The office is a much-needed initiative that captures USF's strategic efforts to promote the university's dynamic program of postdoctoral opportunities while supporting postdoctoral scholars throughout their time at USF. With this office, USF is able to enhance its rising stature as a pre-eminent research university with state, national, and global impact.

More information on the OPA can be found on their website: www.grad.usf.edu/postdoc.

Sincerely,
Karen D. Liller, PhD
Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Vice President for Research & Innovation

From the Dean of the Graduate School

It is my pleasure to announce the formation of the new Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) housed in the USF Graduate School. This office serves as an administrative and academic center of excellence for postdoctoral scholars and ensures they have an exemplary professional and personal development experience while at USF. It fosters a robust postdoctoral community, provides opportunities to enhance the postdoctoral experience and future success of its constituents, and serves as a dedicated resource for postdoctoral scholars, faculty, and administrators. The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs plans to reach out to postdoctoral scholars across USF Tampa, and have already begun offering a variety of workshops and information sessions.

The objectives of the OPA include: providing administrative support and guidance to USF colleges and postdoctoral scholars throughout the recruitment and hiring process; establishing, maintaining, and evaluating postdoctoral policies; building collaboration among postdoctoral scholars, colleges, other USF departments, and graduate students; and offering professional development workshops for postdoctoral scholars and their mentors.

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2010 Postdoctoral Scholar Workshops

Writing For Success — Tuesday, April 6th, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Oral Presentation Skills — Thursday, May 6th, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Demystifying The Publication Process — Tuesday, June 15th, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Finding & Negotiating Faculty Positions — Thursday, July 8th, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Research Integrity & Compliance — Thursday, Sept 9th, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Finding Funding For Your Research — TBA (during ResearchOne Week)

Locations will be determined based on occupancy.

Please register at: www.grad.usf.edu/postdocworkshops.asp
Postdoc Spotlight - Susan Cook

Susan Cook received her Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2009 and currently teaches courses on nineteenth-century literature in the English Department at USF. A New York native, Susan has also lived in Texas, Arizona, and Massachusetts, where she received her B.A. and M.A. in English from Boston College. Her research focuses on nineteenth-century British literature, cultural studies, and theory. Her dissertation, “Subjects Incorporated: Forms of Inclusion in the Long Nineteenth Century,” argues that the multivalent concept of “incorporation” dominated nineteenth-century literature and culture, from economics to the novel, and from empire to the body. Susan is currently revising her dissertation into a book manuscript as well as beginning a new project on Victorian visual culture and literature. This visual culture project forms the topic of her current English elective course, “Envisioning the Victorians.”

Susan has published three articles in peer-reviewed journals and has presented her work at eighteen regional, national, and international conferences.

Postdoctoral Scholars’ Library Services

Beside its extensive research collections, USF Libraries offer many services to USF postdoctoral scholars to facilitate their research and study. Included within the USF Libraries System are the Florida Mental Health Institute Research Library, Shimbarg Health Sciences Library, and the USF Tampa Library and affiliated libraries on the campus of USF Polytechnic, USF St. Petersburg, and New College (Jane Bancroft Cook Library) in Sarasota.

Similar to faculty, USF postdoctoral scholars may check out up to 200 items with a loan period of six months. In addition, study carrels in the USF Tampa Library can be requested and will be assigned for one year (depending on availability). Research support by librarian subject specialists is also available.

As services for faculty also extend to USF postdoctoral scholars please bookmark Services for Faculty and TAs from the library’s home page.

NSF Adopts New RCR Requirements

As part of the 2007 America COMPETES Act, the National Science Foundation (NSF) is requiring that all students and postdoctoral scholars supported on NSF funded projects receive training in the Responsible Conduct of Research (http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/rcr.jsp). For proposals submitted on or after January 4th, 2010, institutions must certify that students and postdoctoral scholars have received such training. This requirement does not affect currently funded research; however, proposals submitted or due on and after January 4th, 2010 that fund students and postdoctoral scholars are affected.

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Physics Faculty Awarded Naval Research Grant

The USF Physics department recently announced that Dr. Matthias Batzill and Dr. Ivan Oleynik had been awarded a new, three-year $310K grant from the Office of Naval Research. This achievement follows a string of successes for Dr. Batzill and Dr. Oleynik.

“Specifically, in addition to novel research in nanoelectronics, this grant is a great example of synergistic collaboration between theory and experiment,” stated Dr. Pritish Mukherjee, Chair of the Physics department. “It will bring a postdoctoral scientist to USF, adding to the existing pool of 12 postdocs in Physics, in support of a strategic metric for USF. The research enabled by this grant will strengthen ongoing activities in the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics in the Materials Science cluster and the Computational Sciences cluster.”

Responsible Conduct of Research Training

The Office of Research & Innovation and the Graduate School have partnered with the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) to offer Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training to individuals at USF. CITI provides online training modules and can be accessed at www.citiprogram.org/. Upon completion of the RCR modules, doctoral scholars will receive a certificate, and records regarding their completion of the training program will be sent to the Division of Research Integrity & Compliance (DRIC) for inclusion in a training database. In addition, the DRIC will offer face-to-face training sessions as required by some funding agencies. Please consult the DRIC website (www.research.usf.edu/cs/) for information on scheduling these sessions.

NIH Requires New RCR Participation

The National Institute of Health (NIH) now requires participation in and successful completion of instruction in Responsible Conduct of Research by individuals supported by any NIH training/research education/fellowship/career award (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-10-019.html).

Both the required face-to-face training and online courses attendance should be monitored and a certificate or documentation of participation be available upon course completion. NIH does not require certification of compliance or submission of documentation, but expects institutions to maintain records sufficient to demonstrate that NIH-supported trainees, fellows, and scholars have received the required instruction.
The mission of the OPA is to serve as an administrative and academic center of excellence for postdoctoral scholars across USF. The office strives to foster a robust postdoctoral community, provide opportunities to enhance the postdoctoral experience and future success for its constituents, serve as a dedicated resource for postdoctoral scholars, faculty and administrators, and promote the university’s dynamic program of postdoctoral opportunities while supporting postdoctoral scholars throughout their time at USF.

Our goal is for each postdoctoral scholar to have an exemplary professional and personal development experience while at USF.

University-Industry Cooperative Research Programs in the Mathematical Sciences (UICRP)

Open to Postdoctoral Scholars

Synopsis: Technical innovations flourish through a symbiotic relationship between academia and industry. The mathematical sciences provide the foundation for the scientific progress that generates technical innovations. It is in the national interest to provide more opportunities for mathematical scientists to have the experience of conducting research in an industrial environment and for industrial scientists to return periodically to academia, to acquire new knowledge, and to move it efficiently into technology. The Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) supports this relationship through the university-industry postdoctoral research fellowships, university-industry senior research fellowships, industry-based graduate research assistantships, and industry-based graduate cooperative fellowships described in this solicitation. http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=156.

Full Proposal Deadline Date: June 2nd, 2010