

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

BULL-U-CRAT BALL



NOVEMBER 17, 2022 • 5:00 – 7:30 PM • USF ALUMNI CENTER



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA

USF MPA BULL-U-CRAT BALL

A CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE & FUNDRAISING EVENT

Welcome to the 2022 annual celebration and fundraising event of the School of Public Affairs Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at the University of South Florida. This year's theme is the "Bull-U-Crat Ball."

We are delighted to host an event that highlights the accomplishments of our students and alumni and recognizes the generous ways USF MPA stakeholders support student success through scholarships and opportunities for professional development and achievement. This event is also about recognizing and thanking those who make our academic mission possible including our MPA Advisory Board and Alumni Ambassadors, our ICMA and ASPA student chapters, and our internship supervisors, mentors, and adjuncts.

Together we will continue to make great things happen for our MPA students as they emerge as the next generation of leaders in government and public service.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



HON. BETTY CASTOR

Past President, University of South Florida

FLORIDA AS A LABORATORY FOR PUBLIC POLICY

Betty Castor has had a long and distinguished career as a public servant and educator, most notably as the president of the University of South Florida, Commissioner of Education and President of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Castor's career began in Hillsborough County where she was the first woman elected to the Hillsborough County Commission. She ran successfully for the Florida Senate in 1976, serving three terms in that chamber. In 1986, following statewide campaign, Castor became the Commissioner of Education and the first woman elected to the Florida Cabinet. During her tenure she was a strong advocate for early childhood education and children's health initiatives, helping to spearhead the creation of the nationally recognized Florida KidCare Program.

Castor was appointed as president of USF by the Board of Regents in 1993 during an important transitional period. She expanded academic programs gaining the prestigious Research 1 designation. She also led improvements to the Tampa campus making the university a more attractive setting, financing new residence halls and secured state funding for new buildings, including the College of Education. She returned to USF in 2006 where she became Director of the Patel Center for Global Solutions.

Castor continued her active career and was appointed by President Obama to serve on the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. She is a founding member of the USF Women in Leadership and Philanthropy. She continues to support the university along with her husband Sam Bell, the founder of the College of Public Health.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Master of Ceremony: Angela Crist, Director, USF Florida Institute of Government

6:00 P.M.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Robin Ersing, Ph.D. School Director & Professor, USF School of Public Affairs

6:05 P.M.

OPENING REMARKS

Magali Michael, Ph.D. Acting Dean, USF College of Arts & Sciences

6:10 P.M.

ADVISORY BOARD REMARKS

Robert “Bobby” Green, M.P.A. Chairman, USF MPA Advisory Board; Former Manager, City of Auburndale

6:15 P.M.

MPA PROGRAM & RECENT NEWS

Stephen Aikins, Ph.D. MPA Program Director & Associate Professor, USF School of Public Affairs

6:25 P.M.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Hon. Betty Castor Past President, University of South Florida

6:40 P.M.

DONOR LEGACY ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & FUNDRAISING

Mike Suarez, M.P.A. Member, USF MPA Advisory Board; Former Council Member, City of Tampa

6:55 P.M.

PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Christa Remington, Ph.D. Assistant Professor

Stephen Aikins, Ph.D. MPA Program Director & Associate Professor

Jamil Jreisat Scholarship

Joan Pynes Memorial Scholarship

James E. Blanton III Veterans Scholarship

7:05 P.M.

MPA AMBASSADOR PROGRAM AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Stephen Neely, Ph.D. Associate Professor

Jocilyn Martinez, Ph.D. Visiting Assistant Professor of Instruction

Outstanding MPA Alumni Award

MPA Ambassador Service Awards

Recognition of New Members

7:20 P.M.

PI ALPHA ALPHA INDUCTION CEREMONY

John Daly, Ph.D. Associate Professor

Tamara Dimitrijevska-Markoski, Ph.D. Assistant Professor

7:30 P.M.

CLOSING REMARKS & SPECIAL THANKS

Robin Ersing, Ph.D. School Director & Professor, USF School of Public Affairs

ABOUT THE USF MPA PROGRAM

The University of South Florida's MPA degree prepares students for the challenges of public service. We offer state of the art career preparation for individuals seeking careers in government and the nonprofit sector. With a focus on the concerns of our West Central Florida region, we train students to play professional roles at the local, state, and national levels. Our MPA program is more than just a professional degree. It is a gateway to transforming society through experiential learning and broadening of students' interactions with senior members of government. Students are taught by faculty with practical experience and connections in government in the Tampa Bay area and beyond. Our capstone students work on real-world government projects and make presentations to government leaders, thereby showcasing their work and creating opportunities for future employment.

THANK YOU

The School of Public Affairs, our MPA faculty, and staff hereby express our appreciation for you—the community that supports our students' success. We are so grateful that you were able to join us this evening to celebrate our remarkable MPA students and alumni. USF MPA thanks you and hopes you will stay engaged with us as we grow and evolve.

Special Thanks to:

J. ELLIS BLANTON

Professor Emeritus
USF Muma College of Business

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For more information on how to support MPA's operating needs or scholarships for students, please contact **Stephen Aikins**, at saikins@usf.edu or (813) 974-0114, or visit giving.usf.edu to make a gift to one of the

- Jamil Jreisat Scholarship (#420082)
- Joan Pynes Memorial Scholarship (#420182)
- Public Administration Support Fund (#421890)

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