



**Kumar**



**Morgera**

### **Two College of Engineering Faculty Named Fellows of American Association for the Advancement of Science**

**Tampa, Fla. (January 3, 2011)** – Two engineering professors have been named Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), which recognizes its members based on their contributions to the advancement of science.

Mechanical Engineering Professor Ashok Kumar, who is also the director of USF's Nanotechnology Research and Education Center (NREC), and Electrical Engineering Professor and Chair Salvatore Morgera were recently elected Fellows of AAAS, one of the world's largest and most well-respected scientific societies. Kumar, Morgera and other newly elected Fellows will be recognized February 19 during the organization's annual meeting in Washington, DC.

Kumar was elected to Fellow of AAAS for his "for pioneering research in broad field of thin film technology for multifunctional applications and for untiring service to the broader materials community." His excellence as a researcher has been recognized by a number of honors, including ASM Fellow, Theodore and Venette Askounes Ashford Distinguished Scholar Award (2006), USF Outstanding Faculty Research Achievement Award (2004), USF President Faculty Excellence Award (2003), NSF Faculty Early CAREER Development Award (2000) and National Research Council Twining Fellowship Award (1997). He also received the Professor Honorario award from the Universidad del Norte, Barranquilla, Colombia (2009).

Morgera was elected as a Fellow of the AAAS for pioneering research in structured estimation theory, adaptive communications, and pattern analysis and for academic program development in undergraduate Engineering Leadership and graduate Bioengineering. Morgera is a Fellow of the IEEE, a Professional Engineer, and a Tau Beta Pi Eminent Engineer. He has had a number of highly distinguished appointments and awards from the governments of Canada and the United States and has been recently honored for bringing engineering innovation to scientific discovery in support of medicine.

AAAS ([www.aaas.org/](http://www.aaas.org/)) is the largest scientific society and publisher of the peer-reviewed weekly journal *Science*. Fellows are elected annually by the AAAS Council, the policymaking body of the Association, for "efforts on behalf of the advancement of science or its applications [which] are scientifically or socially distinguished". Examples of areas in which nominees may have made significant contributions are research; teaching; technology; services to professional societies; administration in academe, industry,

and government; and communicating and interpreting science to the public. AAAS was founded in 1848, and it includes some 262 affiliated societies and academies of science, serving 10 million individuals. The Association has awarded fellowships since 1874.

*The University of South Florida is one of the nation's top 63 public research universities and one of only 25 public research universities nationwide with very high research activity that is designated as community engaged by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. USF was awarded \$394.1 million in research contracts and grants in FY 2009/2010. The university offers 232 degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, specialist and doctoral levels, including the doctor of medicine. The USF System has a \$1.8 billion annual budget, an annual economic impact of \$3.2 billion, and serves more than 47,000 students on institutions/campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee and Lakeland. USF is a member of the Big East Athletic Conference.*

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