

2012-2013



25 under 25
Recognition Program

USF

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The 25 Under 25 program recognizes outstanding undergraduate students from the University of South Florida's College of Business. Students selected for this honor are individuals who are under 25 years of age and have demonstrated excellence in at least two of the following four areas: scholarship, professional development, leadership, and community/campus service.

The goal of this program is to highlight the positive impact students have on campus as well as in the regional community, and to recognize their leadership and academic achievements.



Mary Babcock, Accounting

Although Mary Babcock's studies focus on the numbers-heavy arena of accounting, the second-year business student will use that knowledge to pursue her passion: serving others. Babcock, whose ultimate goal is to start a nonprofit in South America to promote business development and education, has pursued international opportunities during her time at USF. She studied abroad in Slovakia during the summer of 2012, learning how international businesses operate, and traveled to Guatemala over spring break to work with a non-profit educating impoverished children. After graduation, she plans to join the Peace Corps and work in the organization's business division.

In addition to maintaining a 3.94 GPA, Babcock recently competed on the USF team in the Deloitte FanTAXtic competition, where the team won first place regionally and advanced to the national competition.

Babcock holds several leadership positions on campus. She is president of ALPFA, an association for business professionals and students, working with Tampa Bay professionals to plan meetings and events. She serves as the events coordinator for the Business Honors Program and is a lead mentor in the Bulls Business Community, ensuring freshmen are adjusting to college and developing the skills to be successful.

She also recently raced in the Gasparilla Ultra Challenge, completing 30 miles of running in two days.



Evan Burroughs, Finance

Evan Burroughs planned to attend another Florida university. But USF's Bulls Business Community, where like-minded high achieving freshmen live and study together, caused him to change direction. He credits the BBC with helping him to discover his interests and plan his future career as an equity research professional.

He discovered the field, in part, because of the BBC's corporate tours, study abroad opportunities that emphasized data analysis, and opportunities for students to interact with industry leaders. Later, as part of the rigorous Applied Securities Analysis course, he had a chance to mix classroom theory with real-world application as part of a team managing the Student Managed Investment Fund. In the program, he elected to help write an investment policy statement for Metropolitan Ministries to help the non-profit counter the effects of donation seasonality.

Burroughs served as an intern at MacDill AFB, working in the 6th Force Support Squadron's non-appropriated accounting office, where he processed financial documents for a \$3 million budget. His supervisor recognized Burroughs as a driven, quick learner who is able to think critically and analyze complex data.

Today, he is a financial analyst intern at Jacobs Technology, producing forecasting models for its Special Operations Group. One of his projects, which dealt with \$30 million in fringe benefits, is now being used as a working model within the company.



Isabel Carta, International Business and Finance

The child of a father who worked abroad, Isabel Carta and her family moved every few years, giving her an appreciation for various cultures and countries. Carta has focused her college experience on developing skills that will allow her to succeed in global business.

She is pursuing a double major in finance and international business with a double minor in economics and German to allow her to have her own international career. Carta is on her way to achieving that goal with a finance internship in Germany beginning in August, and held a previous finance internship in El Salvador. She currently holds an apprenticeship with fundraising organization RuffaloCODY, and has raised \$140,000 for USF Telefund, the highest amount among current staff members.

Carta's experience of growing up internationally also instilled in her a passion for making others feel comfortable in their environments. She was a teaching assistant for the USF freshman experience class and has worked with INTO USF helping international students adapt to American university life.

Carta shows equal dedication to academics and student organizations: she has made the College of Business Dean's List, is a Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society Nominee, and is a member of the Economic Scholars Society, the International Business Board, and the Student Finance Association.



Diana Devitt, Marketing

A first-generation student at USF and a participant in the Corporate Mentor Program, Diana Devitt is on-track to graduate in four years with her degree in marketing. During the last four years, Devitt has participated in three internships while holding a part-time job in customer service at Publix. She currently works as a marketing intern at two completely different kinds of companies: Jannus Live and Rent King.

Devitt says that growing up with a sibling with disabilities required her to take on more responsibilities than many of her peers but, she says, this opportunity helped her become more compassionate toward others, helped her understand the importance of being adaptable in difficult situations, and helped foster her passion for community service.

Devitt credits the American Marketing Association at USF with helping her to develop professionally. She has held several leadership roles in the student organization, culminating in her position as vice president of event planning. She has participated in several service efforts with the organization, from organizing on-campus awareness events for Big Cat Rescue and the organ donation awareness campaign AMA Saves Lives, to working with Florida Blood Services, Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful, and the American Cancer Society.



**Kayla Chesanek,
General Business and Marketing**

Although Kayla Chesanek works a fifty-hour week as an intern for the Tampa Bay Lightning and Tampa Bay Storm, the third year student is on track to graduate a year early with two majors and service to her fellow students under her belt.

As an intern for the Tampa Bay Lightning and Tampa Bay Storm, Chesanek tracks client trends, hosts networking and social events, and assists with game day promotions. She was also assigned to organize and produce two events: Boldest of the Bay, which honors 24 members from the local police and fire departments, and Get Fit with Dave Andreychuk, which promotes healthy lifestyles to local children.

Chesanek co-founded Autism Speaks U at USF, one of only two Autism Speaks U chapters in Florida, in 2012 while working two off-campus jobs. She implemented three new events on campus and was able to increase membership by 25 percent in four months. Chesanek coordinated the first annual "Light It Up Blue" event for World Autism Awareness Day. The group handed out 500 blue balloons, and partnered with building managers to change the spotlight colors of the USF Marshall Student Center and the SunTrust Bank building in downtown Tampa to blue in support of autism awareness.

Chesanek is a member of the International Business Board, Phi Sigma Theta Honor Society, Phi Alpha Delta, and Women in Business. She also works part-time as a graphic artist and has served as an intern with the Make-A-Wish Foundation.



**Kristina Crane,
International Business**

Kristina Crane takes USF's messages about excelling in the classroom, embracing diversity, studying abroad, and serving as an intern seriously. Crane's 3.96 GPA has earned her a regular spot on the dean's list and the USF Honors College student is a two-time intern. One of them was located halfway around the world.

She spent nearly three months as an intern at China's Qingdao Tourism Bureau last summer. There, she helped with various projects and was able to observe how relationship building skills and business practices differ across cultures. Locally, Crane served as a legislative intern for a city council member, where she helped prepare events, spoke with constituents, and provided administrative assistance.

Her overseas internship was during her second visit to China. Previously, she spent six weeks overseas, learning about the emerging market's customs, culture, and language. Crane is using the experiences to help her prepare her thesis, which compares factors affecting the growth of the United States economy and China's economy. In addition, when competing in the 2012 College of Business Elevator Competition – which she won – Crane talked about her knowledge of China's customs and how they play into Chinese consumer behavior.

Crane is a volunteer in the Chinese Language and Culture Club. She is also involved in Enactus, organization that mobilizes students to make a difference in their communities while developing the skills to become socially responsible business leaders.

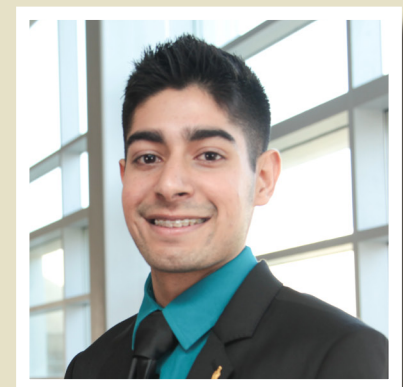
Yogesh Chatulani, Management Information Systems

Yogesh Chatulani has worked to identify business problems and address them.

As vice president of Enactus, a nonprofit organization at USF, Chatulani and other members of the organization saw that there was a need among USF students for professional attire at career fairs. Chatulani now serves as project leader for Suit-A-Bull, which collects donated suits and lends them to USF students free of charge. This semester alone, Suit-A-Bull has served 74 students. He also volunteered as an AmeriCorps tutor for two years, helping to improve the reading levels of more than 40 disadvantaged elementary school students.

Chatulani, a management information systems major with a 3.77 GPA, has also seized opportunities for professional development. He studied abroad in India during 2012 on an ISDS department scholarship, where he was able to further understanding of software engineering and project management at Infosys, one of the world's most innovative IT companies. He has held an on-campus internship with RepNation as a Verizon Wireless Brand Ambassador and worked as a graphic and web designer for USF's Humanities and Cultural Studies department. He is currently employed by the Information Systems Decision Sciences Department.

Chatulani is also a dean's list scholar and serves as the IT director for business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi.





Oscar M. Garcia II, Marketing

Oscar Garcia credits his family with helping him understand the Spanish concept of “ponte chispa” -- if you don’t want to struggle, you have to wake up and get moving.

That work ethic has shaped Garcia’s time at USF. A first generation college student and a member of the Corporate Mentor Program, Garcia learned about analytics, content management systems, and online metrics through internship opportunities, and decided to create his own company focused on digital marketing to meet the local demand in those areas. He also worked with professors to network and build his client base. Garcia continues to grow his business while also focusing on maintaining a high academic standard as a full-time student.

Within the College of Business, Garcia serves on the boards of three different organizations: director of information technology for the American Marketing Association, director of marketing for the International Business Board, and chapter president for Alpha Kappa Psi. Under his leadership, USF’s Alpha Kappa Psi chapter was able to re-establish a mentoring program with the fraternity’s alumni network, create two new scholarships, and increase membership retention by 20 percent. In recognition of those achievements, he was awarded Alpha Kappa Psi’s Southeast Region Leadership award.



Chris Gryniewicz, Finance

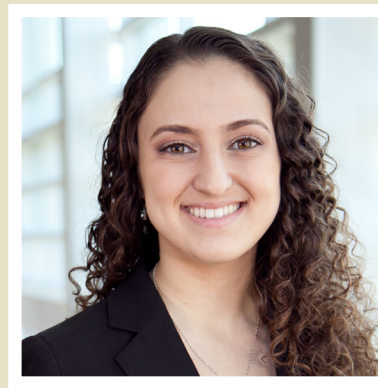
Many USF students struggle to find the balance between jobs, academics, and community engagement, but Chris Gryniewicz has excelled in each arena.

Gryniewicz worked for two years with Valpak of Central Florida, frequently winning monthly sales contests despite competing with veteran sales professionals. He taught himself graphic design, web design, and search engine optimization, and implemented a Customer Relationship System using knowledge he gained in USF information systems classes.

After leaving Valpak to pursue finance-related internships, he interned as a valuation analyst at Crosstree Capital Partners. His peers trust him to handle large sums of money: he is the student government treasurer, helping to shape policy regarding the student government’s \$15 million budget.

Gryniewicz has also found academic success as a member of the Applied Security Analysis course. He and other students research and make stock recommendations to an advisory board, which votes on investing real money from the Student Managed Investment Fund based on student recommended options. Recently, Gryniewicz competed with a few other students from the class in a statewide competition against graduate and doctoral finance students. With the group, he is helping to develop an investment policy for Metropolitan Ministries.

In addition, Gryniewicz is involved in his church as a youth team leader and musical accompanist.



Fadwa Hilili, Accounting

In high school, Fadwa Hilili joined a cooperative education program that provided her the chance to work a few hours a week at TECO Energy. The move not only allowed her to get a glimpse into a corporate career but it also helped the academic achiever understand that mentoring and networking are as important as success in the classroom. There, she met a USF student who was transitioning from intern to full-time TECO employee. She set her sights on doing the same.

When she arrived at USF, she sought out opportunities to network, finding them in INROADS (a training program serving minority youth) and the College of Business Corporate Mentor Program (a program serving students who are the first in their families to attend college). She became an INROADS leader, spearheading several of the events before becoming president of the student organization this year. Realizing how mentoring programs helped her, Hilili also began to serve as a mentor to students at Academy Prep, a school serving promising low-income youth.

Hilili juggled all of these activities while taking 15-18 credit hours per semester and working full-time. As a result, she will graduate two years ahead of schedule.

After graduation, she plans to enroll in the MAcc program at USF and begin working as an intern with a public accounting firm.



Arian Howard, Finance

As a first-generation student committed to service, academics, and professional achievement, Arian Howard exemplifies the term “well-rounded.”

Academic excellence is important to Howard, who has been on the dean’s list several times, but he also strives for excellence outside of the classroom, a lesson his mentor in the Corporate Mentor program has repeatedly stressed. Paired with the CEO of Raymond James Financial, Howard says that the guidance provided to him in this program has been invaluable and has helped him grow both individually and professionally.

Professionally, he has spent 1.5 years as a financial advisor/intern with AXA Advisors and he currently works as a performance analyst intern at CapTrust Advisors. On campus, Howard is the treasurer of Enactus, a nonprofit organization that founded the Suit-A-Bull suit lending closet to ensure USF students are professionally dressed for job interviews. Howard is part of the presentation team that presents Enactus’ service projects at competitions -- last year, they came in first regionally and competed nationally. He is also enrolled in the USF Honors College and is writing his honors thesis on financial aid literacy.

Howard is a member of the Student Managed Investment Fund, which researches stocks for real-world investment and is well-known as one of the most challenging courses in the College of Business. He typically spends 40 to 80 hours with his groups putting together the report and presentation for the investment committee.



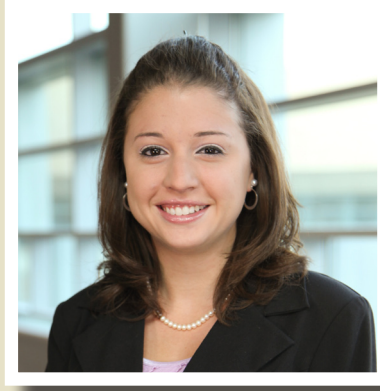
Huzzatun Iqra, Accounting

Huzzatun Iqra is clearly a bright student. The accounting major and USF Honors College student is active in the exclusive Business Honors Program and the invitation-only Bulls Business Community. Given her focus on academics, it is no surprise that she has earned a 3.99 GPA during her first two years at USF.

Iqra doesn't simply study all the time, however. She serves as a mentor for the Intercultural Student Leadership Conference and has participated in nearly every professional development program offered at the business school. Given her active involvement in BBC programs, she was named "Resident of the Year" last year; it is easy to see why she was tapped to serve as an RA for the Bulls Business Community next year.

Outside of residence life, Iqra serves as the community liaison for Women in Business and as vice president of Future Business Leaders of America, where she won first place at the organization's state competition for business decision making. She was recently selected as a USF Ambassador, an opportunity that will allow her to represent the university at a variety of functions, from legislative visits to international programs.

A native of Bangladesh, Iqra came to America alone as a high school student in order to pursue a quality education. She considers herself a global citizen, which can be evidenced by her participation in a study abroad program where she spent six weeks in Florence, Italy. This summer, she will participate in the Deloitte Discovery internship program.



Jennifer Keller, Accounting

An accounting major and criminology minor, Jennifer Keller is getting a head start on her accounting career through a United Way program that provides free tax assistance for low income taxpayers in need of help with filing their IRS forms. As site coordinator for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, Keller not only recruits and manages volunteers but participates as a preparer in the program herself, a task that requires her to be fully informed on current tax law. United Way leaders praised her maturity, dedication, and excellent customer service. The manager of the program pointed out that Keller "resolves questions by teaching other preparers how to do what needs to be done rather than simply doing it herself." She says she loves being able to apply what she is learning in the classroom in such a meaningful way.

She began volunteering for the VITA program after a tax internship she held at Crowe Horwath. She says that the company treated her as if she were a "regular, full-time employee" and she really enjoyed completing tax returns and learning what it takes to become a leader in the workplace. She was a top performer as an intern. Crowe Horwath has not only extended an invitation for her to continue the internship for a second semester, but has also indicated that she would be able to become a full-time employee there upon completion of her master's degree program. She is slated to begin coursework for the Master's of Accountancy degree next semester.



Ahad Khan, Accounting

Passionate about accounting, Ahad Khan decided to start a student organization for lower-level accounting students that gave them an overview of the career opportunities in accounting and provided opportunities to give back outside of the classroom. He calls the creation of that organization, the USF Accounting Society, as one of his most rewarding experiences at USF.

He worked with the USF School of Accountancy's leadership to ensure that the group meshes with the goals of the school, its existing organizations for upper-level students, and the needs of younger students. Now that new officers lead the organization, Khan is mentoring the younger officers to ensure that the society continues after he graduates.

Khan's passion for accounting is evident when it comes to academics, too. Khan has his eyes set on USF's King O'Neal Scholar designation, which is given to those who graduate with a 4.0 GPA. He aims to earn this designation while juggling the demanding accounting coursework with tutoring gigs, leadership in student organizations, an accounting internship, and working as a student assistant in the provost's office.

Khan has served as a tutor for both USF Athletics and the Bulls Business Community and holds a level one tutoring certification. He is a member of accounting honor society Beta Alpha Psi and he has worked as a student assistant in the provost's office.

Brittni Lowery, Marketing and Management

The year before college, Brittni Lowery's biggest challenge was convincing her mother to let her move into the Bulls Business Community on-campus instead of living at home. Now, she credits the Bulls Business Community with being the first step that helped her take advantage of the opportunities USF offers, including internships, leadership positions, and future study abroad options.

Through the Bulls Business Community, Lowery served as a mentor to freshmen during her sophomore year, raised just under \$1,000 for the American Cancer Society as the Relay for Life team co-captain, and became one of the community's three resident assistants.

Outside of the living-and-learning experience, she holds an additional leadership role as vice president of the Women in Business Society, choosing the executive board, leading meetings, and networking with women in Tampa Bay. She also worked as an orientation team leader in the summer of 2012, working with first year students and their families to introduce them to USF.

Lowery currently works as a marketing intern for the Museum of Science and Industry, where she plans events and has worked on presentations for senior museum leadership. In the future she plans on attending graduate school for student affairs.





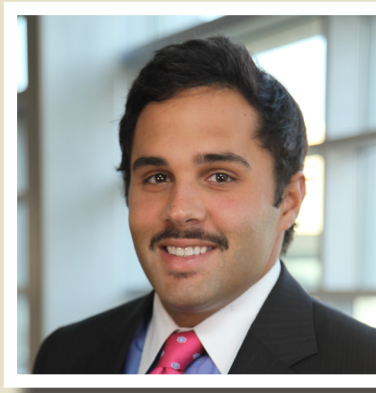
**Chad Masters,
Management and Marketing**

From representing the university as Mr. USF to being a mentor to a young man, Chad Masters has worked to embody leadership values during his four years as a College of Business student.

In the community leadership practicum course he took as part of his leadership minor, Masters joined Big Brothers Big Sisters and became a mentor to his "little brother," Jeff. Four years later, Masters continues to serve as Jeff's Big Brother, and has dedicated his "Mr. USF 2012" title to the nonprofit.

During his time at USF, Masters has also focused on developing his communication skills. He built upon speaking skills by joining Toastmasters at USF, where he has held leadership roles as president, mentor, and parliamentarian. Masters' public speaking skills have served him in the Mr. USF competition, where he gave a motivational speech as his talent, and also in the College of Business' Elevator Competition, which he won first place in 2011.

Masters has balanced these extracurricular activities with his studies, as evident by his appearances on the dean's list, as well as professional development, with internships at Ignition Branding, Cox Media Group, the Tampa Bay Business Journal, and Prudential Financial under his belt.



**Alejandro Mendez,
Management and Biology**

Baseball player and business major Alejandro Mendez was drafted by the Minnesota Twins straight out of high school, but his goals extended beyond the baseball field.

As a Division I student athlete, baseball is an integral part of Mendez's college experience. However, he has pursued extensive leadership, service, and professional opportunities that will help him achieve his dream after leaving college athletics: going to medical school. Since 2006, he has shadowed doctors in Orlando and Tampa, learning about patient care. Mendez also worked as a research lab assistant with the Medicine for Malaria venture, working to extract compounds that could combat malaria.

Mendez takes advantage of leadership opportunities both on and off the field. He is the president of Student Athletic Advisory Committee at USF and the Big East Student Athletic Advisory Committee, an organization that assists student-athletes by acting as the liaison and bridge between the students, university and the NCAA. He serves the community numerous ways, notably through Samaritan's Feet, an organization providing shoes to those who cannot afford them. He was in charge of fundraising for a local event, raising \$4,000 to buy 300 pairs of shoes.

Mendez has been recognized nationally for his achievements: he was named the Nesquik Student-Athlete of the Week in 2011 and has been on the Big East Athletic Honor Roll since 2009.



**Yanin Nanakorn,
Accounting and Advertising**

Red Bull uses its "gives you wings" slogan to reference the energy boost that the drink provides consumers, but in Yanin Nanakorn's case, Red Bull help her career take flight. As part of a student team charged with creating a sampling program for the energy drink, she discovered she got charged up when she saw marketing programs take off. She also discovered that she loved client-side marketing and strategizing.

Nanakorn, who has studied abroad twice, was able to discover what it was like to work agency-side as she served as an intern for a full-service marketing and advertising agency in Sydney, Australia. As an exchange student at Macquarie University, she assisted with a variety of tasks and was able to help the company's national sales manager evaluate client needs.

Stateside, Nanakorn is a campus leader. She has been an active member of the International Business Board, accounting honors organization Beta Alpha Psi, and the American Marketing Association. As an AMA leader, she helped plan the group's ScramBULL golf tournament and directed its street team for a project benefiting pediatric cancer research. She says one of her favorite community service projects has been through Chi Omega. As the former director of career and professional development for the sorority, she assisted with philanthropy projects for Make-A-Wish Foundation, where the group raised funds to grant wishes for three different children with life threatening illnesses.

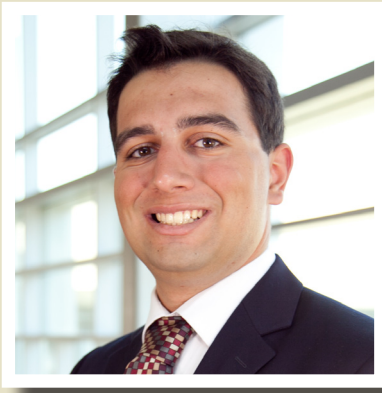


George Papadeas, Marketing

George Papadeas has excelled as a leader during his four years at USF, culminating in his position as the second most powerful student leader on USF's campus. As student body vice president, Papadeas helps create and oversee a \$15 million budget and hires the student government staff, among other duties. He has worked with the Center for Student Involvement Hiring Committee, the Technology Fee Advisory Council, and the TEDxUSF Planning Committee. Additionally, he advocates for students as one of two students serving on the board of directors for the USF Alumni Association.

Papadeas' leadership experience at USF began early. His freshman year, he was elected governor of his residence hall, and went on to serve as a resident assistant for two years and as an orientation team leader the summer after his freshman year, helping integrate new students into USF life. In 2010, he participated in the "Step Up: Male Leadership Development" program. Papadeas also worked as a facilitator at the Emerging Leaders Institute, presenting a leadership development seminar and leading groups of first-year students as a student mentor.

Papadeas is president of the USF Hellenic Society, a brother of Delta Chi Fraternity, and has appeared on the dean's list. He recently learned that the USF Alumni Association has named him USF's Outstanding Graduate and will laud his service to the university during May's commencement exercises.



**Charles Polisenio,
Business Economics**

In his quest to earn the Boy Scouts of America's Eagle Scout ranking, Charles Polisenio learned how to design and implement projects, solicit supplies, and recruit volunteers. He says the experience taught him that leadership is not simply telling others what to do; it is, rather, the ability to undertake a movement and get others to follow.

Polisenio says this lesson has been reinforced during his tenure at USF, particularly through the College of Business Corporate Mentor Program. In this program, he is paired with a business leader who has demonstrated a sincere desire to help him go beyond the classroom to learn about successful business practices. As a result, Polisenio has served as an intern twice, the first time with the Tampa Bay Rowdies, where he helped with game day operations and created content for the team's website. Later, he worked as an intern with Grow Financial, where he was charged with researching demographic data regarding future locations and presenting his findings to the credit union's leadership team.

Polisenio says leadership lessons have also been reinforced in programs such as the Bulls Business Community, the Business Honors Program, and throughout his study abroad experiences.

Polisenio is currently drafting his undergraduate thesis, which tackles the controversial issue of gun control, the availability of illicit firearms, and crime and the economy. He expects to graduate in 2014.



**Krystyn Ramdial,
Management and Psychology**

Krystyn Ramdial's résumé lists all of the honors one would expect of students on the 25 Under 25 roster. Given her 3.98 GPA, she has earned a spot on the Dean's List multiple times and has received several merit scholarships. She has participated in research projects alongside university faculty. She has studied abroad twice and has participated in countless community service projects. She is a member of the Honors College Student Council and tutors her fellow students. The recipient of USF's prestigious Golden Bull award in 2012, presented to just 20 students university-wide each year, Ramdial is clearly an impressive young leader.

Ramdial says that her leadership skills weren't readily apparent to her when she began her career at USF. She was an academic achiever, of course, having been admitted to the USF Honors College. During her sophomore year, these groups helped her discover that she was passionate about service learning and projects that help her greater community. She decided to take part in an alternative spring break program and, alongside 20 USF Bulls, travelled to Costa Rica to help build the foundation for a soup kitchen.

She has since become a strong advocate for student leadership and global impact. So strong, in fact, that she spent the last three years helping to establish the National Society of Leadership and Success on campus. The organization's mission is to help transform students into leaders who build a better world.



**Tyler Rehm,
Management Information Systems,
Finance, and Economics**

Tyler Rehm isn't content with only exceeding in a few areas. Consider his academic track record: Rehm is an Honors College student, triple-majoring in Management Information Systems, Finance, and Economics, planning to graduate on-time in 2014.

In the areas of language and international travel, Rehm is competent in Spanish and Italian, and is studying Russian and Hindi. He has also studied abroad in Florence with the Business Honors Program and plans to study in India this summer (thanks to a scholarship with the ISDS Infosys program). He also plans to study in Israel in May with the National Intelligence Analysis Program.

Rehm values extracurricular activities, too. He is an inaugural member of the Business Honors Program, an honorary member of the Corporate Mentor Program, and a member of Omicron Delta Epsilon Economics Honors Fraternity. He has been a member of USF's club ice hockey team since his freshman year, and is now the team's acting president. He was elected to the Sports Club Council, which manages more than 45 athletic organizations and a budget of nearly \$300,000. As a member of the Business Honors Program, he and several classmates created the Noble Guides Program, an on-campus service club.

He currently works as a law clerk at Fowler White Boggs, P.A. and is building a micro mobile projector business.

Jessica Richardson, Management, Marketing, and Biomedical Science

Jessica Richardson started taking courses at USF in high school toward a biomedical science major. The Plant City High salutatorian had always known she wanted to be a doctor, but as she took the calculus and physics classes required for the pre-med track, she realized she needed more knowledge to truly understand the business of being a doctor.

Richardson added two additional majors in marketing and management. Scheduled to graduate in May, Richardson has a 4.0 business GPA and a 3.97 overall GPA, never receiving a grade lower than an A-.

Although she has three majors, she has managed to go beyond academics and has gained leadership roles in two organizations on campus. Her sophomore year, she served as president of USF's Future Business Leaders of America, organizing events and taking the group to the state and national competitions, where they won 10 national awards. She is currently president of the USF Student Tutor Association, which connects struggling students with tutors. She has also worked professionally as a tutor and has dedicated time to working as a volunteer research assistant at the Center for Aging and Brain Repair.





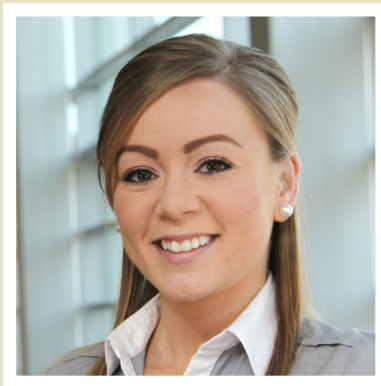
Cassandra Sanchez,
International Business and Marketing

Cassandra Sanchez says her parents helped her learn, as early as kindergarten, that one person can improve the lives of many. A 13-year member of the Girl Scouts, Sanchez participated in projects as varied as grocery shopping for the elderly to fundraising drives for local agencies. With her parents, she spent holidays at a rescue mission. As a teenager, she helped to coordinate programs to reduce impaired driving incidents.

While her thirst for community service may have developed in her hometown, it certainly wasn't quenched there. At USF, she is a leader in USF's Voto Latino program. This past November, she encouraged her peers to become informed on the election and register to vote. She served as a project coordinator for United Way's Hands on Tampa program. And she also served as an office volunteer at Habitat for Humanity. There, she found mentors amongst the agency's leadership team and was soon offered an internship in the non-profit's accounting office.

This wasn't her first internship. The dean's list scholar recently spent a summer as an intern at a local construction company where she invoiced clients and assisted the family-owned firm's accountant in preparation for its New York State audit.

This summer, Sanchez will work alongside peers from the Asociacion TransAmericana de Voluntarios En Solidaridad. She will spend five weeks in Managua, Nicaragua, using her business education to help educate impoverished locals about entrepreneurship and personal and microfinancing.



Melissa Stewart,
Finance, Management and Accounting

It can be daunting to juggle work, school, and family responsibilities, and adding social and community service work to the mix often overwhelms people. That isn't the case for Melissa Stewart.

Stewart knew in middle school that her family lacked the financial means to attend college, so, as a freshman, she applied for – and won – a scholarship that tracked her academic progress in high school. Stewart took this obligation seriously, graduated near the top of her class, and soon received USF's highest scholarship for incoming freshmen, the Presidential Scholars Award.

The Honors College student sought out opportunities to get involved on campus and in the community. She began to volunteer at Junior Achievement's BizTown Center, helping elementary schoolers learn the basics of business. She helped launch a Toastmasters chapter. She joined Delta Delta Delta and took on leadership roles. She was elected to serve on USF's Panhellenic Executive Board. There, she was charged with the group's fiscal management, handling several budgets and helping to write the financial policies and procedures sections of its strategic plan.

Recently, Stewart was hired as a part-time student ambassador to coordinate financial literacy programs and activities at GTE Financial. In addition, she was asked to serve as a team leader to help the company establish a full-service student-operated credit union. GTE Financial has offered her a full-time position upon graduation.



Shalicia Torbert,
General Business Administration

In 2011, Shalicia Torbert was chosen from among of hundreds of applicants to intern in an eight-week program with the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C. Some people would consider such an internship to be a great stepping stone to a corporate career but Shalicia's contributions to the nation's defense agency didn't end there.

She did so well in the program that she was chosen to work at the United States Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base, where she works part-time as a paid intern with a government clearance. Torbert's accomplishments extend beyond professional development.

She has also been involved as a leader in organizations across campus. She served as secretary and activities coordinator for the Black Student Association. With that organization, she helped start an annual event for Black History Month, the Gospel Extravaganza at the USF St. Petersburg campus.

Torbert is also a member of the National Council for Negro Women which has provided countless opportunities for her to volunteer in the community. In addition, she pays forward the leadership skills she has developed at USF by mentoring incoming freshman as part of the ALANA Mentoring Program.

The first person in her family to attend college as a full-time student straight out of high school, Torbert plans to graduate in May.

2012 - 2013 JUDGES

Mike DaSilva
Kid's Wealth USA

Chip Newton
Dean's Executive Advisory Council Member

Marty Petty
MAP & Associates

Jeannette Renfrow
U.S. Ameribank

Mindy Silverman
T. Rowe Price

Rebecca Smith
A.D. Morgan

John Townsend
T. Rowe Price

Where Are They Now

2011 - 2012 Honorees

Aaj Solanki is currently serving as an audit intern at Deloitte. He is on track to complete his studies for his undergrad degree soon. He plans to apply for USF's Masters of Accountancy program following graduation.

Alexis Nowell finished her softball career at USF by being part of the first team in the program's history to go to the women's college World Series. She currently works in the retail department at T. Rowe Price in Tampa.

Alvaro Ruis is currently an intern at T. Rowe Price in its Retail Account Management Department. He is also a sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserves. He attended the Defense Language Institute last year where he learned Portuguese. Alvaro will be studying abroad in Brazil this summer through the Afro-Brazilian Culture Program offered at USF.

Amanda Kerney works with McGladrey as an audit associate in the firm's Miami offices. She recently passed the CPA exam and is pursuing a CISA (Certified information systems auditor) designation.

Anson Angail studied abroad over the summer, traveling to Slovakia and learning about transitional economies and international business. He is also a corporate strategy intern at GTE Financial.

Anthony Diaz is finishing his finance courses and plans to graduate in May. He is currently searching for a job!). Outside of the classroom, he still plays for USF's baseball team and believes the team may win its first Big East Championship this year.

Frank Territo is working for the Bank of Tampa as part of the Risk Management / Internal Audit team. He recently joined the Risk Management Association, which helps financial institutions identify and manage risk.

Gina Ferrara is currently an intern at C.H.Robinson Worldwide Inc., one of the largest logistics companies in the world. This summer, she will study abroad in China as part of an intensive, 10-week program in Mandarin Chinese.

Grant Sittig will serve as an intern in the tax department for PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in Tampa during the summer. He plans to start law school in the fall and is currently trying to decide which school to attend.

Jaime Mizrahi works for The Nielsen Company. He still resides in Tampa and is an active member in some organizations at USF as well as in the Jewish community in South Florida.

Jessica Barber is now a Financial Analyst for Goldman Sachs in the Investment Management Division in Salt Lake City, UT. She and fellow 25 Under 25 recipient Ryan Spellins recently became engaged and they plan to marry in the fall.

Julio Novio studied "Transitional Economics" abroad in Bratislava, Slovakia over the summer and he recently backpacked through ten European countries and participated in the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona, Spain.

Kristen Keese currently lives in Brooklyn, NY and is working for The Nielsen Company as a Research Analyst in Media Analytics. She is also studying screenwriting and writing in her spare time.

Lindsay Berstling is currently studying in a double degree program for International Management and Marketing at ESC Rennes in France. This summer, she will return to Florida where she will be an intern for SRQ Media Group. She will resume her studies at USF in the fall. She plans to graduate in 2014.

Matthew Casey is finishing up his last semester at USF and will graduate with a degree in accounting and finance in May. He recently passed Level 1 of the CFA and accepted a position at Raymond James. He is working on a fundraiser for a local non-profit organization, Quantum Leap Farm, doing so by rowing for 26.2 hours to raise \$5,000.

Megan Blizzard accepted a position as a client relations administrative assistant for Kass Shuler, P.A shortly after her 2012 graduation. She was recently was promoted and is now a client relations liaison.

Michael Tomaino will participate in Deutsche Bank's Investment Banking Program this summer.

Petr Bambasek is studying abroad at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum in Bochum, Germany. He recently completed a strategic planning and account management internship at Leo Burnett Prague, where he worked on accounts such as Fiat, AXA Bank and CEZ Group. He will graduate in December and plans to work at an advertising agency in Milwaukee, WI.

Randall Nairn will graduate in August. She plans to pursue a career in college of student affairs.

Silvia Soto-Avella is currently working full-time at the Depository Trust and Clearing Corporation as a software developer. She is also trying to establish a Tampa chapter of "Girl Develop It," an organization to empower women of diverse backgrounds to learn how to develop software.

Stancey Kwakwa is working at the USF University Controller's Office. She interned with GTE Financial in accounting last summer and plans on taking the CPA exam next year. She is studying for the GMAT and plans to apply to graduate school in the fall.

Steven Schertzer is currently working with GTE Financial as a regional mortgage loan originator. He supports and trains seven employees for seven of the firm's Community Financial Centers.

Syed Hasan completed a year-long internship at Raymond James Financial and will graduate in 2013. He recently served as a delegate for the Education Without Borders Conference in the United Arab Emirates.

William Bakos currently works for Goldman Sachs in New York City.

William Halaby is a leadership consultant for Delta Chi Fraternity. He will begin law school in the fall at Levin College of Law at the University of Florida.

Where Are They Now

Rachel Albright is enrolled in Podiatric Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine at the Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine, located in Chicago.

Frank Cabano just began the doctoral program at the University of Kansas. He aspires to become a marketing professor at a major research institution.

Ashley Ciccarello is an intern with PricewaterhouseCoopers and she plans to graduate this year. She plans to begin graduate school immediately afterwards.

Luqmaan Dawoodjee is a freelancer who has been given the opportunity to work with many clients including SPARK, Sweetbay Supermarkets, Ollibean, and Walker Brands.

Makis Denis is currently engaged in full time ministry work. He has also partnered with an international health and nutrition company and is responsible for the growth of a marketing team spanning across multiple states in North America.

Tiffany Eveld graduated in 2012 and will begin law school this year. She is currently evaluating programs at several different law schools.

Kari Ferguson recently earned a master's degree and accepted a job at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Hefgine Fils-Aime is finishing her coursework toward a Master of Science in Accountancy from Wake Forest University. She will return to Tampa in the fall to work for PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Ben Gasparini is a finance clerk for the Home Shopping Network but will soon move to New York, NY, where he will work at Goldman Sachs. He is also taking 15 credit hours to reach the 150 credit hour mark in order to obtain a CPA license.

Demelza Hays is researching the informal credit sector in Punjab, India. She will soon begin graduate studies at the Toulouse School of Economics in Toulouse, France.

Samantha Hill Pauley currently works at Blue Grace Logistics in Chicago. She serves as a key account manager.

Chaz Hine recently graduated from USF, earning an MBA. He is a project administrator at AgileThought, Inc. in Tampa.

Eric Holland is a graduate student in USF's Sports and Entertainment Management MBA program. He works in the marketing department for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, specializing in marketing research, strategy, and analysis.

Stephanie Howard is still a student at USF and was named Homecoming Queen in 2012.

Christina Jena is now employed at USF, working in the Division of Patents & Licensing as a communications and marketing specialist. She is also pursuing an MBA from USF.

Chelsey Kamen works full-time as the development coordinator for The Dalí Museum in St. Petersburg.

Sean McCaskill works at KPMG as an audit associate. He has obtained a Florida CPA license and will continue to pursue the CFA designation.

Sean Motta is currently pursuing a Masters of Mechanical Engineering at USF. He recently accepted a full time position as an engineer for Duke Energy.

Wilnelly Ortiz recently accepted a marketing coordinator position at Columbia Records.

Sahir Quraeshi recently founded another car enthusiast club, "Palm Beach Car Meets." He plans to apply to medical schools in June.

Sarah Reynolds has been with Raymond James Bank in St. Petersburg since 2012, starting one month after her graduation. She works in the Corporate & Real Estate Banking Group, where she reviews, analyzes, and aids in the underwriting process of new and existing credits. In addition, she is currently studying for the GMAT.

Paul Robertson is currently in his first year of law school at Michigan State University. He will be applying for a dual degree in the fall and will be studying international business law in Japan this summer.

Ryan Spellins is now a financial analyst for the Controllers Division at Goldman Sachs in Salt Lake City, Utah. He and fellow 25 Under 25 Honoree Jessica Barber became engaged and plan to marry in the fall.

Volkan Turan is a project manager in the Performance Consulting sector of JPMorgan.

Where Are They Now

2009 - 2010 Honorees

Angela Martin is a technical recruiter for TEK Systems.

Anthony Morrison recently moved to New York City to further pursue a photographer career in the fashion and creative industries. He has photographed Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York and Miami and has become a personal photographer for some popular designers and TV personalities. Anthony began working at ABC News as a production associate in the company's New York headquarters.

Anthony Zanella is a technology analyst for Target in Minneapolis, St. Paul. He is currently pursuing both CISA and CPA licenses.

Brittany Grossfield is a stockbroker for Scottrade Financial. She also works as a local set manager for Cherry Hill Photo. She will graduate from USF's MBA program in May.

Carolina Romero is living in New York and working as a senior analyst in the regulatory reporting division of Goldman Sachs.

Dazaun Soleyn is the president of Artistic Impact Inc.. He is also attaining his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the University of South Florida in hopes of pursuing a career as the Principle of a Performing Arts High School.

Elizabeth Wilhelm is a substitute teacher and is pursuing a certification to teach high school level math. She plans to pursue a graduate degree but is still deciding whether she will study education or business.

Erin Potter is a field consultant for Delta Delta Delta, where she works with collegiate chapters across the nation.

Ingrid Poole works at PricewaterhouseCoopers in the assurance services division and is studying for the CPA exam. She also serves as a mentor for Beta Alpha Psi.

James Hansen earned a MAcc degree from USF and is an assurance staff associate in the advisory practice at Ernst & Young, providing assurance services to the media and entertainment industry. He recently passed all sections of the CPA exam.

Jamie Kenney works with The Nielsen Company. He is technical account manager for the firm's the Insight and Innovation group.

Jennifer Brody is a full-time mother. She plans to return to the corporate world once her children are a little older.

Joshua Horn is a corporate accountant at Intertape Polymer Group.

Justin Fries works as a fixed income operation analyst for Citi, working in the broker/dealer department. This summer, he plans to begin coursework towards a bachelor's degree in computer science.

Kelly Strammer works for International Paper as a business analyst. She is also enrolled part-time in the University of South Florida Master of Marketing program.

Lindsay Skillman works at Florida Gulf Coast University as an instructional support coordinator. She teaches an effective learning course and coordinates tutoring and supplemental instruction programs for undergraduate students.

Luke Richardson recently graduated as a King O'Neal scholar (recognizing a 4.0 GPA at graduation). He is pursuing a MAcc degree at USF and serves as a teaching assistant for the School of Accountancy.

Matthew Kelsey works for Homes by WestBay, a developing home building company local to the Tampa Bay market. He plans on buying his first house very soon and is currently looking into different entrepreneurial ventures to form his first LLC.

Michael Kotarinos is a graduate student in the University of Florida's Department of Statistics.

Richard Grieder is an accounting and finance rotational analyst at SPX Corporation, a Fortune 500 industrial conglomerate based out of Charlotte, NC. He has been based in Glasgow, Scotland, attaining international experience and working on the integration of recently acquired businesses.

Ryan Kearns is expanding his event planning business, Red Door Entertainment, LLC. Additionally, he recently became an account manager for Merchandise Partners, a company that sells promotional branded items.

Stephanie Wagenfohr works at KPMG as an audit associate.

Torrell Jackson is enrolled in Bank of America's Management Leadership Development Program, training to become an assistant manager in the Northwest Atlanta market.

William Brewer is a senior audit assistant at Deloitte. He recently obtained a CPA license and is preparing for the CFA Level II exam.

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25 Under 25 Program

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