As you know, following a protracted period of negotiation, the USF System Board of Trustees and the United Faculty of Florida recently arrived at a tentative agreement on a three year contract. I want to take this opportunity to thank those involved in reaching this settlement for their hard work and commitment to seeking a resolution. I am hopeful that we can now proceed with timely ratification and implement long awaited, and well-earned, faculty salary increases at the earliest opportunity.

Recognizing that a world class faculty represents the very foundation of any great university, we remain committed to recruiting, supporting, rewarding and retaining a strong and competitive professoriate across the USF System. While the economic uncertainties of the time and the rapidly changing landscape of high education in Florida present some unprecedented challenges for us, our students and alumni, along with the communities we serve, have come to recognize the quality of a USF education and the valuable contributions we make to the betterment of life across the broader Tampa Bay region.

The story of USF’s rapid emergence as a top tier, national research university is truly remarkable and, in spite of the challenges we share with universities across the country, I remain confident that through the valued contributions of our faculty, staff and students, we will continue along our impressive path to progress.

Sincerely,

Ralph

Ralph C. Wilcox  
Provost and Executive Vice President  
University of South Florida System  
4202 East Fowler Avenue, ADM 226  
Tampa, FL 33620-6100

Tel: (813) 974-8347  
Fax: (813) 974-8795  
Email: rcowilcox@usf.edu