



THE CROW'S NEST

The Crow's Nest is committed to providing its readers with news relevant to the University of South Florida St. Petersburg and its surrounding community. The Crow's Nest abides by the highest ethical standards and focuses on stories that help readers make informed decisions on current issues. We take seriously the public's trust in our news reporting and strive to uphold the highest standards of reporting as defined by the Society of Professional Journalists. Opinions in this newspaper do not necessarily represent those of the administration, faculty or student body.

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The Crow's Nest accepts letters to the editor. All submissions should be no more than 500 words. Writers must include their full name. In addition, USF faculty should include their title, department and extension. All letters are subject to editing for clarity and length. Letters can be sent to akanderson1@mail.usf.edu with subject title "Letter to the Editor." Because of high production costs, members of the USFSP community are permitted one copy per issue. Where available, additional copies may be purchased for 10 cents each by contacting the newspaper's editor-in-chief or managing editor. Newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution and/or university discipline.

OPINION: An ode to the worst year ever

By Molly Ryan
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Here is a strong word. I hated online classes. So, for a student like myself, this fall semester's in-person initiative is the glimmer of hope that I needed.



PATRICK TOBIN | THE CROW'S NEST

Molly Ryan is a sophomore history major.

A year ago, I was probably somewhere like Target picking out bed sheets with a 'dorm essentials' label on it counting down the days until I was in my own dorm on a college campus. Unfortunately, it didn't take long for me to realize the harsh reality of living on campus during a global pandemic.

The bustling college culture I had longed for took form in a daily trip to the mostly empty dining hall and being one of few people in a class to actually see the lecture in person.

But as COVID-19 cases made a steady rise on college campuses, it became safer for classes to go completely digital.

Starting out as a starry-eyed FTIC (first time in college) student, I quickly became disenchanted with my virtual academics. In the seemingly distant pre-vaccine era, my motivation

to learn and apply myself was severely lacking.

Now, vaccinated and optimistic of a genuine college experience, I am more than ready to be in a real classroom.

I find myself only staying engaged in a classroom environment, so it's a relief that I no longer have to fear falling asleep or being unmuted while I eat my Nature Valley bar during a Zoom class.

While I'm letting myself feel the anticipation of café study sessions and classroom note-taking, I do not want to make the same mistake twice; I'm staying vigilant and appropriately jaded with the news of the COVID-19 Delta variant.

I've seen life through the screen, and I would rather not go back – but I'm going to enjoy my time in the real world regardless.

USF announces two new appointments to the College of Education

By Annalise Anderson
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In June, USF announced that Dr. R. Anthony Rolle, a previous professor at the Tampa campus, will serve as the new dean of the College of Education.

USF recruited Rolle from his position at The University of Rhode Island, where he served as a tenured professor and dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies for four years. Prior to a leadership role with the University of Houston, he served as a professor and chairman in USF's Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from 2010 to 2014.

Rolle earned his doctorate in education policy from Indiana University and has been recognized for his research in K-12 finance and policy. He has successfully supported initiatives focused on student access and success, faculty research and community

collaboration.

According to a message from Provost Ralph Wilcox, Rolle's research and experience makes him "well-positioned to develop and guide the College of Education's strategic way forward."

Starting Aug. 2, Rolle will replace Interim Dean Dr. Judith Ponticell, who has served in the position since July 2020.

The appointment of Dr. David Rosengrant as interim director of education for the St. Petersburg campus was also announced this week.

Rosengrant is an associate professor of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education at the St. Petersburg campus and helped to spearhead the campus' STEM INQ lab program.

He earned his doctorate in science education from Rutgers University and previously served as an associate professor of physics at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, where he was recognized for his work by the



COURTESY OF USF AND UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Dr. R. Anthony Rolle (left) will return to USF to serve as the future dean of the college of education. Dr. David Rosengrant has assumed his new role as St. Petersburg's interim director of education.

Georgia Science Teachers Association.

The interim director of education is active in both the College of Education and St. Petersburg Campus leadership teams. The position collaborates across all three USF campuses and oversees the operation of education programs at the St. Petersburg campus.

The position will also be integral to the development of the new USF Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence in STEM Education, an initiative to elevate science studies at the St. Petersburg and Sarasota-Manatee campuses.

Upon Rosengrant's appointment, Dr. Brenda Walker stepped down from her position as St. Petersburg's interim associate dean. Walker

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