



## WELCOME BACK!

### Inside This Issue

- 1 Dean Appointed
- 1 New Residency Rules
- 2 Division News
- 2 Graduate School Updates

### Thank You and Good Luck!

The Graduate School wishes to thank **Dr. Joan Holmes** and **Mr. Brett Mervis** for their service the past several years. Dr. Holmes was instrumental in the success of the McNair program as well as graduate student diversity. Brett provided excellent support to the USF McNair program as well as the GSS unit. Best wishes to them both in their new endeavors.

### Dr. Karen Liller Appointed Dean of Graduate School and Associate Vice President of Research & Innovation

**TAMPA, FL (July 24, 2009)** –The Graduate School is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Karen DeSafey Liller as Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Vice President for Research and Innovation. Her appointment became permanent on August 1. Reporting jointly to the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Vice President for Research and Innovation, Liller will be responsible for leading and managing the Graduate School and building stronger collaborations with the Division of Research and Innovation. Her appointment follows a national search for a proven administrator who will enhance graduate student recruitment and success; strengthen policies, guidelines, and procedures; develop and enforce governance and accountability; and create a structure for seamless unification of graduate education across the USF system as well as improve communication and collaboration. The Dean of the Graduate School is a key academic leader charged with promoting student and faculty success and support for innovative research across the University.

Dr. Liller is a professor in the College of Public Health and served as the Associate Dean for Academics and Student Services in the College. Her teaching, research, and service activities focus on public health and the prevention and control of children's unintentional injuries. She has published extensively in peer-reviewed publications and has been named one of the nation's top 15 women scholars in health education and health promotion.

For the full announcement see:

<http://usfweb3.usf.edu/absolutenm/templates/?a=1582&z=31>

### Upcoming Events!

#### Graduate Orientation

August 13<sup>th</sup>, Marshall Center

9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

<http://www.gpsc.usf.edu/orientation.asp>

#### Graduate Research Symposium

Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>

[http://www.grad.usf.edu/research\\_symposium.asp](http://www.grad.usf.edu/research_symposium.asp)

[ium.asp](http://www.grad.usf.edu/research_symposium.asp)

### New Residency Rules Mandated by the State

**TAMPA, FL (July 1, 2009)** – As of July 1, 2009, all non-resident graduate students must have established residency in Florida for 12 consecutive months **prior to enrollment** in an institution of higher learning if they wish to be eligible for **Florida residency for tuition paying purposes**. New residency legislation ([statute # 1009.21](#)) took effect on July 1, 2009, and may prevent out-of-state students from reclassifying as residents for tuition purposes while continuously enrolled at USF.

It is important to note that any graduate student who was previously reclassified to Florida residents **WILL NOT** be affected by this new law.

To accommodate those graduate students admitted and enrolled in Fall 2008 who intended to become Florida residents, the Graduate School and Office of the Provost have developed a **Mitigation Plan** ([http://www.grad.usf.edu/Mitigation\\_plan.asp](http://www.grad.usf.edu/Mitigation_plan.asp)). Please refer to this plan to determine your eligibility.

Previously published newsletters may be viewed on the Graduate School website: [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu)

## Division News

### ACADEMICS

The Academic Affairs Team is finalizing a new **Graduate Course Submission System** to facilitate graduate curriculum processing. The system will be launched in phases with the first phase going live at the beginning of fall semester.

The **2009-10 Graduate Catalog** is now posted on the Graduate School website at <http://www.grad.usf.edu/catalog.asp> and includes individual PDF files for each section. The **2010-2011 Graduate Catalog Copy** will be distributed in early fall semester for revision.

### GRADUATE ADMISSIONS

**New graduate student orientation** will be held on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Marshall Student Center. Further information regarding orientation can be found at: <http://www.gpsc.usf.edu/orientation.asp>

### GRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS

A full slate of student success workshops has been scheduled for the Fall 2009 Semester. Topics include: *Choosing a Research Topic and Mentor; Finding Funding for Research; Oral and Poster Presentation Skills* as well as many more. In addition, the Graduate School will offer several educational opportunities through the **"Building a Leader Series"**. Choose the **Courses and Workshops** link found on the Graduate School Website for detailed information about these initiatives.

### MARKETING AND RECRUITMENT

Malcolm Randolph, Marketing and Recruitment Coordinator, represented USF at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) Graduate School Recruitment Fair on Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> at the Pollard Technology Conference Center in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Mr. Randolph has also recently attended the McNair Research Conference in Atlanta to meet and recruit high achieving undergraduate McNair Fellows who are conducting poster and oral presentations related to their research. He also attended the Golden Key International Honor Society Conference on July 30<sup>th</sup> to market USF programs and recruit potential students.

## Graduate School Updates

### Applications for 2008-2009 Outstanding Thesis/Dissertation Awards Now Being Accepted

The Outstanding Thesis/Dissertation (OTD) Awards are intended to recognize those USF graduates who have demonstrated exceptional performance during their graduate careers at USF and whose thesis or dissertation has resulted in significant impact to the discipline at the national level. Theses and dissertations submitted for these awards should represent those that are considered to be in the top 2% of their specific discipline. It is the intention of the Graduate School to submit the award winners to national OTD competitions, and the application materials reflect those that are required by these competitions.

All USF graduates who submitted an approved thesis or dissertation during the Fall 2008, Spring 2009, or Summer 2009 semesters are eligible to apply for the OTD awards. Theses and dissertations submitted for these awards should have resulted in "creative works" that were derived from the thesis/dissertation research. Application packages can be downloaded from the Graduate School website (<http://www.grad.usf.edu/outstanding-thesis.asp>) and complete applications must be received in the **Graduate School by 5:00 p.m., September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

### Brown Bag Sessions for Program Directors

The Graduate School will be offering **Brown Bag Information** sessions for Program Directors as well as administrative staff during the Fall 2009 semester. These sessions will be directed by the Associate Dean and will be held once each month from 11:30-1:30 in the TECO room. The first session is scheduled for **Wednesday August 26<sup>th</sup>** and will focus on an overview of the new Program Director Duties and Guidelines manual as well as new policies for 09-10. Future dates are: Wed. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Thur. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> and Thur. Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. For more information, choose the **Program Directors** link on the main USF Graduate School website.

### Revised First Day Attendance Policy for Graduate Students

Beginning Fall 2009, graduate students who do not attend their first scheduled class session **will not** be automatically dropped from the course unless the College has adopted a drop policy. Student's who register for classes but later decide not to attend, must drop the course online or will they will be charged for the course and face a possible F grade. The full policy may be read in the Graduate Catalog on the Graduate School website.