

Dear Friend of USF,

*This week, Governor Scott signed the state budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14 which was passed by the Legislature earlier this month. The Governor exercised his constitutional line-item veto power to withhold approval of nearly \$370 million in legislatively-funded projects from the \$74.5 billion total state budget. However, I am pleased to report that Governor Scott did not veto a single project funded by the Legislature for next year for the USF System.*

*The USF System is very grateful for the efforts of the entire Tampa Bay Legislative Delegation for their tireless work during this past session. Special recognition must be given this year to Speaker of the House Will Weatherford (Wesley Chapel), House Appropriations Chairman Seth McKeel (Lakeland), Senate Education Chairman and USF Alumnus John Legg (Lutz), Senate Education Appropriations Chairman Bill Galvano (Bradenton), Senator Jeff Brandes (St. Petersburg), Senator Jack Latvala (Clearwater) and State Representative Darryl Rouson (St. Petersburg) whose work directly contributed to the receipt of new USF System project funding for next year. You may read more about the specific USF System projects funded in the budget in the summary provided below. If you get a moment, please thank these legislators and the rest of the Tampa Bay Legislative Delegation for their support for the USF System this past year. Contact information for all members of the Florida Legislature is available by clicking on the Alumni Advocacy link at the right.*

*Thanks are also due to YOU for your continued advocacy for the USF System and for the impact that it has on our success. I hope you will share in the excitement that we feel on campus regarding the good news from this recently completed Legislative Session, and this week’s news on the budget signing by Governor Scott.*

*This issue of the Government Relations Newsletter brings to a close the updates on legislative session activities for 2013. However, we will be in touch further over the summer to keep you in the loop on issues affecting the USF System that may be of interest you.*

*Thanks for all you do to support your university. Go Bulls!*

**Mark Walsh**  
**Assistant VP for Government Relations for the USF System**

# Successful 2013 Legislative Session for USF System

## Summary of Major Funding Items for the USF System for 2013-2014

The USF System had a remarkably successful 2013 Legislative Session thanks to the work of our local Tampa Bay Legislative Delegation and supporters such as you. Following approval of the budget earlier this week by Governor Scott, the USF System will receive in 2013-2014 a recurring restoration of \$45 million to our base budget which was cut last year and an additional influx of new state spending totaling nearly \$50 million. Below is a listing of some of the specific projects funded for the USF System by the 2013 Florida Legislature that were approved by Governor Scott this week.

- Complete restoration of the \$45 million base budget reduction taken in 2012 (the USF System’s full share of the \$300 million State University System cut).
- \$12.5 million towards construction of the USF Health Heart Institute.
- \$5 million towards construction of the new facility to house the USF St. Petersburg College of Business.
- \$3.5 million to continue the build-out of the new Interdisciplinary Sciences Building on the Tampa Campus.
- \$10.3 million for construction and renovation projects for various student life facilities across all USF System institutions.
- Approximately \$7 million to fund critical maintenance of existing USF System facilities.
- \$2.5 million to enter into a partnership with All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg to develop some state-owned land near the hospital into a medical research facility.
- \$2 million for USF Sarasota-Manatee to add new science courses and programs in partnership with Mote Marine Laboratory.
- \$1.25 million to support the work of the USF Health Byrd Alzheimer’s Institute.
- \$1 million increase in state support for the Morsani College of Medicine M.D. education program.
- \$355,000 increase in funding to support the USF Center for Autism and Related Disabilities.
- \$190,000 to fund USF’s research currently ongoing at the former Dozier School for Boys in Marianna, Florida.
- \$131,000 to support the USF St. Petersburg Family Study Center.

In addition to the new funding items listed above, the Legislature and Governor also approved some language within the budget that requires the Board of Governors of the State University System to submit a report detailing a plan for the creation of a “Florida Center for Cybersecurity” to be principally located at, and under the leadership of, the University of South Florida. The report, which is due by December 1st, will include--for the Legislature’s consideration during the 2014 Legislative Session--any proposed startup costs as well as a budget to support the ongoing operations of the proposed Florida Center for Cybersecurity at USF.

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<http://usfalumni.org/advocate>

## CONTACT YOUR SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE

Click here (<http://capwiz.com/usfalumni/directory/statedir.tt?state=FL&lvl=state>) to locate contact information for your local Florida State Senator and Representative, using your home address.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

To send us your feedback or ideas, email: [govrelations@usf.edu](mailto:govrelations@usf.edu)