

USF Latino Scholarship

Volume I, Issue I

Spring 2003



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President Judy Genshaft
Story on page 2.

"...serving urban and Latino students requires a very progressive and caring way of thinking."

Deborah Love
VP Equal Opportunity and Diversity
Story on page 4.

"This is one of the most relevant pieces of information for Latino students and parents interested in USF."

Dr. Carlos Zalaquett
Professor in Counseling Education
Story on page 4.

Bienvenidos

Welcome to our first Latino Scholarship newsletter. This publication will give a glimpse into our students and alumni. Their stories. Their achievements. Their successes. It will go behind the scenes and on to the stage where our events and activities unfold. It will tell of efforts to advance Latino students here at USF and in our nation.

Many thanks to our students for their commitment to USF and our program and to the individuals, organizations and businesses who make their dreams a reality each year.

Forty-Four Percent in The Program Earned 3.5 or Better

Forty-four percent of all Latino Scholarship students earned a 3.5 or better GPA for the Fall semester of 2002.

Congratulations to ALL.

Reina Avalos...Jessica Aviles... Adaeliza Bacon...Ernesto Barnat... Norma Berríos... Michael Bidal... Dexia Borrero... Azalia Calderón... Julio Calderón... Betsis Corrales...Guadalupe Cruz... Nicole Durán... Siuleth Figueroa... Dennis García... Nubia Gómez...Gustavo Hernández ... Catalina Hurtado...Elena Kaloustian ... Saritza Legault... Dialis Mangual...Patricia Nielsen... Ottoniel Núñez... Evelisa Ortega... Monica Osorio... Ana María Pérez ...Karla Polanco... Yanet Rodríguez... Javier Rosado... Mauricio Rosero... Johnny Suárez... Israel Valdovinos...Rosita Vázquez... and Patricia Zapata.

Great FUN in Spite The Cold And Play-Offs Latino Scholarship 8th Annual Picnic

Over 150 guests arrived just in time to USF River front Park in spite of temperatures of 62 degrees and the much anticipated Bucs' play-off game. Students and their families were welcomed by the contagious sounds of **Dr. Max Peña's** Latin beat. One by one, they arrived carrying their delicious homemade dishes...y el almuerzo no se hizo esperar. After **Remember Maceo's** warm welcome and a heart felt invocation by professor **José Feliciano-Butler**, it came time to eat. Students and parents also had the opportunity to speak with USF representatives participating in the 2nd Picnic USF Mini-Fair. **Eloise**

Grams, Career Center, **Norma Cano-Alvarez**, ENLACE, and **Emmanuel Auguste**, Alumni Association provided students and parents with information and materials about the services they provide. Thank you to the students, alumni and families and USF representatives who attended; to Studio Inc. for their performance; and **La Mega**,

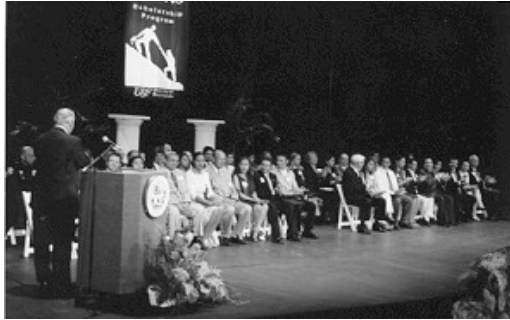
ENLACE and USF's Alumni Association for all the gifts. A special thank you to our volunteers: Madelyn Alvarez, Sylvia Baltazar and her family, Karla Rodríguez, and José Feliciano-Butler. *Next year's weather forecast: Sunny and warm!*



College Opportunities for More Than a Decade

USF's theatre I was once again overfilled with pride, joy and appreciation this last August during the 11th Annual Latino Scholarship Award Ceremony. Twenty four new students and 55 continuing students were presented a Latino Scholarship. Each student sat by their sponsor, the individuals responsible for making their dream of attending college a reality.

"This is one of my favorite annual events at USF, and it's a great way to kick off a new academic year. This ceremony is a particularly meaningful example of what we're about at the University – making student



Latino Scholarship recipients and sponsors were recognized at this year's award ceremony.

achievement possible and celebrating that achievement." said President **Judy Genshaft**.

This year new students were: **Leandra Bence**/ Tampa Hispanic Heritage... **Betsis Corrales**/USF Faculty-Staff ... **Carlos Cruz**/Tampa West Rotary-María Padilla Memorial... **Siuleth Figueroa**/Pan American University Women... **Roberto Fuentes** /Tony Pizzo-Ybor City Rotary... **Yvette Gómez**/The Bank of Tampa .. **Karina González**/Pan American University Women... **María Lozano**/R.B & Adelfa Díaz Memorial... **Maikel de la Paz**/Club

Unico... **Joselyn Serraty** /Wachovia Bank... **Andrés Silva**/City of Tampa Hispanic Heritage Committee... **Johnny Suárez**/Lois Marrero Memorial ... **Yandro Valdéz**/Christian H. León .. **Patricia Zapata**/Joseph & Anne García... **Reina Avalos**/Krewe of Sant'Yago ... **Michael Badal**/Krewe of Sant'Yago ... **Carmen Bozolo**/Marta Rosa Cepero Memorial... **Rosangela Correa**/Tampa Bay Latin Medical Society... **Nicole Durán** /García & Ortíz, PA... **Elena Kaloustian**/Krewe of Sant'Yago... **Saritzza Legault**/Frank Fernández Memorial ... **Ismely Lorente**/Merchants Association of Florida... **Karla Rodríguez** /Merchants Association of Florida... **Israel Valdovinos**/Dr. Kenneth L. Bedford.

Congratulations to all the students and their families.

In The Spotlight

- ✓ The Latino Scholarship office nominated 12 Latino Scholarship for this Fall's College of Engineering FGLSAMP scholarship. Congratulations to **Ernesto Barnat** who was selected to receive the scholarship.
- ✓ Another 6 Latino Scholarship students were nominated for the McNair Scholars Program. Congratulations to **Karla Polanco** and **Ana Pérez** who were inducted in the program.
- ✓ **Otoniel Nuñez** recently received the

Honeywell Hispanic Scholarship. Congratulations!

- ✓ The latest issue of **"Great Expectations"**, a Foundation newsletter includes an article featuring the Latino Scholarship awards ceremony this past August. Several students were interviewed, including **Roberto Fuentes**, Ybor City Rotary scholarship recipient. **"Without the scholarship, I probably couldn't go to college"**, he said. **Lázaro Sosa**, Latino Scholarship alum sponsored by Ybor City Rotary thanked members of the club for being like a family for him. **Johnny Suárez**, who received the Lois Marrero Scholarship on

behalf of the City of Tampa Hispanic Heritage Committee also thanked his sponsors.

- ✓ **"Faces of Philanthropy"** is a new publication sent to USF donors this year. It highlighted several programs including the Latino Scholarship, through an interview with our alumna **Marta Rangel**.
- ✓ Watch Hillsborough County Television HTV22, **Informes Latinos**, in March, for an interview with **Patsy Feliciano** about **"what we are doing right at USF"**. The program will air all month, four times a week. Check the TV guide for showing times.

Me lo contaron...

Otoniel Nuñez, sponsored by PSI, who has been in the deans list of scholars and honors convocation all four years at USF, heads down to Graham Home every weekend to play jazzy music for the nursing home residents. That's not all, wedding bells will be ringing for Otoniel this August. Congratulations, Tito! ...**Johnny**

Suárez, who received the Lois Marrero Memorial Scholarship will become a father this March with the arrival of Briana. **José Meléndez**, recipient of the John R. Bedford scholarship attended the Hispanic Engineers NTTC conference in New Orleans where he interviewed for a summer internship. **Gustavo Hernández**, sponsored by Govin/Mark Master, has been appointed Technology Editor for USF's student newspaper, The Oracle.

More Advising For All Students in The Program

In addition to a Latino Scholarship required orientation session, new recipients will now also attend an advising seminar covering student survival skills. Moreover, students will now have the opportunity to obtain additional individual academic support through the ENLACE office thanks to Norma Cano- Alvarez. Students may contact Norma at 974-3895 or by e-mail:

ncano@enlace.usf.edu

Latino Scholarship Student Profile-Case Study

The Reality

Latino students are the largest growing minority group in the U.S. and the group with the highest student dropout numbers. Our population is expected to double its number by the year 2025. Florida, ranked fourth in the nation in Latino population, is expected to move to third by that year.

The Challenge

As Latino students in Florida continue to increase in number, schools repeatedly face the challenge of how to best provide educational and counseling services for them. There is a shortage of models of successful Latino students available to our students, especially in the Tampa Bay area. We need models that can convey the message “**Si podemos educarnos y triunfar.**” Also, there is a need to determine the characteristics and sources

of support of those Latino students that have made a successful progression into college.

The Latino Scholarship in collaboration with Dr. Carlos Zalaquett has developed two research initiatives to respond to these challenges.

I. The Need for Models

The purpose of the *Latino Students Success Stories* research is to study and document the life story of Latino students that have been able to access a college academic program in spite of great challenges. These success stories would be made available to other Latino students to increase their awareness of educational possibilities and help them make positive decisions about higher education programs.

II. Characteristics and Sources of Support of Successful Latino Students

The objectives of the *Successful Latino Students* research are to study the characteristics of Latino students awarded the Latino Scholarship Award at USF and learn about the sources that help them pursue higher education. This information will be helpful in developing programs oriented to increase the number of students attending higher education.

You Can Help! Latino Scholarship students and alumni can contribute to these initiatives by providing your personal story about your journey towards your college degree and by responding to the survey about the characteristics and sources of support of Latino students in college. Your contribution can make a difference in the life of another student. Contact Patsy Feliciano (813) 974-7124.

Alumni – The True Measure of Our Success

Miguel Collazo will graduate this Fall with both a Juris Doctor and Master of Arts in Urban & Regional Planning degrees. He will then become the Editor-in-Chief of the University of Florida Journal of Law & Public Policy and plans to work as



Susana Iribarren (3rd from the right) was one of 7 recipients receiving the NSHMBA scholarship last fall in Miami.

a summer associate with the law firm Hopping Green & Sams in Tallahassee... **Jessica Forero** is now teaching at Liberty High School... **Susana Iribarren** received the National Scholarship Hispanic MBA award in Miami last November... **Randal Miranda** was just accepted at UF in the Masters

program for Electrical Engineering. He started in January 2003... **Howard Mojica** is working with the Social Security Administration... **AnhKay Pizano** accepted a position in the College of Education this Fall, as Assistant Director for Project LASER working with minority doctoral candidates in Special Education. If you are a scholarship alum please make sure your information is current by sending a message to Patsy Feliciano at:

E-mail: pfelicia@admin.usf.edu.

Twenty-One Will Graduate in 2003

Twenty-one students will graduate this year and participate in our traditional Mentor-Graduate Luncheon. We will honor all graduating seniors for the year and celebrate their achievements with family and sponsors. The **12th Annual USF Latino Scholarship Mentor-Graduate Lunch** will take place **Sunday, April 27th**, from **1-4pm** (invitations will be sent out early April). The luncheon is sponsored by

Chase Bank. This year's graduates include: Rey Aguilar/Century Bank ...Jacqueline Astudillo/Marta Cepero Memorial...Jessica Aviles/ Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Council...Araeliza Bacon/Dumois Family...Olga Benítez/Club Cívico Cubano...Dexia Borrero/ Capital Bank...Christine Camacho/ Canedo Family...Ana Maria Delgado/ Merrill Lynch...Alisha Estevez/Lorena Leon Memorial...Manuel García/Braulio &

Luisa Alonso Memorial...Nubia Gomez/Sant Yago Education Foundation... Catalina Hurtado/Colombian Volunteer Ladies...Patricia Nielsen/Times Customer Service...Alan Pinales/Merrill Lynch... Karla Polanco/Raíces Cubanas...Javier Rosado/Dr. Charles E. Bedford...Marie Rubio/TSI...Sara Torres/Tampa Hispanic Heritage...Israel Valdovinos/Dr. Kenneth L. Bedford...Myrna Veguilla/Drs. Jairo & Cecilia Parada and Alicia Villa/Tampa Bay Latin American Medical Society.
Congratulations to all our 2003 graduates, their families and sponsors.



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Making the dream a reality through a scholarship .

Today, Latinos are the largest minority group in the United States and also the largest group under the age of 18. While there has been some improvement in the status of Latino education in the past decade in some areas, participation in all levels of education continues to be low, while dropout and retention rates are still high. Lack of financial resources, few Latino role models and mentors and limited information in Spanish are among the barriers to improving the education status of Latinos.

In 1992, the USF Latin Community Advisory Committee began the Latino Scholarship, a community –based scholarship program, targeted specifically for local Latino students in need of financial assistance. Through the private donations the program provides renewable scholarship and mentoring experiences to Tampa Bay area Latino youth attending USF. The Latino Scholarship has awarded almost \$1,000,000 to over 100 alumni.

To invest in the future of Latino students please call Patsy Feliciano at (813) 974-7124 or Donna Parrino at (813) 974-5145. One-hundred percent of your donation will go directly to benefit a student.

The Latino Scholarship Newsletter is published by the University of South Florida Latino Scholarship/Office of Latin Community Advancement.

*Design/Layout/Content: Patsy Feliciano
pfelicia@admin.usf.edu*

Website en Español -USF First University in Florida

The University of South Florida is the first university in the state to have a website in Spanish for students and parents. Early last fall, Patsy Feliciano created ***Sí, se puede***, a page for students with answers to the most frequently asked questions about the process of admission to USF, scholarships and financial aid and ***Cuenta conmigo***, a time table and checklist for parents to monitor their children's progress through out the process. **"We recognize that in many cases, while the student may have excellent command of English, there may be members of her family who struggle with fully understanding English."**, said Student Affairs VP, Doug Hartnagel. In addition to language barriers, parents lack "college knowledge". In fact, a study by the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, "College Knowledge: what Latino Parents Need to Know & Why They Don't Know it" addresses this issue. A telephone survey and case study of Latino parents in Chicago, New York and Los Angeles uncovered that 65.7% of the parents missed at least half of the rather straight forward questions about college. In contrast, 96% of them said they

expected their children to attend college. Unquestionably, in order for parents to help they need to acquire information about "what actions need to be taken when". However, language barriers are one of the major obstacles. The study concluded with a number of policy recommendations including: creating effective ways of disseminating information about college prerequisites for English limited-speaking populations; Spanish-language radio and TV public service and others. **"USF understands that serving its urban and Latino students requires a very progressive and caring way of thinking."**, said Deborah Love, VP for Equal Opportunity and Diversity. Other departments at USF have begun to discuss translating some of their key information. **Dr. Carlos Zalaquett, Professor in Counseling Education said, "This is one of the most relevant pieces of information for Latino students and parents interested in USF. As of today, we are the largest minority in the country and for this reason this is a high priority."** Please visit our Spanish pages at:

<http://www.usf.edu/latscholar>

A Gift in Perpetuity By Donna Parrino

The Latino Scholarship is one of the largest annual giving programs in the foundation, awarding 75 to 80 scholarships each year. At the same time we strive to help as many students as we possibly can each year, we also continue to build longevity into the program through major gifts in the form of endowments. In our brief history, we have been able to establish sixteen endowments thanks to the vision and generosity of our donors. These endowments are in various stages of funding. Some, like that of the Sant'Yago Education Foundation and the Tampa Bay Latin American Medical Society, are fully funded and state-matched. Others, like the Hernan and Esperanza Leon Endowment is established through a charitable remainder trust which will be funded at a future time. The USF Foundation has expertise in helping donors select the vehicle that best suits them in creating a Latino Scholarship endowment. For more information, contact Donna Parrino at (813)974-5145.