



PATH TO PREMINENCE

Dear Faculty and Staff,

As you may know, this past legislative session was another successful one for the University of South Florida. In addition to a number of key investments made in capital and programmatic needs, USF now officially qualifies for status as an Emerging Preeminent State Research University. This designation is awarded to those universities that achieve at least 6 of the 12 legislative metrics for Preeminent State Research Universities (the full preeminence designation requires meeting 11 of the 12 metrics). This designation is more than just a coveted classification – it also makes us eligible for additional funding from the Legislature for important institutional investments. We are optimistic that the Board of Governors will grant this new designation at its meeting in June, at which point USF would receive an additional \$5 million in recurring funds for strategic investments that support our Preeminence aspirations. This support will have a direct impact on our national and global reputation, providing innumerable benefits for all of our students, faculty, staff and partners.

While we are very proud of this recognition, which provides tangible evidence of the hard work of the entire USF community, our journey is not yet complete. The time is right to redouble our efforts, with our sights clearly set on reaching full Florida Preeminence and the ranks of America's most elite universities in the next few years.

To that end, we are planning a series of innovations that will best position us for success. These will include strategic investments in areas of impact, a more intentional focus on preeminence and AAU metrics, and realignment of some administrative functions to maximize opportunities for growth. As you hear about these enhancements, I hope you will join me in my enthusiasm for the positive progress they will bring. Please look for additional "PATH TO PREMINENCE" announcements in the coming weeks and months.

Each and every one of you is an important part of this effort. Thank you for what you do each day to help us deliver high-quality education, service and innovation to our community, and indeed the world. Together, we all make a difference!

Go Bulls!

Judy Genshaft
USF System President

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

