



### **College of Engineering Receives Diversity Honor Roll Recognition**

**TAMPA, Fla. (March 27, 2012)** – Norma Alcantar, associate professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, and Bernard Batson, associate director of Student Services in the College of Engineering, were selected to the USF Diversity Honor Roll by the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity Affairs for their “contributions to the advancement of diversity and inclusion” at USF during the 2011-2012 academic year. Both were recognized during the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Diversity Summit held on March 20th at the USF Marshall Student Center.

Norma Alcantar was nominated, for research activities that have addressed underserved communities globally, her successful role in mentoring female graduate students within her research group as well as her commitment toward diversity throughout the College as the Sloan Program Coordinator in her department. The Sloan PhD program in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering has helped to make USF a ten producer of African American/Black and Hispanic/Latino PhD graduates who are U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

Bernard Batson was nominated for his work in the recruitment and retention of minority STEM graduate students and for efforts that have supported students from diverse backgrounds to participate in summer research experiences, internships, and attendance at professional society meetings (NSBE, SHPE, SWE, and Great Minds in STEM/HENAAC).

[USF 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Diversity Summit](#)

**-USF-**

*The University of South Florida is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success. USF is classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in the top tier of research universities, a distinction attained by only 2.2 percent of all universities. The Carnegie Foundation also classifies USF as a community engaged university. It is ranked 44th in total research expenditures and 34th in federal research expenditures for public universities by the National Science Foundation. The USF System has an annual budget of \$1.5 billion, an annual economic impact of \$3.7 billion, and serves 47,000 students in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee and Lakeland.*

**Bernard Batson**  
**Associate Director, Student Services**

USF College of Engineering  
813-396-9309  
[bbatson@usf.edu](mailto:bbatson@usf.edu)