

# USF Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence in Environmental and Oceanographic Sciences

*A transformational opportunity for the university and the region*

Rhea F. Law, President

Dr. Martin Tadlock, Regional Chancellor | February 2022



UNIVERSITY of  
**SOUTH FLORIDA**  
ST. PETERSBURG CAMPUS

## The Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence will provide:

- An array of new interdisciplinary bachelor's, master's and PhD programs
- Recruitment of exceptional students and world-class faculty
- A national destination for researchers and students focused on the blue/green economy
- Strategic investments by USF and the state of Florida in areas of global and national importance
- A globally-recognized center that will be of service to the St. Petersburg business and residential communities through engagement and outreach



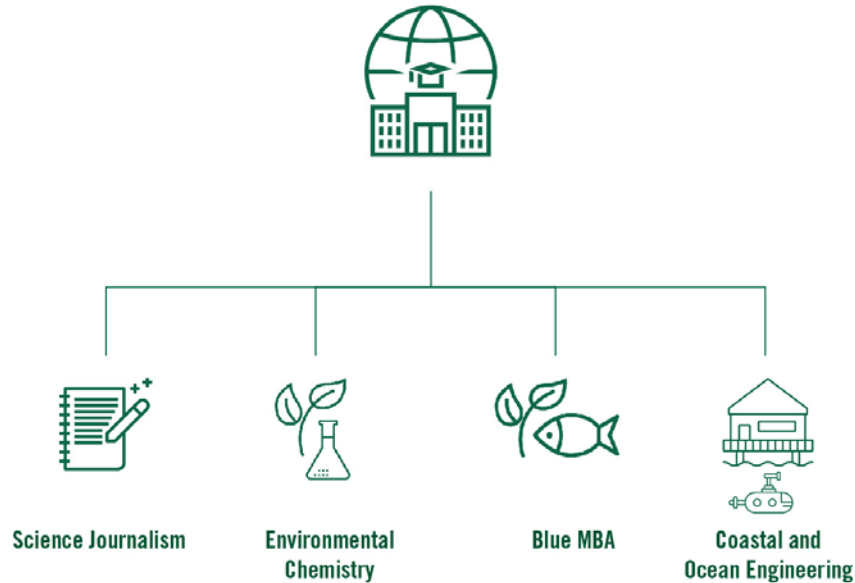
# The Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence will: *(continued)*

- Connect multiple schools and colleges across USF to address critical climate and coastal change challenges facing the region, state, nation and globe
- Expand degree programs on the St. Petersburg campus including, for example, Biology, Marine Biology and Environmental Engineering
- Launch the approved Environmental Chemistry program on the St. Petersburg campus
- Attract and expand the Insurance/Risk Management program to the St. Petersburg campus
- Build upon the world-class reputation of the College of Marine Science



# The Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence will:

*(continued)*



- Extend the reach of the School of Public Policy
- Develop opportunities for new programs in Coastal and Ocean Engineering, Science Journalism, Blue MBA and Environmental Chemistry
- Work closely with USF Health to deliver destination programs on the St. Petersburg campus

# The Environmental and Oceanographic Sciences Research & Teaching Facility

Hub of the Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence



- Total project funding: \$80,343,461
- \$20,085,865 (USF) + \$60,257,596 (state) as recommended by the Florida Board of Governors
- 2022 legislative PECO request: At least \$30,000,000 to support construction for the new facility

# Funds will be used to:



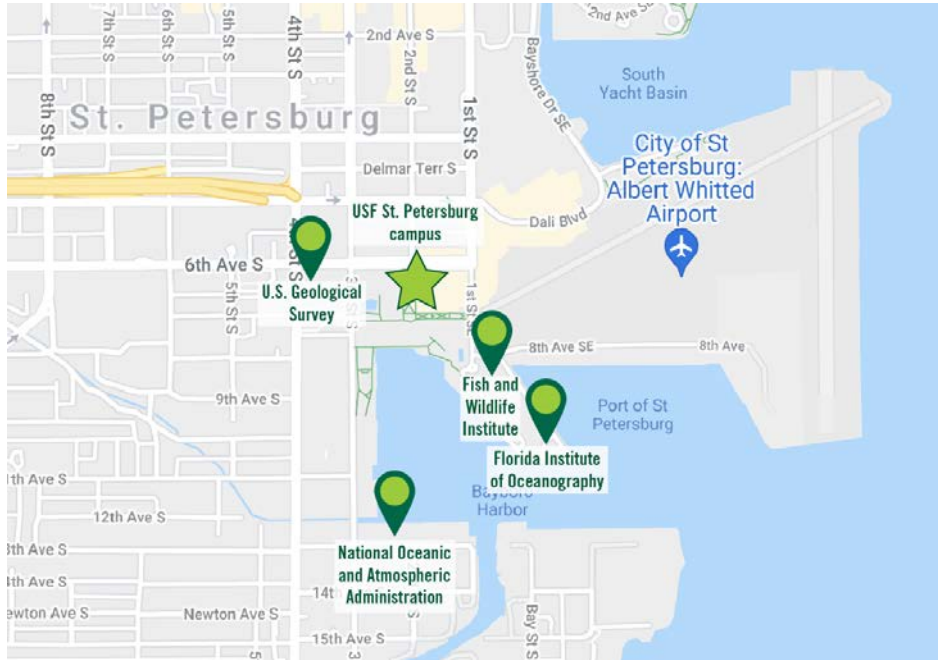
- Demolish the northwest wing of the Marine Science Complex
- Replace wing with a new four-story addition
- Remodel remainder of the 80-year-old Marine Science Complex to accommodate research labs, teaching labs and classrooms for graduate and undergraduate programming

# The Environmental and Oceanographic Sciences Research & Teaching Facility will house:

- New state-of-the-art research and instructional space for both graduate and undergraduate students from:
  - College of Marine Science
  - College of Arts and Sciences
  - College of Engineering
- Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation
  - Establish a home base of expertise in coastal resiliency that will serve the entire state of Florida, with scalable impact for other coastal communities nationwide
  - Generate research on the effects of sea level rise, high-tide flooding events, and more in formats accessible to policymakers, planners, elected officials and the general public
    - Develop new data visualization center
  - Provide data to improve our ability to forecast flooding hazards and assess economic impact



# Ideal location due to proximity to other marine science partners that comprise the largest hub of ocean expertise in the Southeast, including:



- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Florida Institute of Oceanography
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- U.S. Geological Survey



# Capitalize on St. Petersburg's growing reputation for innovation and entrepreneurship



- ARX Innovation Center
- Maritime and Defense Technology Hub
- St. Pete Greenhouse
- St. Petersburg Innovation District

**Approximately \$40,000,000 per year in economic impact when fully funded.**



Questions?

