourself," she said. "You will find what you are passionate about and it will

all work out in the end."

To fellow transfer students, like herself, she encourages them to be patient.

"It's hard enough with the unknowns with not knowing

the campus and if transfer credits will go through," she said. "Know you're not the only person transferring so you're not alone."

Some of her classes did not transfer over from her previous schools, but instead of getting frustrated, she said she just saw opportunity for growth and learning.

"I just thought there is nothing I can do about it so let's just keep moving forward," Sultenfuss said.

Sultenfuss said while each student may enter college at a different starting point, you learn as things come.

"I wish I would have known these things, but you figure them out as they come," she said.



Getting involved on campus and going at your own pace were recurring pieces of advice from recent graduates to incoming freshmen. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

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# Breakdown: How consolidation will impact the student experience



Leda Alvim

EDITOR IN CHIEF

As fall semester approaches, current and incoming students will see changes in their college experience as USF officially consolidates its three campuses — Tampa, St. Pete and Sarasota-Manatee — into one, singularly-accredited university on July 1.

For the first time in its history, the university will operate under one umbrella after former Gov. Rick Scott signed the Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act requiring the consolidation of USF's three campuses.

The law, established in 2018, requires that the three campuses operate under a single institutional accreditation from USF's accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

Under SACSCOC's accreditation, the university is required to provide equal access to all student services once consolidation goes into effect. This means that students will have the chance to explore many of the resources available across all campuses, including the option to take classes as well as attend events at different campuses.

While finding parking can be a never-ending issue for students and consequently result in late arrivals for classes, USF's consolidation will allow students, faculty and staff to use their parking decal on all three campuses.

The option to park across all three campuses will be helpful

as current and incoming students will be allowed to enroll in classes delivered at any campus, including online. While students will only have one home campus, they are allowed to travel to the other branch campuses and use their resources.

When purchasing a parking permit, rates are based on the student's home campus, according to Assistant Director of Communications for Administrative Services Aaron Nichols.

Student services, including academic advising and career services, will be delivered locally on all branch campuses following consolidation. Other local services include campus-based and college-based academic advising and counseling for students, local support for research and mental health counseling.

In regards to campuswide events, including Homecoming, USF Week and University Lecture Series, students still will be able to attend events held across all three campuses. While the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) won't consolidate, the department will still collaborate with the other campuses for campuswide events.

"Each campus will have that amazing opportunity to continue to reach their constituents with their activities boards," CSI Associate Director Joshua Wilson said. "For some of the larger events, such as Homecoming and USF Week, those opportunities to collaborate and communicate across the board will continue. We're really fortunate that those channels of communication have been established for some time."

Under consolidation, the student code of conduct as well as the grievances process will be applied across the system.



Besides attending campuswide events across all three campuses, students will have the option to take in-person classes at different locations in fall semester. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

A recent update on the student code of conduct - aligning with state hazing laws - will also be applied to all three campuses.

Academic integrity regulations will also be applied to all campuses. This includes the latest revision, which requires that academic integrity reports be filed by faculty using a survey within Canvas, which would then be evaluated by the Office of Undergraduate Studies. Grade changes following these reports will also be processed virtually by the Office of Undergraduate Studies.

With the idea to offer the same standards and criteria across all campuses, students might see a slight change when applying for scholarships. Because scholarship criteria won't vary by campus and universitywide

scholarships will be available to students on all campuses, some scholarships might be restricted to students within specific colleges or academic programs.

Depending on their assigned home campus, students might see a differentiated fee structure assessed for their home campus.

"Students enrolled at branch campuses shall not be assessed fees in excess of the amount necessary to pay for those services readily available and directly accessible to branch campuses," according to the Consolidation Plan and Timeline.

When it comes to athletics, the department might also undergo changes in a postconsolidation era.

With consolidation, all athletic sport programs will be administered under one athletic

department, regardless of the campus in which they are operated.

Finally, while graduation may seem distant, it will also undergo a slight change after consolidation is finalized.

For students graduating after July 1, their diplomas will read "the University of South Florida" instead of specifying which campus a student attended.

While consolidation is a big step toward unifying all campuses, the student experience will consequently be impacted as new resources become available and the university transitions to a new phase under consolidation.



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## Q&A

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how to manage your time will just help you. So set you up for success throughout your entire academic career and then into your professional career as well. My biggest takeaway was, 'Learn how to manage your time, then learn how to actively and correctly study.'

G: [I learned] to take feedback openly. During my second semester, I became the VP of the International Student Association and, at first, I was really scared of listening to feedback. I was scared that I wasn't doing a good job and, because of that, I wouldn't ask those people about my performance. But once I realized that I can't be afraid of asking because they're thinking that anyways, I started requesting feedback and urging them to tell me ways that I could improve. Being open to feedback and asking for it makes you grow so much while getting involved, and that goes for a group project, like in a classroom, in a club, Student Government or anywhere else that you work in teams.



As a way to connect with students and departments, Mitchell and Spangher are planning to start a listening tour across all three campuses. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

**What is a life hack that has helped you?**

C: This is a random one, but if freshmen are going to be moving into their dorm rooms, getting a rolling laundry basket to like roll it down to the laundry facilities was so useful. Very random, but I had to go and buy one because I did not have one at first and I had to carry [my laundry] and it was not good. So, I got a rolling one and then everything got so much better.

G: I'm a huge self-help book kind of guy and I'm always talking about it, but there are a few books that I read in my first semester in college that I don't think I would be where I am today without them. I read 'How to Win at College' even before I started USF, because that's how much I wanted to succeed. I wouldn't say people have to read that book, but being in the mindset of researching things that you should do before you actually start college, definitely will help you. The second one that I read was 'Miracle Morning' that taught me a few morning routines that I still do two years later every single morning. Having a morning routine

completely changed my life.

**What drives you? What makes you get out of bed every morning?**

C: Well, I'm not a morning person, and it's so hard for me to get out of bed in the morning. But what helps me stay motivated for sure is my future. I'm an optimistic person and I love to look into the future and just look at the endless possibilities. So, thinking about the different plans that I have and things I want to accomplish helps motivate me for sure to get out of bed.

G: I think the major thing is thinking of my family, especially due to the situation that they're in. My entire family is in Brazil right now, and they're struggling with the coronavirus even more. And I'm here, in Tampa, being in front of so many opportunities. I don't want to let anyone down, and I want to make the most out of my college career.

**What you wish you knew before you started college?**

C: Coming into college, I didn't anticipate the amount of things that I would want to get involved in. So there are so many things within this university that I want to do that I just do not have time for. And that was something that I did not anticipate, was the amount of possibilities that I'd have coming into USF and the amount that I'd actually have to pick and choose and what I wanted to do. So just really focusing on what you value most, and then what's going to impact either your career or even just make you happy the most. Those things I did not anticipate, I thought I was just going to go and find like one two things that I really love. But then, here I had this plethora of opportunities.

G: Come with an open mind. If you come to college with preconceived notions, they are not going to do anything good for you. I would say, 'Come here with an open mind and be open for new experiences as long as you're being safe.' Try new things



Mitchell and Spangher advised students to get involved early in their freshman year. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

and talk to different people. Now is the time for you to try and figure out who you are and where you want to be.

**What advice would you give your freshman self?**

C: Get involved as fast as you can, because time goes by so fast. I can't believe I'm going into my third year, I feel like I just started. So definitely just take opportunities as they come to you, because your time is so limited. It feels like you have such a long time with four years, but it goes by in a blink of an eye.

G: One thing that I've learned is that if I scheduled some time for work and really concentrate, I'm able to accomplish a lot more in a shorter amount of time. And then later I can actually schedule a fun time for myself. That can be like learning a new skill or going to play soccer or going to the gym or something. But if you don't actually make time for yourself in a week, you're gonna feel like you're always doing work, and you never really have time.

**What do you hope to accomplish in your position?**

C: It is definitely going to be a

very monumental year. Being the first [systemwide student body president] is going to set hopefully a very good precedent for years moving forward. So, my main goal for this year is connecting the student bodies of all three campuses. That's going to be so important moving forward, to really feel like we are a united front, especially when we come together and lobby for different issues in the state Legislature and coming together for those huge, important issues. It's going to be very influential to feel like a united student body, but also keeping the identity of each campus is something that is going to be top priority. Although we want to connect everyone, we do want to make sure each campus feels as though they have their unique identity.

G: The one thing that we want to accomplish is to make sure we are one Student Government, and that students feel connected as one university. Our main job is to help in the consolidation, to help in the fact that now we're one USF, regardless of the campus you're in.



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