



Hodges

Deidra Hodges Awarded NSF BRIGE Award

Tampa, Fla. (July 21, 2011) – Deidra Hodges, a PhD graduate in the Department of Electrical Engineering has been awarded a competitive National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Broadening Participation Research Initiation Grant in Engineering (BRIGE). Hodges is an assistant professor in electrical engineering at Southern Polytechnic State University (SPSU) in Marietta, Georgia. She was awarded the two-year grant in the amount of \$175,000 for her proposal, “CZTS Thin-Films and Solar Cells by Liquid-Based Techniques.”

The NSF’s BRIGE program provides research funding to beginning engineers with the goal of increasing the diversity of researchers in the engineering disciplines. The goal of the BRIGE solicitation is to increase the number of proposals to the Directorate for Engineering from individuals who can serve as role models and mentors for an increasingly diverse engineering student population who will become the workforce of the future.

Hodges completed her PhD in December 2009 under the supervision of Chris Ferekides, professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering.

For additional information: [NSF Brige Award](#)

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 \$394.1 million in research contracts and grants in FY 2009/2010. 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.

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