WUSF Public Media

Florida Matters Public Affairs Show

University Beat

News Stories

April 1 – June 30, 2019

UNIVERSITY BEAT SECOND QUARTER 2019

University Beat reports run on WUSF 89.7 FM every Wednesday at approximately 6:44 am, 8:44 am and 5:44 pm.

It also runs on WSMR 89.1 & 103.9 FM the following Monday at about 10:25 pm. Each report is between three and a half to four and a half minutes in length.
Concussions Are Most Common Injury In Children's Sports, Study Finds (June 26, 2019)
Children's recreational sports are growing more competitive than ever, and with that can come big injuries. A first-of-its-kind study on children ages 5 to 11 who play recreational sports has found that concussions are the most common injury in this age group. (Health, education, sports, children)

Genshaft Discusses Her Time As USF President (June 19, 2019)
We’re into the final days of Judy Genshaft’s tenure as president of the University of South Florida. WUSF’s Mark Schreiner sat down recently for a two-part interview with Genshaft, who will retire July 1 after leading USF for 19 years. In the first part, we discussed her successes. In this part, she reflected some more, including on some of the low points of her administration. (Higher education, politics, history)

USF President Genshaft Talks Successes And Failures As Retirement Nears (June 12, 2019)
On July 1, Judy Genshaft will retire after 19 years as the president of the University of South Florida System. During the 71-year-old’s nearly two decades leading USF, the school’s enrollment grew by 40 percent, its four-year graduation rate tripled. Its endowment nearly doubled from $254 million to $480 million. (Higher education, politics, history)

USF's Rocket Club Experiences The Highs And Lows Of Launches (June 5, 2019)
Anyone who has ever built and launched a rocket – from a child with a store-bought kit to the NASA scientists who put a human on the moon to Elon Musk – know it’s a saga of many failures and (hopefully) massive successes. It’s also a story that the members of the University of South Florida’s Society of Aeronautics and Rocketry, or SOAR, are very familiar with. (Higher education, science)

Tampa Modular Home Producer Targets Luxury Living To Fund Disaster Shelters (May 29, 2019)
In a nondescript warehouse in Tampa's Ybor City, a young company is in the process of creating a new kind of modular home that could change both luxury living and post-hurricane shelters. (Housing, disasters, politics, higher education)

Genshaft Gives $20 Million To USF's Honors College (May 22, 2019)
In about a month, Judy Genshaft will retire as the President of the University of South Florida. But, thanks to a $20 million gift from her and her husband, her name will live on with the USF Judy Genshaft Honors College. (Higher education)

WSMR's Florida Orchestra Masterwork Includes USF Professor's Original Piece (May 8, 2019)
Earlier this year, the Florida Orchestra debuted a piece written by a University of South Florida music composition professor. You can hear Baljinder Sekhon’s "Stars" Thursday night at 7 on Classical WSMR 89.1 and 103.9 as part of its Evening Masterwork series. (Music)

USF To Graduate Youngest Student In School History (May 2, 2019)
Spring is in the air--and so are graduation caps. The Spring 2019 graduates from the University of South Florida will make their mark as the largest graduating class in school history. An estimated 7,500 degrees will be handed out during the May commencement ceremonies, but one stands out among the rest. (Higher education, history)

Study Finds Surprising Benefit To Listening To Sad Music (May 1, 2019)
Sad songs. Why do we love them so much? And might they be bad for us? Especially for people with clinical depression? Psychology researchers at the University of South Florida studied this question, and uncovered some surprising results. (Music, science, higher education)
Two Local Colleges Rock Downtown St. Petersburg With Art And Music Festival (April 24, 2019) On a recent Saturday morning in downtown St. Petersburg, residents near Williams Park were jolted awake by potent guitar riffs and an explosion of drums from Frostfang. The heavy metal band includes members who go to St. Petersburg College and USF St. Petersburg, making them the perfect act to open the Good Vibes Only Art and Music Festival. (Music, higher education)

USF Forensic Facility Teaches How Florida's Environment Affects Bodies (April 17, 2019) Since 2006, the University of South Florida has brought together FBI agents and students studying to become forensic investigators for a field training day. In earlier versions, they’d meet on the Tampa campus or on the nearby grounds of MOSI and look at how the bodies of buried pigs decompose in Florida’s climate. But for the past few years, they’ve actually had a dedicated field – and real human bodies – to study. (Science, higher education, law enforcement)

Talk About Brain Power: USF Students Fly Drones Using Their Minds (April 10, 2019) Anyone who’s ever flown a drone can tell you – it’s not the easiest thing to do. Now imagine if the only way you could control that drone – is with your brain. That’s the challenge 16 University of South Florida students faced recently at the school’s inaugural Brain-Drone race. (Science, aeronautics, higher education)

USF St. Petersburg Brings Live Theater To Students (April 9, 2019) Across the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus, both students and the public are finding a smattering of free live performances to enjoy. The inaugural Short and Sweet Theatre Week kicked off Monday, bringing the arts to the university. (Theater, higher education)

USF Health Welcomes Former Pasteur Institute President (April 3, 2019) USF Health is continuing to strengthen its offerings in both research and treatment of diseases by recruiting high-profile scientists and physicians from around the world. One of their latest additions is Dr. Christian Bréchot, the former president of France’s renowned Pasteur Institute. (Health, science, higher education)

FLORIDA MATTERS – SECOND QUARTER, 2019

Florida Matters Quarterly report April 1-June 30, 2019

Time aired: Tuesdays at 6:30 – 7 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 – 8 a.m. on WUSF 89.7 FM; Monday at 10 – 10:30 p.m. on WSMR 89.1 FM

Florida Matters Looks Back At Judy Genshaft's Time As USF President – (June 25, 2019) With University of South Florida President Judy Genshaft’s July 1 retirement approaching, this week’s Florida Matters looks back at her 19 years leading USF. (Higher education, politics, business, health, history)

Podcasting 101 ( June 11, 2019) Whether you’re interested in politics, music, crime, technology or just about anything, there is likely a podcast for you. But while millions of people enjoy listening to podcasts every day, others still don’t understand this relatively new form of media. (Communications, business)
Bugs To Watch Out For This Season (Jun 4, 2019) Lovebugs, termites, mosquitoes, cockroaches – there is no doubt that Florida is home to many insects, and they seem to thrive in the state’s hot, humid conditions. You can’t avoid them, so this week on Florida Matters we’re talking about how to deal with them. (Environment, health, history, wildlife)

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author Jack E. Davis On The Importance Of The Gulf (May 28, 2019) This week on Florida Matters, we talk about how the environmental history of the Gulf of Mexico shaped human life over the years with Jack E. Davis, whose book The Gulf: The Making of An American Sea won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for History. (History, environment, business)

The State of Florida's Citrus Industry (May 21, 2019) Citrus has shaped the state’s identity for 100 years. But it has been a tough ten years with freezes, hurricanes, development pressure and, worst of all, citrus greening. This week on Florida Matters we take a deep dive into the state of Florida’s citrus industry. (Business, politics, agriculture)

Florida Matters: A Conversation With Tampa Mayor Jane Castor (May 14, 2019) Jane Castor is in her first weeks as the new mayor of Tampa. Her position as the first gay mayor in the Southeastern U.S. didn't come up much during the campaign, but she made national news the day after her victory. (Politics, human interest)

Florida Matters: Legislative Wrapup (May 7, 2019) Lawmakers in Tallahassee are returning home after two months of hashing out bills - some of which could soon become law. Florida Matters host Robin Sussingham talks with Janelle Irwin, a reporter with Florida Politics, and Steve Bousquet, a columnist with the South Florida Sun-Sentinel and the Orlando Sentinel. (Politics, health, transportation, environment, business)

How Zoning Affects Growth In Florida (Apr 30, 2019) This week on Florida Matters, we talk about zoning and how it affects the way our state manages growth. It may sound mundane, but zoning and building regulations affect us intimately because they hit us where we live. (business, politics)

Tampa Bay As An International Dining Destination (Apr 23, 2019) These are exciting times for eating out in Tampa Bay. Our cuisine is getting better and more varied and starting to draw national attention. (Food, business)

Combatting Invasive Species In Florida (Apr 16, 2019) Florida is home to more than 500 invasive species. Not all of these plants and animals are big and scary like pythons, but they can still harm the state’s native wildlife, and a lot of time and money is spent fighting them. This week Florida Matters speaks with scientists on the front lines of this battle about how we’re doing. (Environment, wildlife, science)

Castor, Straz Battle In First Debate For Mayor Of Tampa (Apr 9, 2019) Voters in Florida's third-largest city will go to the polls April 23 in the runoff for Tampa's mayor. During the March election, former Police Chief Jane Castor almost got the 50 percent plus one needed to avoid a runoff. And retired banker and philanthropist David Straz came in second of the field of seven candidates, with around 16 percent of the vote. (Politics, local interest)
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(See Attached Excel Files)