Tampa, Fla. (March 4, 2010) – Dr. Qing Lu (pronounced ching) recently joined the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as assistant professor. Lu received a doctorate in civil engineering with emphasis on transportation engineering from University of California, Berkeley. Prior to joining USF, Professor Lu was a project scientist and laboratory manager at the University of California, Davis.

His major areas of research focus on pavement design – analysis and preservation, asphalt and asphalt mixes; transportation infrastructure system management; and surface technologies for orthotropic steel deck bridges.

Lu’s industry experience includes working with ChemCo Systems, Redwood City, CA, where he served as technical manager on several bridge projects, including the Hangzhou Bay Bridge, the longest overseas bridge in the world; and the Sutong Bridge, the longest cable-stayed bridge in the world.

Professor Lu, who is a licensed professional civil engineer in the State of California, also holds master’s degrees in statistics and civil engineering from UC, Berkeley; and master’s and bachelor degrees from Southeast University, Nanjing, China.

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 $380.4 million in research contracts and grants in FY 2008/2009. 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.