



Ileana Wald

Ileana Wald Receives NSF REU in South Africa

TAMPA, Fla (February 17, 2014) Ileana Wald, a junior in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been selected to participate in the National Science Foundation (NSF) funded Research Experiences in Undergraduate (REU) Water and Health in Limpopo (WHIL) program. She will spend two months during the summer conducting research on water quality and sanitation in Limpopo, South Africa.

Wald is a recipient of a 2012 NOAA Ernest F. Hollings scholarship and a participant in the NSF Florida-Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (FGLSAMP) program. This past summer, she conducted research at NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in California.

In the College of Engineering's REU program, Wald is working with Jim Mihelcic, professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Nathan Manser, a doctoral student in Civil and Environmental Engineering. She received a travel award for an oral presentation during the 2014 Emerging Researchers National (ERN) Conference in STEM that will be held February 20-22, in Washington, DC. Annually, the conference is hosted by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and sponsored by NSF.

[NSF REU Water and Health in Limpopo \(WHIL\)](#)

[Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM](#)

-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.

The College of Engineering at the University of South Florida is ranked at #69 among public institutions by U.S. News & World Report's 2014 engineering graduate school rankings. The college serves 4,600 students offering ABET-accredited undergraduate degrees in seven programs, as well as eleven masters and nine doctoral degrees. The College is actively engaged in local and global research activities with foci on sustainability, biomedical engineering, computing technology and transportation. For the fiscal year 2012 the college had \$28.3 million in research expenditures.

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