



Hernandez

Pacia Hernandez Receives USF Signature Research Fellowship

TAMPA, Fla (May 2, 2013) Pacia Hernandez, a doctoral student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been awarded a Signature Research Fellowship from the USF Graduate School. The award provides a stipend of \$18,000, full tuition/fees, and health insurance for up to two years. Fellowship recipients also receive up to \$600 each year of the award to support a presentation at a state, regional, national or international conference.

Pacia's project focuses on the sustainability of populations and the environment, one of USF's signature research areas, by modeling the movement of water from groundwater wells of a highly urbanized community which relies on a coastal aquifer for water supply. She is advised by Daniel Yeh, associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

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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.