



Rogers

Electrical Engineering Doctoral Student Receives USF Golden Bull Award

Tampa, Fla. (April 25, 2011) – Al-Aakhir Rogers, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Electrical Engineering, has received a 2011 prestigious USF Golden Bull Award. The Golden Bull Award is one of USF's highest honors given annually to undergraduate and graduate students who encompass the spirit of USF and have demonstrated its values. Recipients must exemplify exceptional leadership and service to the University and the community. This year, 20 students were selected from across the USF University system from a highly deserving pool of 96 nominees. The recipients were honored and received awards from President Judy Genshaft on Wednesday, April 20, at the USF Marshall Center.

In addition to his research accomplishments and international experiences in the area of optical-based MEMS, Rogers has been a passionate leader of outreach initiatives in STEM. He has served as a motivational speaker to increase college awareness for students within the Engaging Latino Communities for Education (ENLACE) and NSF Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) programs, as well as locally during the Annual Great American Teach-In in November. He has sought to use social networks like FaceBook and My Space to mentor minority K-12 students and College of Engineering undergraduates.

Rogers has successfully defended his dissertation “Evanescence Wave Coupling Using SW Gratings: Fabrication, Implementation and Applications”, and will graduate in August 2011.

USF Golden Award: <http://leadandserve.usf.edu/awardsgolden.php>

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. 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.

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