

Section 1

Welcome to Graduate School!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you for your interest in graduate education at the University of South Florida. USF is a top-tier, metropolitan research university, distinguished by our excellent research and graduate education and our location in a major urban region that is among the nation's most diverse and encompasses some of the world's most prized marine and land environments. USF programs that are recognized as being among the nation's best include Marine Science, Psychology, Accounting, Applied Anthropology and Biochemistry.

Strong interdisciplinary programs put USF on the leading edge of research and graduate education in a number of areas. For example, collaboration of researchers throughout the institution has made USF a leader in the neuroscience of aging. USF's interdisciplinary doctoral program in Aging Studies was the first in the country. The doctoral program in Cancer Biology joins USF research capacity with the strengths of the nationally recognized H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute. In addition to doctoral programs, USF offers many opportunities for postgraduate study through our many Master's and Certificate programs, many of which are designed to prepare graduates to make immediate contributions to the economic, cultural and social vitality of communities.

Our commitment to diversity, discovery and application of knowledge that is relevant to development of urban communities has resulted in USF being frequently cited as the model for an "engaged university." The opportunities for graduate education at USF are vast. In many areas, USF offers programs that are unsurpassed in their capacity to prepare you to make your best contribution to a challenging world. I invite you to inquire further about USF programs of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,



Judy Genshaft
President
Office of the President



<http://isis.fastmail.usf.edu/president/index.html>



A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Embarking on graduate studies represents a serious commitment, and we appreciate your thoughtful consideration of the University of South Florida as your academic home for this journey.

The success and accomplishments of our graduate students are of the utmost importance to USF's faculty and staff. As a leading research university, USF's mission is to engage in meaningful initiatives that serve to improve the local, national, and global communities. Academic programs and research initiatives that embrace interdisciplinary inquiry and discovery support this mission and are central to the graduate student experience at USF.

The university is pleased to announce the introduction of three new doctoral programs in government, history, and sociology, which will begin admitting students for the Fall 2009 semester. These programs are linked by a common intellectual thread, which is quite different from traditional, discipline-based programs. They focus on building sustainable healthy communities in a global context. Ranging from global security, to population growth and land-use development, to understanding the international financial crisis, the programs' design ensures graduates will be uniquely qualified to meet the needs of a widening marketplace. A four-year Doctor of Pharmacy Degree (PharmD) also recently gained approval and we anticipate will begin admitting students in 2011. Expanding USF's doctoral-level programs is an investment in the future of the university, which is certainly no small feat given the state and national economic climate. Together, these programs support integrated, interdisciplinary inquiry and will position USF to become the university of the future.

We expect these new programs to quickly earn the recognition and prestige of many existing graduate programs that have achieved national recognition among the top in their respective disciplines. The College of Business is home to two such degree programs: the graduate entrepreneurship program is ranked fifth nationally by *The Princeton Review* and *Entrepreneur Magazine* while the School of Accountancy's doctoral program is ranked 25th by the *Public Accounting Report*. Fourteen other programs are listed in the 2010 edition of U.S. News & World Report's *America's Best Graduate Schools*: industrial and organizational psychology (#8), public health (#20), criminology (#22), audiology (#24), library and information sciences (#29), rehabilitation counseling (#39), speech-language pathology (#46), education (#54), clinical psychology (#57), physical therapy (#69), social work (#71), nursing (#72), psychology (#74), and fine art (#81). In addition to the rankings of USF's graduate programs, the diversity of the graduate student body is also noted at the national level with inclusion in every category of *Diverse Issues in Higher Education's* extensive listings of the top 100 graduate and professional degree producers.

These rankings are affirmation of the outstanding scholarship, academic excellence, and global engagement conducted by USF's faculty and graduate students. It is the partnership between faculty and students that makes the graduate experience unique. At USF, our faculty are more than instructors. They are leading scholars in their discipline and readily welcome new graduate students into their laboratories and projects. Between them, they hold 55 endowed chairs and 43 endowed professorships at USF along with prestigious national and international honors and awards. USF is home to numerous Fulbright Scholars, Guggenheim Fellows, NEH and NSF fellows, Getty Fellows, and many other esteemed

academic positions recognized around the world. They are committed to doing all they can to help every graduate student achieve their fullest potential.

Together with the accomplishments of our students, it is the talent and innovative ideas the faculty bring to USF that has built our reputation as one of the nation's most rapidly growing research universities. The world's best and brightest students now come to USF because the best and brightest faculty members have selected USF as their home to engage in research, learning, and innovation.

For graduate students, their academic department usually represents the hub for their graduate school experience. However, at USF we value interdisciplinary collaborations and encourage students and faculty to forge relationships across disciplines. Interdisciplinary partnerships with students, faculty, and researchers across campus, in the local community, and around the world strengthen both the university and the graduate student experience at USF. This "collaboration for competition" leads to innovation, the creation of new knowledge and exciting solutions to pervasive and emerging problems. From cross-disciplinary curricula to shared core research facilities, when graduate students engage in enhanced collaboration they are more likely to optimize their fullest potential.

Delivering top quality graduate programs is a leading priority for the university as it strengthens its position as a premier research university with state, national, and global impact. At the very core of this initiative are the graduate students that contribute to the university community as students, researchers, instructors, and leaders.

I encourage you to not only immerse yourself in your chosen discipline, but also seek out opportunities to partner with students and researchers in other fields. By embracing interdisciplinary inquiry and discovery, you can be part of the creation of new knowledge that may address some of the most pressing needs of our society.

USF is a place where you can challenge yourself and focus on how you are able to contribute to your discipline, your university, your community, and your world in a meaningful way. Whether your career aspirations are to remain in academe or to pursue professional positions in the public sector, business or industry, your experience as a graduate student at USF will present you with wonderful and exciting opportunities.

Ralph C. Wilcox, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

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A MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL AND ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

I am proud to write this introduction for the University of South Florida (USF) Graduate School Catalogue. As you will see from the information within, we are a forward moving exemplary Research 1 University. We have over 130 master's programs, 40 doctoral programs, several dual degree programs, and over 100 graduate certificates. We also have many opportunities for non-degree seeking students. On our several campuses, USF serves more than 45,000 students, of which nearly 9,000 are graduate students. USF has student success, research and innovation, community engagement, global literacy and impact, and integrated, interdisciplinary inquiry as its strategic priorities. Our tuition, among the lowest in the country, provides affordability and we also offer a number of financial aid and work-study options. We recognize that many graduate students have very different responsibilities and needs, so many of our programs offer flexible day, evening, and weekend classes in addition to online course and degree program offerings.

The mission of the Graduate School is to serve as the university hub of leadership for graduate education producing present-day and future global leaders---one student a time. As a graduate student at the University of South Florida you can be proud that your university is one of the nation's top 63 public research universities and one of 39 community engaged public universities as designated by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Also, USF was awarded more than \$300 million in [research](#) contracts and grants last year. The Graduate School works closely with the Office of Research and Innovation offering student research opportunities including participation in research events and in applying for interdisciplinary research grants. Graduate students at USF can also apply for research, teaching, and graduate assistantships enhancing their educational experiences by putting knowledge to action.

I personally invite each to you to learn more about graduate education and USF. Our beautiful campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota/Manatee, and Lakeland await you. We invite you to become the leader you were destined to be and welcome you to our community of scholars!

Karen Liller, Ph.D.

Interim Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Vice President for Research and Innovation
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