



Annual Report

2025 - 2026



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA
Libraries

Contents:



- About USF Libraries
 - Organization Chart & Personnel Updates
 - USF Libraries by the Numbers
 - News
 - Faculty & Staff Accomplishments
 - Grant Awards
 - Scholarships, Research Awards, & Essay Prizes
 - Digital Collections
 - Library Services
 - New Resources
 - Major Appointments & Elections
 - Community Partnerships
 - Research & Instruction
 - Special Collections
 - Textbook Affordability
 - Appendix: Financial Overview & Fiscal Expenditures
- 

About Us



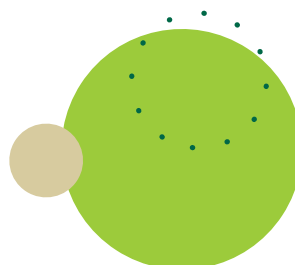
The University of South Florida Libraries accelerate learning and knowledge production through distinctive collections, information service innovation, and thought leadership. We are one library serving our campus communities in Tampa, St. Petersburg, and at the Sarasota-Manatee teach-out site.

As the heart of an AAU member University, the USF Libraries contribute to student success, faculty excellence, and lifelong learning.

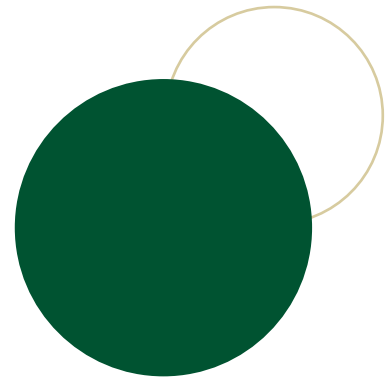
The USF Libraries provide access to over **3.8 million print & eBooks, 110,781 eJournal subscriptions, and over 24 million digital images**. We offer specialized workshops, research assistance, and instruction support to students and faculty as well as access to unique primary research materials in Florida studies, Florida environment and natural history, children's and young adult literature, LGBTQ+ studies, civil rights, journalism, and university archives. We are also home to the USF Herbarium, one of the largest herbaria in the United States and the second largest in Florida. Assistance is available from research and reference librarians either by appointment, on-line via our website, by phone, or in a classroom setting. We are research-active, grant-active and have strong local, national, and international research partnerships.

USF Libraries memberships include:

- **American Library Association (ALA)**
- **Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL)**
- **Center for Research Libraries (CRL)**
- **Coalition for Networked Information (CNI)**
- **Council of Library & Information Resources (CLIR)**
- **Digital Library Federation (DLF)**
- **Library Publishing Coalition (Educopia Institute)**
- **Lyrasis**
- **OCLC Research Library**
- **Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC)**
- **Tampa Bay Library Consortium, Inc. (TBLC)**



About Us



USF Libraries, Tampa

Centrally located on campus, the Tampa library serves as USF's main research library. An inviting and collaborative place to meet, study, and conduct research, the library offers students access to an extensive selection of print and electronic books, maps, journals, databases, and textbooks. Featuring a variety of study rooms and collaborative and quiet floors, a Graduate Reading Room, an IT Help Desk and Computer Repair, SMARTLab, Writing Studio, Academic Success Center, Office of High Impact Practices and Undergraduate Research—as well as a Starbucks Coffee—the library is a truly student-centric facility.

USF Libraries, St. Petersburg

The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, located along the waterfront of the St. Petersburg campus, promotes and supports faculty and student-centered learning and research in an inviting, creative, and flexible environment. The library offers a variety of study and collaborative spaces, access to print and electronic resources, textbooks, printers, and more. Technology support is available through the Student Technology Center, which also features a makerspace with access to 3D printing and VR technology tools.

USF Libraries Information Commons & Library Services, Sarasota-Manatee teach-out site

The Information Commons and Library Services at the USF Sarasota-Manatee teach-out site partners with faculty, academic, and student units across campus to teach students information literacy and research skills, as well as coordinate loans of essential technology tools and library resources/course reserves.



Todd Chavez
Dean, USF Libraries

Carol Ann Borchert
Senior Associate Dean,
Library Services & Collections

Britney Edwards
Director,
Administrative Services

Terry Hutchings
Director,
Library Initiatives

Kristina Keogh
Campus Dean,
USF Libraries, St. Petersburg

Kaya van Beynen
Associate Dean,
Research & Instruction

Clara Reynardus de Villanueva
Director of Development

Laura Pascual
Director,
Collections & Discovery

Tomaro Taylor
Director,
Special Collections

Loryn Ragsdale
Assistant Director,
Library Services

Dave Rosa
Operations Manager,
Public Safety & Facilities

Liza Normandia
Fiscal & Business
Analyst

Brian Satterfield
Fiscal & Business
Analyst II, St. Petersburg

Joyce Sadler
Fiscal & Business
Analyst I

Alexander Neff
Program Director,
Data Analytics &
Textbook Affordability

Zibby Wilder
Associate Director,
Communications &
Marketing

LeEtta Schmidt
Director, Integrated
Research & Impact
Services

Berrie Watson
Head of USF
Library Systems

VACANT
STEAM & Data Visualization Librarian

Erica Lovelette
Coordinator, Library Operations

Shawna Durtschi
Assistant Librarian,
St. Petersburg Campus

Matthew Johnson
Director,
Research & Instruction

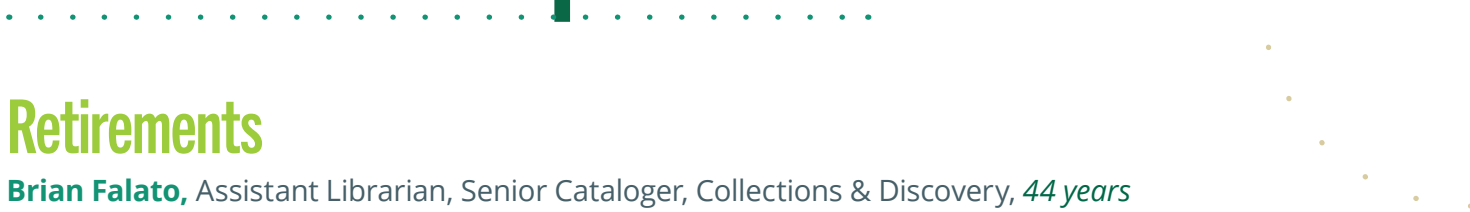
Jessica Szempruch
Associate Director,
Research Partnerships
Sarasota-Manatee

Vacant
Associate Director,
Teaching & Learning
Partnerships
St. Petersburg



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA
Libraries

Personnel Updates



Retirements

Brian Falato, Assistant Librarian, Senior Cataloger, Collections & Discovery, *44 years*

New Hires

Alih Rosa Batista, Born Digital Archives Coordinator

Anita Crnjac, Herbarium Coordinator

Caitlin Campbell, Archives Coordinator

Cameron Eppich, Fiscal & Business Specialist

Karina Coffigny, Coordinator, Integrated Research & Impact Services (IRIS)

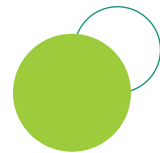
Natalie Kazmin, Assistant Librarian, Special Collections Catalog Librarian

Roberta Stange, Fiscal & Business Specialist

Sabreen Elzein, Library Specialist

Samuel Holloway III, Coordinator of Library Operations

Thalia Pimentel, Library Specialist, Library Services



Promotions

Courtney Lofgren, 2025, Library Specialist to Library Supervisor

David Rosa, 2026, Operations Manager to Assistant Director, Building Maintenance, Safety & Security

Jessica Szempruch, 2026, Assistant Director to Associate Director of Research Partnerships, Research & Instruction

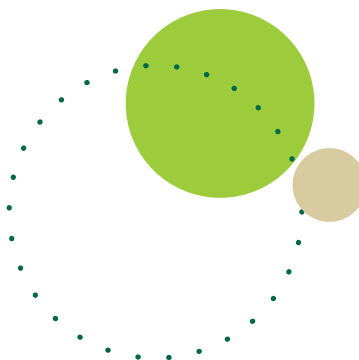
Lesley Brooks, 2025, Coordinator of Library Operations to Manager of Library Operations

Leslie Boydston, 2025, Library Specialist to Library Supervisor

Liza Normandia, 2025, Fiscal & Business Analyst to Manager of Fiscal & Business Admin

Rebekah Nault, 2025, Library Specialist to Library Supervisor

Zibby Wilder, 2026, Assistant Director to Associate Director, Communications & Marketing



By the Numbers

2025-2026



General Collection

Titles: 4,061,913

Volumes: 4,865,124

Digital Collections

Total objects: 218,185

Total downloads: 5,479,085

Study Room Bookings

Total Bookings: 51,941

Total hours booked: 135,065

Top 5 digital collections viewed:

- ★ Searchable Ornithological Research Archive: 2,309,247
- ★ Gandy Commercial and Aerial Photography collection: 701,094
- ★ USF University Archives: 306,984
- ★ Karst Information Portal: 285,648
- ★ Hampton Dunn Collection of Florida Postcards: 145,146

Digital Commons

Total downloads: 9,223,402

Most downloaded item

Social Science Research: Principles, Methods, and Practices: 141,130

Most downloaded collection

USF Tampa Graduate Theses and Dissertations: 1,684,094

Most downloaded open access journal

Journal of Strategic Security: 316,570



Ask A Librarian

Text Messages: 138

Emails: 170

Chats: 646

Interlibrary Loan

Requests filled by USF Libraries: 10,747

Requests made to other libraries: 5,264

LibGuides

Public Guides: 245

Total Views: 431,236

Top 5 Guides

- AI Tools and Resources: 62,195
- Business Plan & Pitch Presentation: 23,798
- Financial Times Top 50 Journals: 16,854
- Library Skills for All Students: 13,746
- NVivo: Introduction and Basics: 13,491



2025-2026 Library News

Farewell, Dean Chavez

After 11 years of visionary leadership, USF Libraries' dean, Todd Chavez, stepped away from the position at the end of June 2026. Todd started with USF Libraries in 1994 and, after a little well-deserved time off, will return to the Libraries as a Special Collections curator. We're looking forward to welcoming him back!

In July 2026, the University of South Florida announced the appointment of Carol Ann Borchert as the new Dean of the USF Libraries.

Borchert has served USF for nearly three decades, most recently as Senior Associate Dean of the USF Libraries. Throughout her tenure, Borchert has led major initiatives that have strengthened access to scholarly resources, expanded digital preservation efforts, enhanced research support services, and improved the visibility of faculty scholarship. Her accomplishments include overseeing the transition of the Searchable Ornithological Research Archive (more than 80,000 items) for preservation on USF's Digital Commons platform, implementing Digital Commons Data to support research data management, guiding significant library technology and repository transitions, and supporting faculty success and promotion initiatives.

In her role as dean, Borchert will maintain the USF Libraries' position as a partner in student success, research excellence, and community engagement. In collaboration with library faculty and staff, she will accelerate learning and scholarship through expert support, distinctive collections, innovative technologies, collaborative spaces, and services that empower students, faculty, and researchers.



2025-2026 Library News continued

Tampa Library entry renovations

The Tampa library entrance/lobby construction is complete. The multi-year, multi-phase project included expanded egress, stormproofing of doors and windows, and the installation of security e-gates.

The new entry features a service desk to assist students or staff who have forgotten their USF ID cards, and to provide information and credentials to visiting scholars or community members. New office space configurations also include a University Police substation to better serve the south side of campus.



New Integrated Research & Impact Services Department

Launched in 2025, USF Libraries' new Integrated Research & Impact Services (IRIS) department is a collaborative hub for faculty seeking to integrate high-impact, public-facing components into their research. IRIS helps faculty translate their scholarship into meaningful engagement with diverse audiences and track the impact of their research with verifiable evidence.

Whether preparing a federal grant, developing a community-engaged project, seeking to broaden the societal impact of a project, or assessing the impact of faculty research, our expert team supports faculty every step of the way.



New study spaces and furniture

To enhance high-demand learning environments, the Tampa Library partnered with Student Government to refresh library furniture and expand access to power in student study areas. The project created an increase in total seating on the third floor from 229 to 250 and the fourth floor from 123 to 156. These improvements strengthened the functionality, comfort, and usability of spaces that support student learning and academic engagement.

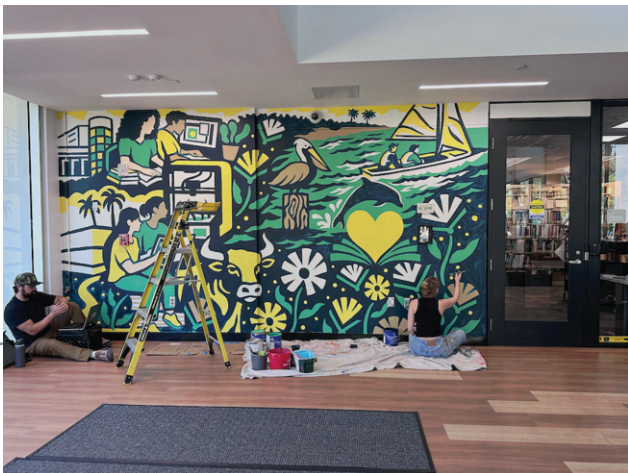


2025-2026 Library News continued

USF Libraries mural project complete

In a creative connection between campuses, we completed the installation of three murals in each campus library space. Because USF Libraries operate in three distinct spaces in three different communities, we wanted to create a visual reminder of our connectedness across campuses and communities. We may be in different locations, but we share the same goal: safe, inviting, helpful, collaborative spaces to learn and grow.

The murals, designed and installed by USF St. Pete alum Anthony Freese, speak to the role of the library as the heart of the university, where learning is a living environment, with personal and professional growth rooted in curiosity, conversation, and connection



Faculty & Staff Accomplishments

One of USF Libraries' strategic goals is to consistently increase the volume and impact of research contributions to the profession. We are proud of the thought leadership of our faculty and staff in achieving this goal through presentations, publication, awards, and other accomplishments.

Employee Awards

David Rosa, 2025 Outstanding Project Steward - USF Libraries Entrance. USF Libraries.

David Rosa, 2025 Outstanding Staff Award - Team Award. Office of the USF President.

Lesley Brooks, 2025 Outstanding Staff Award. Office of the USF President.

Matthew McDonough, 2025 Outstanding Staff Award - Team Award. Office of the USF President.

Theresa Burress, 2025 Outstanding Library Faculty Award. Office of the USF President.



Faculty & Staff Accomplishments

Selected Presentations

Abney, A. C. (2025, December 19). *Creating access through digital objects: Links between digital collections and archival finding aids* [Conference presentation]. Metadata and Semantics Research Conference, Thessaloniki, Greece.

Beman-Cavallaro, A., Abresch, J., Symulevich, A., Schalk, J., & Smith, T. (2026, February 28). *From Comic Con to collections and back: Exploring local library resources for Comic Con fans* [Conference presentation]. St. Pete Comic Con, St. Petersburg, FL, United States.

Boczar, A. & Jordan, S. (2026, April 29). *Wading into BHL: How the USF Libraries is preparing to ingest its archives* [Conference presentation]. Biodiversity Heritage Library Annual Meeting (BHL Day), London, England, UK.

Johnson, M. W. (2026, April 12). *Science fiction as methodology: Extrapolation, speculation, and fabulation in qualitative inquiry* [Conference presentation]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, United States.

Keogh, K.M. (2026, February 21). *Printed flesh: Reading the corporeal relics of women religious in early modern Italy* [Conference presentation]. Renaissance Society of America, San Francisco, CA, United States. <https://rsa.confex.com/rsa/2026/meetingapp.cgi/Session/9348>

Kiahtipes, C. A. & Herbert, G. (2026, April 3). *Paleoecological assessment of sedimentary archives from Guimareto Lagoon, Honduras* [Conference presentation]. Society of American Archaeology Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, United States. https://www.saa.org/common/Uploaded%20files/saadocs/AnnualMeeting/Final%20Program/2026_SAA%20Final%20Program_WEB2.pdf

Torrence, M., Symulevich, A., Schmidt, L., & Boczar, J. (2026, March 10). *The evolving landscape of academic impact measurement and services* [Conference presentation]. 2026 RUSA Virtual Conference, Virtual. <https://www.ala.org/rusa/rusa-virtual-forum-stepping-boldly-forward>

Wright, L., **Fruehauf, E.**, & Rokusek, S. (2025, November 16). *Reimagining the librarian skillset for a machine-learning era* [Conference presentation]. Charleston Conference, Virtual. <https://www.charleston-hub.com/the-charleston-conference>

Yesilbas, A. (2025, October 14). *Using google NotebookLM to organize without organizing* [Conference presentation]. NASIG Autumn 2025, Virtual. <https://nasigautumn2025.sched.com/event/29AZz/using-google-notebooklm-to-organize-without-organizing-available-to-view-anytime>

Chittendon, L., Huber, S., & **Kazmin, N.** (2025, September 25). *Open rules for cataloging* [Invited talk]. World Open Library Foundation Conference, Kansas City, MI, United States. <https://wolfcon2025.sched.com/event/25lca/open-rules-for-cataloging>

Selected Publications

Abney, A. (2026). A Soviet definition of German identity: Education in the Soviet-occupied Zone, 1945-1949. *Paedagogica Historica*, 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00309230.2026.2654879>

Boczar, A., Mackin, S., Mittler, B., Carrillo, M., & Elliott, E. (2026). Spatial archives and community access: The Tampa through time initiative. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 52(2), 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2025.103196>

Cardona, D., Tanasi, D., Lercari, N., **Mittler, B., Wright, D.**, Calderone, D., Yacoub, M., & Trapani, P. (2026). First-time digital documentation and mapping of the late antique Hypogeal site of Bingemma (Malta). *Studies in Digital Heritage*, 9(2), 229-280. <https://doi.org/10.14434/sdh.v9i2.41646>

Fruehauf, E., Schmidt, L., & Boczar, A. (2026). User perspectives on LINK: A generative AI chatbot for academic libraries. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 52(4), 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2026.103255>

Galvez, M.E., Wu, S., Schefuß, E., Gassier, G., Lebamba, J., **Kiahtipes, C.A.**, Bokomba Bwamangele, F., Kidebua Lutonadio, R., Wotzka, H.-P., Adatte, T., & Jaccard, S.L. (2026). Hydroclimate controls Congo peatland net oxygen release over the past 10,600 years. *Nature Geoscience*, 19, 945-950. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41561-026-02031-z>

Johnson, M. W. (2026). Insights from a burnout debate: Occupational health psychology for academic librarianship. *portal: Libraries and the Academy*, 26(1), 11-30.

Kim, C., Kim, J., **Szempruch, J. N.**, & Vélez, M. S. (2025). A scoping review of intimate partner violence interventions in Asian American populations: Current status and future directions. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15248380251375916>

Mann, E. (2026). Making data literacy accessible: A pilot study of academic library and community collaboration for citizen data literacy. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 52(1), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2025.103166>

Norton, E. (2026). The heterotopic horizon in Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. *The Marjory Kinnan Rawlings Journal of Florida Literature*, 33(1), 18-32.

Parker, W. & Sturgeon, C. (2026). Libraries as shared research infrastructure: Developing a business plan and pitch libguide for a university entrepreneurship ecosystem. *Journal of Business & Finance Librarianship*, 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08963568.2026.2689816>

Sturgeon, C., Burrell, T., Boczar, A., & Daniels, S. (2026). Bridging disciplinary divides in sustainability teaching and research: Librarian-led initiatives for quality education. In S. K. Tribelhorn & B. Mehra (Eds.), *Case exemplars of how academic libraries promote sustainable communities* (pp. 53-67). Emerald Publishing.

Grant Awards

FY 2025-2026, \$1,338,720

Selected Grant Awards

2025 Catherine Wilkins, Ph.D. (PI) & **Theresa Burress, M.L.S.** (Co-PI), Gulf Scholars Program. National Academy of Sciences, \$600,000.

2026 **Amanda Boczar** (PI) & **Sydney Jordan** (Co-PI), Digitizing the Bay: Unlocking Tampa's Coastal Archives. Tampa Bay Estuary Program, \$4,970.

2026 Suncoast Storytellers, PI (PI), Heather O'Leary, Key Personnel (Co-PI), **Amanda Boczar**, Key Personnel (Co-PI), & **Emily Mann**, Key Personnel (Co-PI), Watershed Stories: Environmental "Blue" Humanities through Community Storytelling and Data-Driven Arts. Florida Humanities Environmental Humanities Program Grant, \$10,000.



Scholarships, Research Awards, & Essay Prizes

USF Libraries are honored to work with and support our students in their academic achievements. We are thankful for our generous donors and friends who make these awards possible every year.

Altrusa International of Tampa, Inc. Collection, \$3,500

Sky Pan

Boyadjian Family Endowment in Armenian Studies, \$1,000

Abaham Smitz, Adam Pittman, Amber Abbott, Aziret Talantbekovich Talantbekov, Bala Pranavi Gollamari, Caleb Myers, Emily Walsh, Grace Akarjalian, Hooriya Siddiqui, Jhon Doirin, Jonathan Kime, Krystal Della Rocco, Lianying Guo, Matthew Major, Meead Hadi, Melodie Vazquez, Merita Thomas, Mohammed Saeed, Natasha Lagos, Nicholas Spanolios, Nicole Fady Samir Fahmy Botros, Niraj Basnet, Peng Liang, Rehanna Mangroo, Safiya Joseph, Sai Saran Rangiseti, Sampreeth Cheedella, Steven Little, Suani Avila, Subhrangsu Dey, Timothy Walgaard, Torianah Roy, Yuzheng Sun

Samuel Y. Fustukjian Memorial Scholarship, \$1,500

Cailee Odak, Latisha Isaiah, Sydney Brownell

Tampa Links Archives & Scholarship Fund, \$500

Luna Rofail

Digital Collections

Gandy Collection of Commercial and Aerial Photography

The Gandy Collection continued to grow in FY26, now including 29,537 images that have been downloaded more than 985,000 times. The collection is a wonderful exploration of Tampa's history through the mid-to-late twentieth century.

Strategic Collecting Area(s): Florida Studies



Florida Ornithological Society Papers

In FY26, the Digital Initiatives unit completed the long awaited Florida Ornithological Society Papers digital archive. With 4,628 records (over 20,000 pages) available online, this robust collection provides a fascinating look at some of the states most important ornithologists, their research, and the development of critical resources like the Breeding Bird Atlas of Florida.

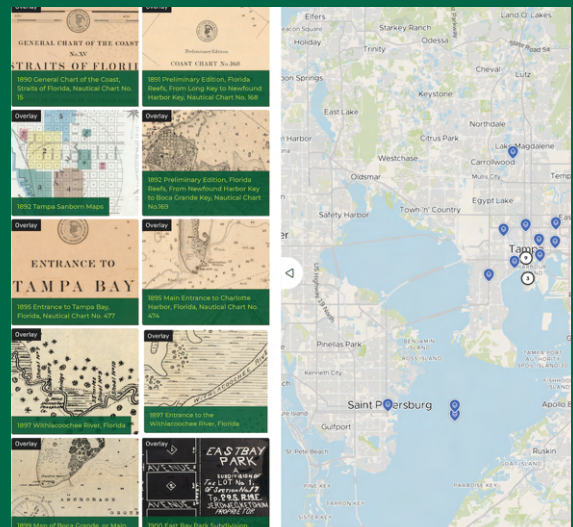
Strategic Collecting Area(s): FLENH, Florida Studies



Tampa Through Time Portal - Map Overlays

To support the researcher functions of the Tampa Through Time Portal, the GIS Team has added over 100 geo-referenced historic map overlays to support an immersive experience.

Strategic Collecting Area(s): Florida Studies



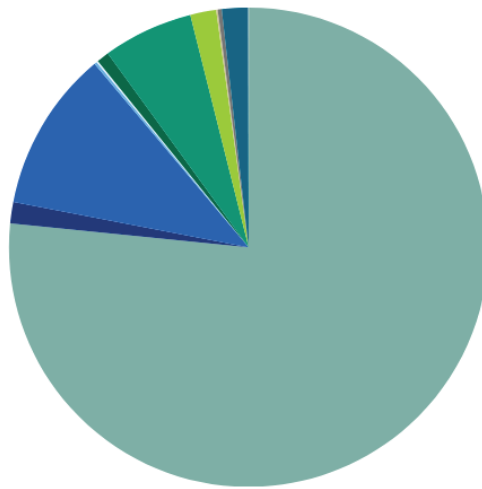
Library Services

Physical Loans

Through daily maintenance, targeted department collaborations, and adaptive collections management, full-time staff and student assistants across all USF Libraries campuses successfully supported evolving patron needs by managing a surge in technology, equipment, and study supply loans alongside traditional research materials.

Physical Loans By Patron Type

- Visiting Scholar
- USF Undergraduate Student
- USF Staff or Admin
- USF Health, Undergraduate Student
- USF Health, Staff or Admin
- USF Health, Faculty or Instructor
- USF Health Student
- USF Graduate Student
- USF Faculty or Instructor
- Special Borrower
- Not affiliated with USF
- Interlibrary Loan
- Affiliate User



Electronic Items

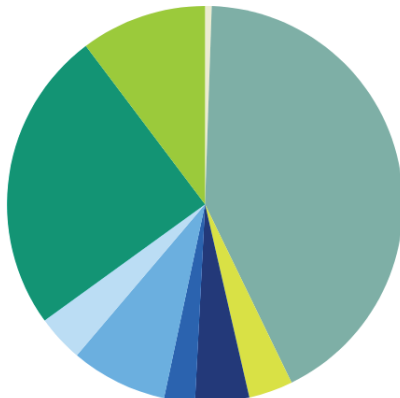
For Electronic "loans," the data in this section was collected via the Open Athens platform.

The USF Libraries Collections & Discovery Department acquires and enables access to library electronic resources that support the university's teaching, learning, and research mission. These resources include academic journals and databases, ebooks, datasets, streaming media, primary source materials, and research analytics tools. The Libraries also maintain evidence-based ebook acquisition programs to provide broad access to content while supporting the selection of titles for perpetual ownership.

For a list of new resources added to the collections this year, see page 16.

Open Athens Logins By Patron Type

- Visiting Scholar
- USF Undergraduate Student
- USF Staff or Admin
- USF Health, Undergraduate Student
- USF Health, Staff or Admin
- USF Health, Graduate or Professional Student
- USF Health, Faculty or Instructor
- USF Graduate Student
- USF Faculty or Instructor





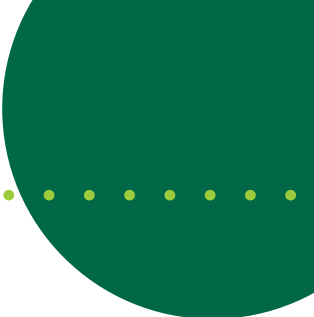
New Resources

FY2025-2026

- Bar Digital 2025 Collection
- Bloomsbury Drama Online 2023-2025 Updates: Core, Nick Hern, Playwrights Canada 2022, Oberon Books, Theatre Communications 2024
- Bloomsbury Medieval Studies: Clothing & Textiles, Life & Culture, Literature Aloud, World Reference Library
- Brill Online 2025 Ebooks EBA*
- Cambridge University Press 2025 Ebooks EBA*
- De Gruyter Ebook Collections 2024-2025 (U. California, Princeton, Yale)
- De Gruyter Ebook EBA* (2022 & older, most titles)
- EBSCO Applied Science & Technology Ultimate
- EBSCO CINAHL Ultimate
- Gale U.S. Declassified Documents Online - Supplement 9, FY25
- McGraw-Hill AccessEngineering
- MLA Handbook Plus
- Newsbank Ocala Star-Banner Historical News Archive 1922-1991
- Oxford University Press & Partners 2025 Ebook EBA*
- Oxford Handbook Online 2025 updates (12 subject areas)
- Oxford Bibliographies: Int'l Relations, Political Science, Psychology, Philosophy
- Oxford Research Encyclopedias: Latin American History, Int' Studies, Food Studies, Social Work
- Proquest Digital National Security Archive updates 63 & 64
- Proquest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post 1877-1985
- Sage Journal Deep Backfile Update 2025
- SAGE Research Methods: Data & Research Literacy
- SAGE Video: Business & Management
- Taylor & Francis 2025 Ebooks EBA* (Original Pub Dates 2020+)
- Wiley Online Library 2025 Frontlist Ebook Collection

** EBA - annual access for title selection*

Major Appointments & Elections



2025

Alexandra Vargas-Minor

Co-Chair. Society of Florida Archivists, Annual Meeting Committee.

Ann Abney

Chair. National Council on Public History.

Facilitator. National Council on Public History, Accessibility Working Group.

Lesley Brooks

Chair. Administrative Advisory Council, Web & Portal Committee.

Matthew Johnson

Chair. Association of College and Research Libraries, ACRL IS Nominating Committee.

Co-Chair. Association of College and Research Libraries, ACRL ULS Professional Development Committee.

Vice President/President-Elect. USF Libraries Faculty Executive Group.

Silvia Onac

Member, Mixpanel Working Group. Florida Virtual Campus.

Stephanie Mackin

Member, Program Committee. Society of American Archivists.

Member. Hillsborough County Historical Advisory Council.

2026

Amanda Boczar

Co-Chair. Biodiversity Heritage Library, Collections Committee.

Amanda Yesilbas

Member. Florida Virtual Campus.

Laura Pascual

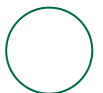
Member. Council of State University Libraries - Collections Advisory Committee, Cambridge University Press 2027 License Negotiation Team.

Rachel Bomberger

Member. SAGE Negotiating Committee for FY2027 Renewal.

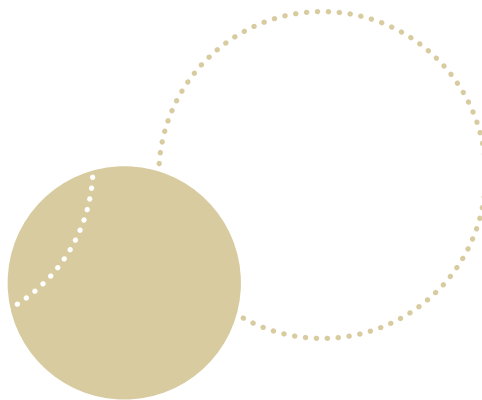
Stephanie Mackin

Member. University of South Florida, School of Information, Graduate Program Advisory Council.



Community Partnerships

- **Library Administration & Special Collections**, Preserve the 'Burg, **Local**
- **Library Services**, FLVC LOAN (Libraries Optimizing Alma Networking), **National**
- **Special Collections**, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, incorporated, **South Atlantic Region, Regional**
- **Special Collections**, Biodiversity Heritage Library, **International**
- **Special Collections**, Florida Audubon Society, **State**
- **Special Collections**, Florida Ornithological Society, **State**
- **Special Collections**, Sun City Negro Schools Oral History Project, **Local**
- **Special Collections**, Tampa Bay Estuary Project, **Local**
- **Special Collections**, Tampa Bay History Center, **Local**
- **Special Collections**, Ybor City Museum Society, **Local**



Research & Instruction

Overview

The Research & Instruction (R&I) Department maintained strong delivery of its traditional services while launching new collaborative initiatives and expanding support for AI faculty and student application and learning.

SERVICES		
Services By Type		
Primary	Sheet	Number of Students / Participants
Total	Count 2513	Sum 26231
Sheet Ask a Librarian	Count 923	Sum 923
Sheet Canvas Modules	Count 44	Sum 17,625
Sheet Consultation	Count 899	Sum 899
Sheet Impact & Intelligence Service	Count 5	Sum 5
Sheet Instruction	Count 206	Sum 5320
Sheet Reference	Count 369	Sum 369
Sheet Workshops for Researchers	Count 67	Sum 1090

Research Consultations

Librarians provided 899 consultations and reports to faculty, students, and departments, with 43% serving graduate students and 31% serving faculty. Academic units requesting heavy research support include the College of Education, and the departments of Marketing, Business Administration, Anthropology, and Social Work.

Graduate Student Research Support

Graduate students continue to be the biggest users of research services, making up 43% of participants in the Workshops for Researchers program and 44% of the research consultations. Further support for Graduate students was in collaboration with the Office of Graduate Studies, whereby R&I co-hosted a three-day Dissertation Forum and Writing Retreat for PhD students. The event included sessions on research, writing, copyright, citation management, AI in academic writing, stress management, and communication strategies tailored to thesis and dissertation work. Participants also benefited from dedicated writing time each day, allowing them to focus on their projects in a supportive environment.

Research & Instruction continued

Gulf Scholars Program

Theresa Burress was a co-recipient of a \$600,000 award from the National Academy of Sciences for the Gulf Scholars Program, in collaboration with the Judy Genshaft Honors College. The Gulf Scholars Program cultivates undergraduate student leaders with the critical thinking skills, community commitment, and collaborative mindset needed to address the complex environmental and social challenges facing the Gulf region. The program leverages USF St. Petersburg's waterfront location, research infrastructure, commitment to the Blue Humanities, and strong community partnerships.

Supporting Student Entrepreneurship

Transforming research into entrepreneurial success, Business Librarians Will Parker and Chris Sturgeon are helping USF students develop, validate, and pitch new business ventures with confidence. For the USF Center for Entrepreneurship pitch competition and with presentations to student clubs, they connect students with market, industry, financial, and competitive intelligence resources that strengthen business planning and decision-making. A cornerstone of this initiative is a curated Entrepreneurship Research Guide that helps students build critical research, communication, and analytical skills while preparing them to engage with mentors, investors, and industry professionals. With more than 76,000 lifetime views, the guide demonstrates sustained adoption and highlights the library's essential role in advancing entrepreneurial learning, innovation, and student growth across the USF ecosystem.

University of South Florida Libraries / LibGuides / Subject Guides / Business Plan & Pitch Presentation / Home

Home

How To Write A Business Plan

#1. Executive Summary

#2. Description, Objectives, and Product/Services

#3. Market Research

#4. Marketing and Sales Plan

#5. Financial Analysis and Projections

#6. Appendix

How To Pitch Your Business Plan

Business Plan & Pitch Presentation

A curated guide designed to support USF entrepreneurs by connecting them with key resources, tools, and research support.

Introduction

This guide employs a combination of systematic steps and processes to assist entrepreneurs in developing and presenting a business plan. It features a curated selection of databases and illustrative examples, empowering entrepreneurs to make well-informed decisions for their business models and business pitch presentations.

Research & Instruction continued

Leading AI Innovation at USF Libraries

As artificial intelligence reshapes higher education, USF Libraries' Research & Instruction librarians are demonstrating leadership through innovative services, resources, and outreach. Evan Fruehauf helped launch LINK, the Libraries' 24/7 AI assistant, while R&I librarians developed the self-paced Leveraging AI Ethically for Research & Coursework Canvas workshop to advance AI literacy across campus. The AI Tools and Resources LibGuide, created and maintained by Andrew Beman-Cavallaro, remained the Libraries' most-visited guide, exceeding 60,000 views in 2025-26. Through the monthly AI Community of Practice, librarians collaborate to explore emerging technologies, AI ethics, and new research tools. R&I librarians also expanded AI-focused workshops and shared their expertise through national and international presentations and publications. Together, these efforts position USF Libraries as a campus and professional leader in responsible AI adoption, innovation, and research support.



Reaching New Audiences Beyond the Library

USF Libraries connected with new audiences through Pint of Science and St. Petersburg Comic Con, demonstrating the library's role in research, learning, and creativity. At Pint of Science, Andrew Beman-Cavallaro presented Advancing Science Advances Libraries: A Brief History of the Sciences and Technologies of Librarianship, while Evan Fruehauf explored AI's Role in Modern Research, highlighting how emerging technologies are transforming information discovery. Audience members responded enthusiastically, engaging presenters with thoughtful questions and discussion. At St. Petersburg Comic Con, John Abresch, Andrew Beman-Cavallaro, and Allison Symulevich led a lively session on libraries, fandoms, hobbies, and popular culture that drew strong audience participation and positive feedback. Together, these events showcased USF Libraries' commitment to community engagement, intellectual curiosity, and expanding the library's reach beyond traditional spaces.



Research & Instruction continued

Workshops For Researchers

USF Libraries offered **147 Workshops for Researchers**, welcoming **2,286 attendees**. R&I librarians expanded the popular series with new offerings focused on AI and qualitative research methods.

Topics included machine learning, AI-assisted literature reviews, AI for coding, AI and qualitative analysis tools, and responsible uses of generative AI in research workflows.

Workshops By Patron Type (Program-wide)

- USF Undergraduate Student
- USF Staff or Admin
- USF Graduate Student
- USF Faculty or Instructor
- USF Continuing Education Student
- Not affiliated with USF
- Community Member



Top 5: Most Attended Workshops (Program-wide)

Workshop	Number of Workshops Provided	Number of Participants
Intro to Generative AI for Research	3	145
Appropriate Uses of AI for Qualitative Analysis	3	112
Thematic Analysis & Coding for Qualitative Research	3	111
Your Research, Summarized: The Essential Guide to Writing	2	94
Articulating Posters: Visual vs. Oral Presentations	2	76

Special Collections

Strategic Collection Areas

Strategic Collection

Children's and Young Adult Literature
Florida Environment and Natural History (FLENH)
LGBTQ+ Studies
Florida Studies
University Archives
Civil Rights
Journalism
Literature, Humanities, and the Arts

Campus Location

Tampa
Tampa
Tampa
Tampa/St. Petersburg
Tampa/St. Petersburg
St. Petersburg
St. Petersburg
St. Petersburg

New Exhibits (Physical)

- Animated Symphonies, Tampa campus (curated) and St. Petersburg (housed)
- 60 Years of Student Life at USF St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg
- Wood Engravers' Network 5th Triennial Exhibition, St. Petersburg
- The Living Heritage Institute Black Cemetery Network Exhibit, St. Petersburg



Special Collections continued

Collection Highlights, Tampa

The USF Herbarium and Tampa Special Collections Archives unit acquired eight notable collections this year. The Walter Kingsley Taylor color slides add to the USF Herbarium's research collection of Florida plants and wildlife. Spanning the last 40 years, the collection contains photographs of Florida's flora and wildlife environments. The Archives unit added to the USF University Archives and Florida Studies collection with the papers of former USF president Rhea Law and alumnus Josh Hammond and the archives of PFLAG Tampa. Of great significance is the physical collection of Native American / American Indian materials from the estate of Charles L. Knight II, which corresponds with artifacts at the USF Libraries' partner organization, Tampa Bay History Center.

Charles L. Knight II Collection

Extensive collection of books, personal documents, and ephemera documenting Native American/American Indian tribes in the Americas. *Physical Collection.*

Benjamin Suchoff Oral History

Nine audio cassette recordings of author and researcher Carl Leafstedt's oral history interviews with composer Benjamin Suchoff. *Physical Collection.*

PFLAG Tampa Collection

Materials documenting the Tampa chapter of PFLAG, a national LGBTQ+ advocacy organization, including resources from collaborating organizations. *Physical Collection.*

Bull's Eye

Two volumes of the USF student publication Bull's Eye published in the 1960s. *Physical Collection.*

Rhea Law papers

Personal and professional papers of former USF President Rhea Law. *Physical Collection.*

Rearview Frontier: The Josh Hammond papers on the Discovery and Application of American Cultural Forces to Public Policy Programs

Rearview Frontier: The Josh Hammond papers document roughly 40 years of Hammond's work with the White House Special Action Office for Drug Abuse Prevention, the National Public Advertising Center, and the American Quality Foundation on public health and drug prevention initiatives, wellness campaigns, quality research management research, and public policy. *Physical Collection.*

Walter Kingsley Taylor color slides

Walter Kingsley Taylor is professor emeritus in Biology at the University of Central Florida and has written multiple books on Florida's vascular plants. His color slide collection contains photos of Florida's flora, wildlife, and environments across the last 40 years. *Physical Collection.*

Special Collections continued

Collection Highlights, **St. Petersburg**

Efforts to enhance USF St. Petersburg's Special Collections & University Archives (SCUA) collection access points significantly increased the visibility of physical collections. The completion of an inventory project conducted by an undergraduate intern culminated in the addition of almost 600 uncatalogued titles into the library catalog. This feat was completed in large part thanks to the collaboration with the Poynter Library's Technical Services department and will contribute to future metadata enhancements for bibliographic records. Furthermore, an additional 13 archival collections were published in ArchivesSpace—a 16% increase in the collections published and searchable online. Thanks to the efforts of SCUA's dedicated student worker, 51% of the existing collections in ArchivesSpace also received object-level inventory entry during the fiscal year.

"Cocoon" Screenplay Collection

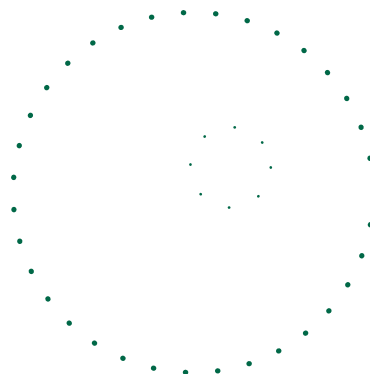
A revised screenplay of the movie "Cocoon" from August 2, 1984, along with newspaper clippings about the movie being filmed in St. Petersburg.

Lucille "Lucy" Rodriguez Collection of Cuban Correspondence

Letters and other correspondence between Lucille "Lucy" Rodriguez and Cuban citizens about their lives in Cuba during the 1990s.

USFSP Student Government Association Ceiling Tiles Collection

A collection of decorative ceiling tiles created by USF St. Petersburg students originally located in the Student Learning Center lobby.



Textbook Affordability

Between Fall 2024 and Fall 2025, the average textbook cost per credit hour increased slightly from \$17.91 to \$18.15, representing a 1.3% increase. From Fall 2017 to Fall 2025, the average textbook cost per credit hour at USF decreased from \$31.98 to \$18.15, representing a 43.2% reduction over that period.

Between Spring 2025 and Spring 2026, the average textbook cost per credit hour increased from \$16.72 to \$17.27, representing a 3.3% increase. Between Spring 2018 and Spring 2026, the average textbook cost per credit hour decreased from \$35.66 to \$17.27, representing a 51.6% reduction over that period.

TEXTBOOK COST REDUCTION (2020-2026)

Cost per credit hour (CCH)

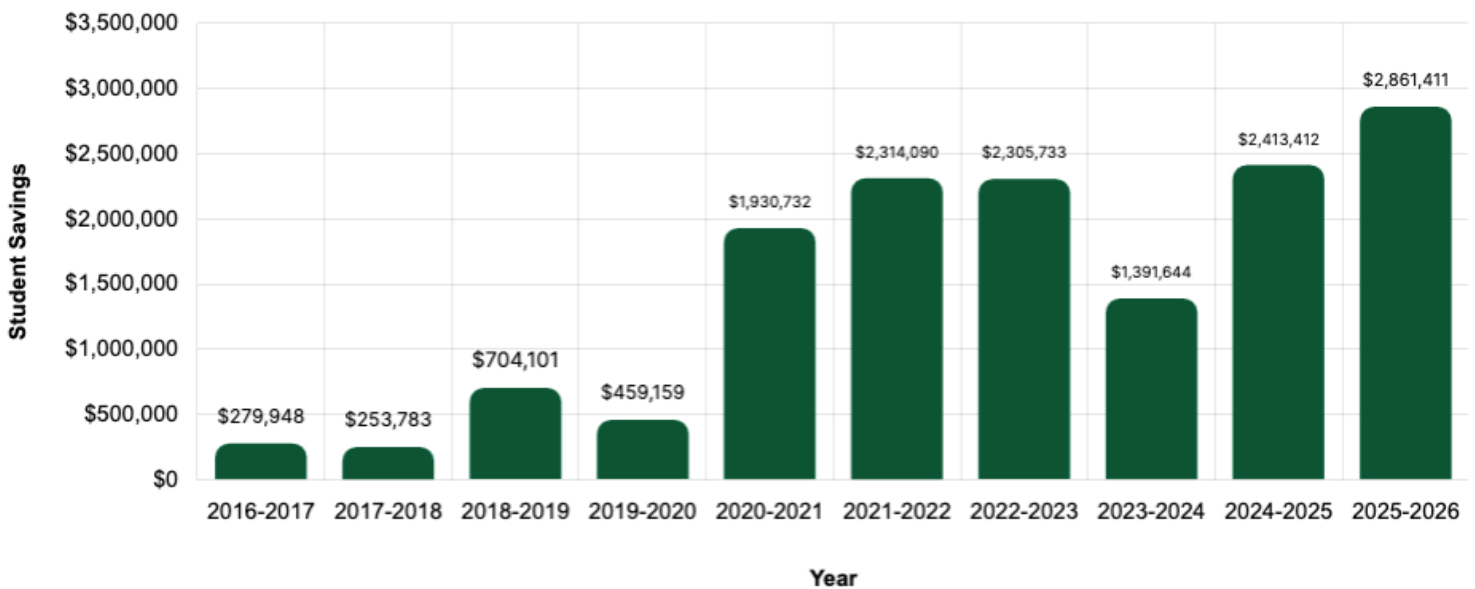


Textbook Affordability continued

Since its inception, the Ebooks for the Classroom+ (EB+) program has provided thousands of USF students with access to required course materials at no cost, significantly reducing their textbook expenses. From FY 2017-2018 through FY 2025-2026, the program generated an estimated \$14,914,013 in student savings.

Between FY 2024-2025 and FY 2025-2026, the EB+ program continued to grow in both reach and financial impact. EB+ course enrollments increased by 4.0%, rising from 32,769 to 34,067, while estimated student savings increased by 18.6%, from \$2,413,412 to \$2,861,411. This year-over-year growth reflects the program’s continued reach and the value of library-provided ebooks as a no-cost alternative to traditional textbooks. These results reinforce EB+ as one of USF’s most effective and scalable textbook affordability initiatives.

STUDENT SAVINGS (2016-2026)



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW & FISCAL EXPENDITURES

Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Sarasota-Manatee campuses

Overview

During FY 2025-2026, the USF Libraries continued to advance the University of South Florida's mission through strategic investment in library services, collections, technology, facilities, and personnel. Through careful stewardship of Education and General funds, prior-year carryforward, grant, foundation, auxiliary, and other funding sources, the Libraries managed total expenditures of \$21.3 million while sustaining essential operations and supporting initiatives that strengthen teaching, learning, research, and community engagement.

Total actual expenses decreased from \$21,990,570 in FY 2024-2025 to \$21,339,591 in FY 2025-2026, reflecting a reduction of \$651,009, or 3%. This overall decrease occurred despite increases in Salaries and Benefits, which rose by \$1,006,112, or 10.7%, driven by new hires, faculty and staff promotions, out-of-unit salary increases, and higher fringe benefit rates. Temporary Support expenditures increased by \$112,289, or 13.4%, primarily due to an increased need for student employees supporting the Tampa Library's newly renovated front entrance welcome desk, Access Services operations, Library Systems, and Library Research & Instruction. These increases were offset by lower expenditures in Library Resources and Services, Supplies, and Other Expenses. Library Resources expenditures decreased by \$1,017,859, primarily due to extended statewide contract negotiations that delayed payment of certain library resources until FY 2027-2028, while Services, Supplies, and Other Expenses decreased by \$751,551.

Strategic Investments and Initiatives

The Libraries directed FY 2025-2026 resources toward initiatives that support student success, research excellence, digital access, and long-term organizational capacity.

- **Student Success and Learning Spaces:** To enhance high-demand learning environments, the Libraries partnered with Student Government to refresh library furniture and expand access to power in student study areas. These improvements strengthened the functionality, comfort, and usability of spaces that support student learning and academic engagement.
- **Research, Digital Scholarship, and Collections:** The Libraries continued to invest in research and digital scholarship through initiatives such as the Florida Plant Atlas, the LINK AI chatbot, the Florida Environment and Natural History project, and other Digital Initiatives. These efforts expanded access to research resources, distinctive collections, and emerging forms of scholarship.
- **Technology and Organizational Capacity:** The Libraries also invested in technology and staffing capacity to improve access to specialized materials and strengthen collection stewardship. This included the purchase of a microfilm digital reader/printer to improve access to archival materials, as well as the recruitment of a Special Collections Cataloging Librarian to support discovery, preservation, and access to distinctive collections.



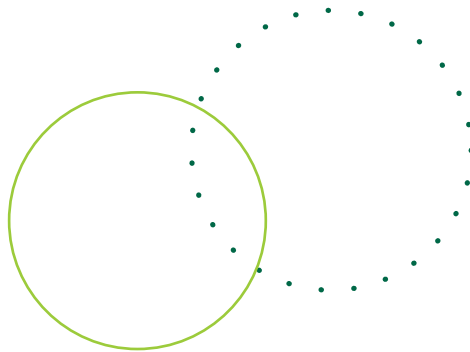
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW & FISCAL EXPENDITURES

Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Sarasota-Manatee campuses

Looking Ahead

The FY 2026-2027 financial plan projects expenditures of \$21.9 million and reflects continued investment in the Libraries' core mission and strategic priorities. Key areas of focus include sustaining access to scholarly resources amid rising subscription and licensing costs, expanding research support through the planned hiring of an Assistant Director of Data Visualization, and advancing facilities planning through a comprehensive Library Master Plan and targeted investments in equipment and operational efficiency.

The USF Libraries remain committed to advancing student achievement, supporting faculty research, strengthening operational excellence, and contributing to the University's long-term strategic priorities through responsible financial stewardship and mission-focused investment.



FY 25-26, Actual Expenses by Funding Source

FY 2025-2026

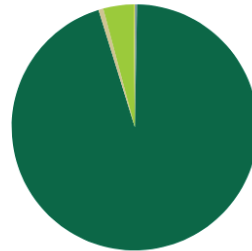
ACTUAL EXPENSES BY FUNDING SOURCE

Funding Source	Tampa	St. Petersburg	Sarasota-Manatee	Grand Total
Education & General (E&G)	\$16,955,125	\$2,659,672	\$737,587	\$20,352,384
Research Awards	\$23,947	\$0	\$0	\$23,947
Foundation	\$711,385	\$58,981	\$9,919	\$780,286
Research Initiative Account (RIA)	\$3,111	\$2,384	\$0	\$5,495
Financial Aid	\$115,215	\$0	\$0	\$115,215
Auxiliary	\$52,261	\$9,973	\$0	\$62,235
Grand Total	\$17,861,045	\$2,731,011	\$747,506	\$21,339,561

BREAKDOWN BY CAMPUS

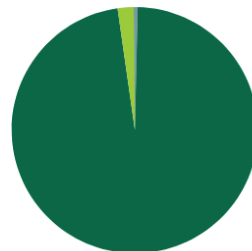
By Tampa campus

- Auxiliary
- Education & General (E&G)
- Financial Aid
- Foundation
- Research Awards
- Research Initiative Account (RIA)



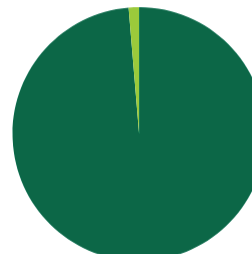
By St. Petersburg campus

- Auxiliary
- Education & General (E&G)
- Foundation
- Research Initiative Account (RIA)



By Sarasota-Manatee campus

- Education & General (E&G)
- Foundation



FY 25-26, Actual Expenses by Category

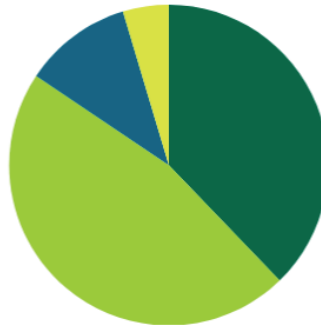
ACTUAL EXPENSES BY CATEGORY

Expense Category	Tampa	St. Petersburg	Sarasota-Manatee	Grand Total
Salaries & Benefits	\$8,327,508	\$1,874,404	\$205,926	\$10,407,838
Library Resources	\$6,747,158	\$576,037	\$483,353	\$7,806,548
Services, Supplies & Other Expenses	\$1,957,734	\$159,029	\$58,227	\$2,174,990
Temporary Support	\$828,645	\$121,541	\$0	\$950,186
Grand Total	\$17,861,045	\$2,731,011	\$747,506	\$21,339,561

BREAKDOWN BY CAMPUS

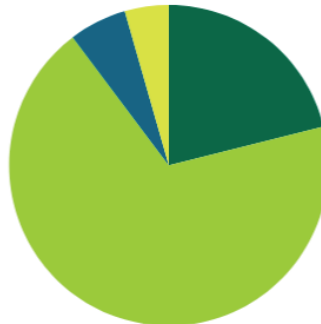
By Tampa campus

- Library Resources
- Salaries & Benefits
- Services, Supplies & Other Expenses
- Temporary Support



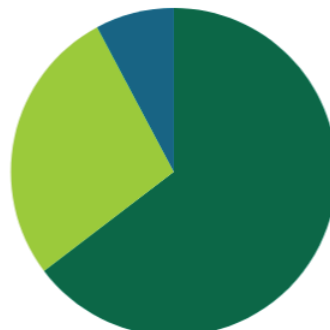
By St. Petersburg campus

- Library Resources
- Salaries & Benefits
- Services, Supplies & Other Expenses
- Temporary Support



By Sarasota-Manatee campus

- Library Resources
- Salaries & Benefits
- Services, Supplies & Other Expenses



FY 26-27, Budgeted Expenditures by Funding Source

FY 2026-2027

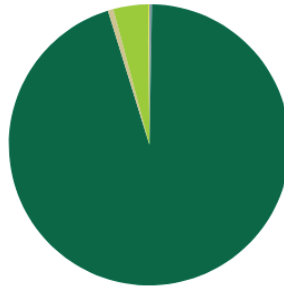
BUDGETED EXPENDITURES BY FUNDING SOURCE

Consolidated By Fund	Tampa	St. Petersburg	Sarasota-Manatee	Grand Total
Education & General (E&G)	\$17,576,077	\$2,552,339	\$786,315	\$20,914,731
Research Awards	\$24,825	\$0	\$0	\$24,825
Foundation	\$737,439	\$56,601	\$10,574	\$804,614
Research Initiative Account (RIA)	\$3,225	\$2,288	\$0	\$5,513
Financial Aid	\$119,434	\$0	\$0	\$119,434
Auxiliary	\$54,175	\$9,571	\$0	\$63,746
Grand Total	\$18,515,175	\$2,620,799	\$796,889	\$21,932,863

BREAKDOWN BY CAMPUS

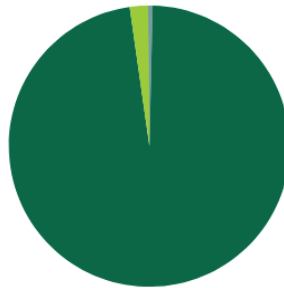
By Tampa campus

- Auxiliary
- Education & General (E&G)
- Financial Aid
- Foundation
- Research Awards
- Research Initiative Account (RIA)



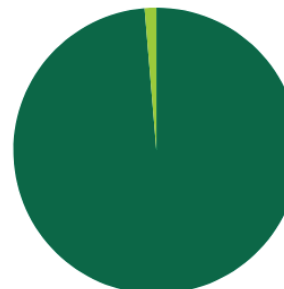
By St. Petersburg campus

- Auxiliary
- Education & General (E&G)
- Foundation
- Research Initiative Account (RIA)



By Sarasota-Manatee campus

- Education & General (E&G)
- Foundation



FY 26-27, Budgeted Expenditures by Category

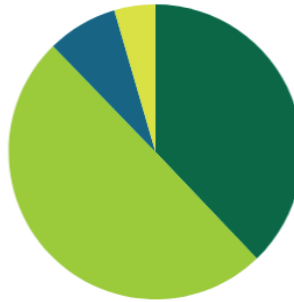
BUDGETED EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY

Consolidated By Expense Category	Tampa	St. Petersburg	Sarasota-Manatee	Grand Total
Salaries & Benefits	\$9,232,460	\$1,978,788	\$213,446	\$11,424,694
Library Resources	\$7,009,006	\$369,385	\$567,306	\$7,945,697
Services, Supplies & Other Expenses	\$1,436,778	\$149,869	\$16,137	\$1,602,784
Temporary Support	\$836,931	\$122,757	\$0	\$959,688
Grand Total	\$18,515,175	\$2,620,799	\$796,889	\$21,932,863

BREAKDOWN BY CAMPUS

By Tampa campus

- Library Resources
- Salaries & Benefits
- Services, Supplies & Other Expenses
- Temporary Support



By St. Petersburg campus

- Library Resources
- Salaries & Benefits
- Services, Supplies & Other Expenses
- Temporary Support



By Sarasota-Manatee campus

- Library Resources
- Salaries & Benefits
- Services, Supplies & Other Expenses

