



College of Engineering is Top 10 Producer of African American and Hispanic Doctorates

Tampa, Fla. (July 20, 2011) – The University of South Florida College of Engineering is ranked in the top 10 for conferring doctoral degrees to domestic (U.S. citizens and permanent residents) African American and Hispanic/Latino students, according to an annual survey in *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, a magazine published bi-weekly that informs national leaders from academe, industry and government about current trends and issues that are going on in the United States.

The College ranks fourth in the nation for conferring engineering doctorates to African Americans, and tenth for conferring engineering doctorates to Hispanic/Latino students. In reaching this status, USF joins AAU member institutions (UF, Georgia Tech, Northwestern) as one of four universities ranked as a top 10 producer of both African American and Hispanic/Latino engineering doctorates.

“USF, in partnership with the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, National Science Foundation, Florida Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, and the Florida Education Fund’s McKnight Doctoral Fellowship program has made strategic investments to enhance diversity in STEM. These investments are now bearing fruit,” according to Shekhar Bhansali, professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and project director of the Bridge to the Doctorate and Alfred P. Sloan programs in the College of Engineering.

Diverse Issues in Higher Education obtained the information from the National Center for Education Statistics for the 2009-10 academic year based upon U.S. Department of Education reports submitted annually by doctoral degree granting institutions.

Since 2006, more than 20 African American and Hispanic students (U.S. citizens and permanent residents) have earned their engineering doctorates from the College of Engineering. For more information on the rankings:

[Engineering – Doctoral – African American](#)

[Engineering – Doctoral - Hispanic](#)

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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