Structural Realignment of Departments, Schools and Colleges

USF Invests in Its Academic Future

In light of the University of South Florida’s commitment to pursuing strategic priorities amid a challenging economic climate, USF Provost Ralph Wilcox has announced a realignment of academic units, including new administrative structures for the College of Arts & Sciences and the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute. The realignment preserves quality and strengthens the university’s academic organization for the future.

The new structure in the College of Arts & Sciences is organized around three Schools: Behavioral and Social Sciences; Humanities; and Sciences. Selected professional programs – the Schools of Aging Studies, and Social Work, as well as the Departments of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling, Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Criminology – are being realigned with the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute. In addition, the Department of Economics, the Institute on Black Life and the Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean will move into the College of Arts & Sciences.

Despite budget cuts, the university has preserved all tenured and tenure-earning faculty positions, academic departments, schools and colleges, as well as all degree programs. The streamlined structure provides a flexible framework that will be able to provide for any future organizational changes needed to accommodate strategic progress and any future budget challenges.

Academic and Strategic Benefits:

- **Strengthens disciplines**: Creates a larger critical mass of faculty in related disciplines or fields of inquiry, at a time when new state funding for faculty positions is unlikely in the next 2-3 years
- **Creates teams**: Promises an acceleration of scholarly progress and research productivity through increased synergies
- **Facilitates interdisciplinary opportunities**: Creates greater opportunities for scientific and scholarly inquiry at the disciplinary interstices
- **Enhances utilization of research cores**: Enhances shared utilization of instructional and research equipment and facilities, to boost core support in applications for competitive federal grants
- **Yields cost savings**: Yields cost-savings though reduction of administrative overhead
- **Enhances teaching**: Allows greater opportunities for a wider range of faculty to participate in teaching
- **Boosts liberal arts and sciences**: Establishes a more streamlined, core, discipline-based college focusing on the liberal arts and sciences

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