

WSMR Radio

Florida Matters Public Affairs Show

University Beat

Jan. 1 - March 31, 2018

UNIVERSITY BEAT FIRST QUARTER 2018

University Beat reports run on WUSF 89.7 FM every Tuesday at approximately 6:44 am, 8:44 am and 5:44 pm.

It also runs on WSMR 89.1 & 103.9 FM the following Monday at about 10:25 pm. Each report is between three and a half to four and a half minutes in length.

University Beat: Minority Contracts (week of January 8, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

The University of South Florida has faced criticism from some in the community for not giving enough business to minority-owned companies. The school is addressing that issue by enhancing its Supplier Diversity program with new leadership, by holding training programs for university employees and through community outreach events. (Minorities, Business, Economy, Handicapped, Homosexuality, Women)

University Beat: Ocean Oxygen (week of January 15, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

More and more, the world's oceans and coastal waters – like the Gulf of Mexico – are developing areas where there's no oxygen. That lack of air dooms sea life, and it looks like humans are to blame. A University of South Florida College of Marine Science professor is on an international team studying the phenomenon. (Environment, Education, Science)

University Beat: Grammys – Chuck Owen (week of January 22, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner & Michael Cornette

While most of the attention will be on stars like Jay-Z and Bruno Mars, we'll be watching a University of South Florida jazz professor who is up for four Grammy Awards this Sunday. Chuck Owen sat down recently with WUSF's Mike Cornette to talk about being nominated and what it says for the state of jazz at USF and in the Tampa Bay area. (Arts, Education)

University Beat: Entrepreneur – AquaMelon (week of January 29, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

University Beat will be regularly checking in this year with entrepreneurs who have ties to USF to learn about their business and its potential. We start with the USF alum behind “AquaMelon Water,” 100 percent natural watermelon juice that’s now being sold by retailers across the state. (Education, Business, Economy, Minorities, Environment)

University Beat: Jane Austen – Wikipedia (week of February 5, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

A University of South Florida class is using famed English author Jane Austen to learn how to make Wikipedia more accurate. It’s part of an outreach effort with the Wiki Education Foundation, a nonprofit group that helps students develop research and media literacy skills. (Education, Arts, Women)

University Beat: Allergies (week of February 12, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

Your sinuses can tell you better than we can, but it’s already been one of the worst flu seasons in recent memory. Now, we’re heading into a late starting, but very ugly allergy season as well. (Medicine, Science, Environment)

University Beat: Florida Maps (week of February 19, 2018)

By Hafsa Quraishi

There’s a new display now open at the Tampa Bay History Center that’s of particular interest to map lovers. The museum is working with the University of South Florida to showcase more than 6,000 maps of historic Florida. (Arts, Education, Science)

University Beat: Entrepreneur – Bridges (week of February 26, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

This month’s look at entrepreneurs with ties to the University of South Florida focuses on Will Cohen, a USF graduate who started his own digital marketing firm. Now, he’s helping launch “Bridges,” a social media platform that brings people together based not on what they have in common, but on their differences. (Education, Science, Business)

University Beat: USF Sarasota-Manatee – Karen Holbrook (week of March 5, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

Karen Holbrook was named regional chancellor for University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee late last year - but she’s not new to the university. She’s held a number of leadership positions with USF before. She talks about the possibility of the campus gaining a residence hall but losing its separate accreditation, and why she’s returned to USF. (Education, Housing, Business, Science)

University Beat: La Florida (week of March 12, 2018)

By Tim Fanning

A University of South Florida St. Petersburg history professor spent years chronicling early Florida Spanish history. Now he’s launching an interactive website that allows visitors to peer into the lives of those who helped shape Florida. (Education, Minorities, Arts)

University Beat: Human – Pet Interaction (rebroadcast) (week of March 19, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

Whether overindulging your dog could encourage them to misbehave or if there are ways to increase your emotional connection with your cat, there is a science to our relationships with our pets.

A researcher at USF Sarasota-Manatee is looking at how the interactions between humans and their animals contribute to the physical, social and psychological well-being of both man and beast. (Education, Science, Environment) (Originally aired the week of Sept. 4, 2017)

University Beat: Entrepreneur – Filmmaker (week March 26, 2018)

By Mark Schreiner

University Beat is continuing our monthly look at entrepreneurs with ties to USF by going Hollywood. Ryan Justice is a 2011 graduate who co-wrote, directed and co-produced “Followers,” a movie that’s being released in theaters and on video this month. (Arts, Education, Business)

FLORIDA MATTERS – FIRST QUARTER, 2018

Florida Matters Quarterly report Jan. 1-March 31, 2018

Time aired: Tuesdays at 6:30 – 7 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 – 8 a.m. on WUSF 89.7 FM; Monday at 10 – 10:30 p.m. on WSMR 89.1 FM

[Florida Matters News Roundtable: 2018 Legislative Debrief](#) (March 29, 2018)

This week on Florida Matters we're talking about some of the key takeaways from the 2018 legislative session. We break down parts of the state budget as well as measures on school safety, gun control and opioid prescriptions. We also debate the session's "winners and losers." (Education, Politics, Business, Health Care, Law and Order)

[Florida Matters: School Violence Town Hall](#) (March 15, 2018)

The deadly high school shooting in Parkland has people across the nation talking about how to make schools safer. Dozens of Tampa Bay residents and community leaders shared their thoughts on the issue at a [recent town hall](#) hosted by the [Tampa Bay Association of Black Journalists](#). (Minorities, Public Safety, Education)

[Florida Matters: Online Learning In High School](#) (March 7, 2018)

This week on Florida Matters we debate the pros and cons of online learning in high school with a panel of experts and with comments our listeners submitted about their experience with virtual education. Every public high school student in the state of Florida is required to take at least one course that primarily involves online learning in order to graduate. But some parents, teachers and other critics say it's not a good fit for every student. (Education, Technology, Special Needs)

[Florida Matters News Roundtable: Parkland Shooting, Sarasota Election & More](#) (March 2, 2018)

This week on Florida Matters we're hosting another edition of our monthly news roundtable. We talk with a panel of journalists about some of the major news stories impacting our state,

including last week's shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High that left 17 people dead, a Democratic upset in a special election for Sarasota's open state house seat, and the Tampa Bay Rays potential move to Ybor City. (Law and Order, Education, Sports, Politics, Business)

[Florida Matters Re-Broadcast: Solar Power In The Sunshine State](#) (February 15, 2018)

This is the Sunshine State, so doesn't solar power make sense? Then why does it only make up a tiny fraction of Florida's electricity output? This week on Florida Matters we're talking about the promise and prognosis of solar energy in the state. A new [report](#) says Florida is leading the nation in solar permits for homes. We explore why residential solar is becoming more popular and look at [two new co-ops](#) being formed in the Tampa Bay area to take advantage of the power of group buying. (Business, Environment, Energy)

[Florida Matters: Health Care For The Uninsured](#) (February 8, 2018)

While across the nation the cultural and political tug-of-war over health care rages on, locally, healers keep on healing. But providing care for people can get complicated when they don't have health insurance. Florida Matters recently hosted a panel discussion in front of a live audience at the [University of South Florida St. Petersburg](#) about caring for the uninsured. This week we hear highlights from our conversation with experts and questions from the audience. (Health Care, Politics)

[Florida Matters Newsmaker: St. Pete Mayor Rick Kriseman](#) (February 5, 2018)

This week on Florida Matters we visit the office of St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman to talk about his second term in office, which began about a month ago. WUSF closely followed the St. Pete mayoral race, which Kriseman won last November against former mayor Rick Baker. The often bitter race was seen as a partisan election for an office that's technically nonpartisan. (Politics, Business, Minorities, Education, Environment, Mass Transit)

[Florida Matters News Roundtable: 2018 Legislative Session](#) (January 24, 2018)

The state's lawmakers are hard at work in Tallahassee as the 2018 legislative session continues. This week on the latest edition of our monthly Florida Matters news roundtable series we're talking about some of their priorities and how they could affect residents. (Politics, Business, Education, Minorities, Health Care, Environment)

[Florida Matters: One City, One Weekend, Two Major Events](#) (January 18, 2018)

Tampa is going to be a rather busy city on the weekend of Jan. 27-28. The city will host the 2018 National Hockey League All-Star Game during one of Tampa's biggest annual events, Gasparilla Pirate Festival. This week on Florida Matters we're talking about how the city will handle hosting two major events at the same time, and how Tampa Bay might benefit from the national exposure. (Business, Sports, Tourism)

[Florida Matters: Gov. Scott's Final State Of The State Address](#) (January 11, 2018)

Gov. Rick Scott delivered his eighth and final State of the State address Tuesday on the opening day of the 2018 legislative session. Florida Matters brought you live coverage and analysis of his speech, and this week we're featuring highlights from the address. Scott used his final State of the State speech Tuesday to push for tax cuts, reduced driver license fees, laws to fight the opioid

crisis and protections for sexual misconduct victims. (Politics, State Government, Business, Health Care, Environment)

[Florida Matters: Telling Tampa Bay Stories – Progress Village Part 2](#) (January 11, 2018)

Last week we shined a light on the historic neighborhood Progress Village and this week on Florida Matters its story continues. In the second half of our special two-part series Telling Tampa Bay Stories: Progress Village we hear more residents of Progress Village share their memories growing up there. And they'll talk about their hopes for the neighborhood's future. (Minorities, History)

[Florida Matters News Roundtable: 2017's Top Stories](#) (January 11, 2018)

Massive hurricanes, corrupt politicians and the tragic death of a famous manatee – there was a lot of big news in Florida this year. This week on Florida Matters we talk with local journalists about some of 2017's top local stories. (Politics, State Government, Environment, Health Care, Law and Order)

[Florida Matters Re-Broadcast: Ethnic Newspapers In Tampa Bay](#) (January 11, 2018)

One of the area's leading African American family-owned newspapers, The Weekly Challenger in St. Petersburg, just celebrated its 50th anniversary. Tampa's preeminent Hispanic newspaper, La Gaceta, is approaching 100 years. (Minorities, History)