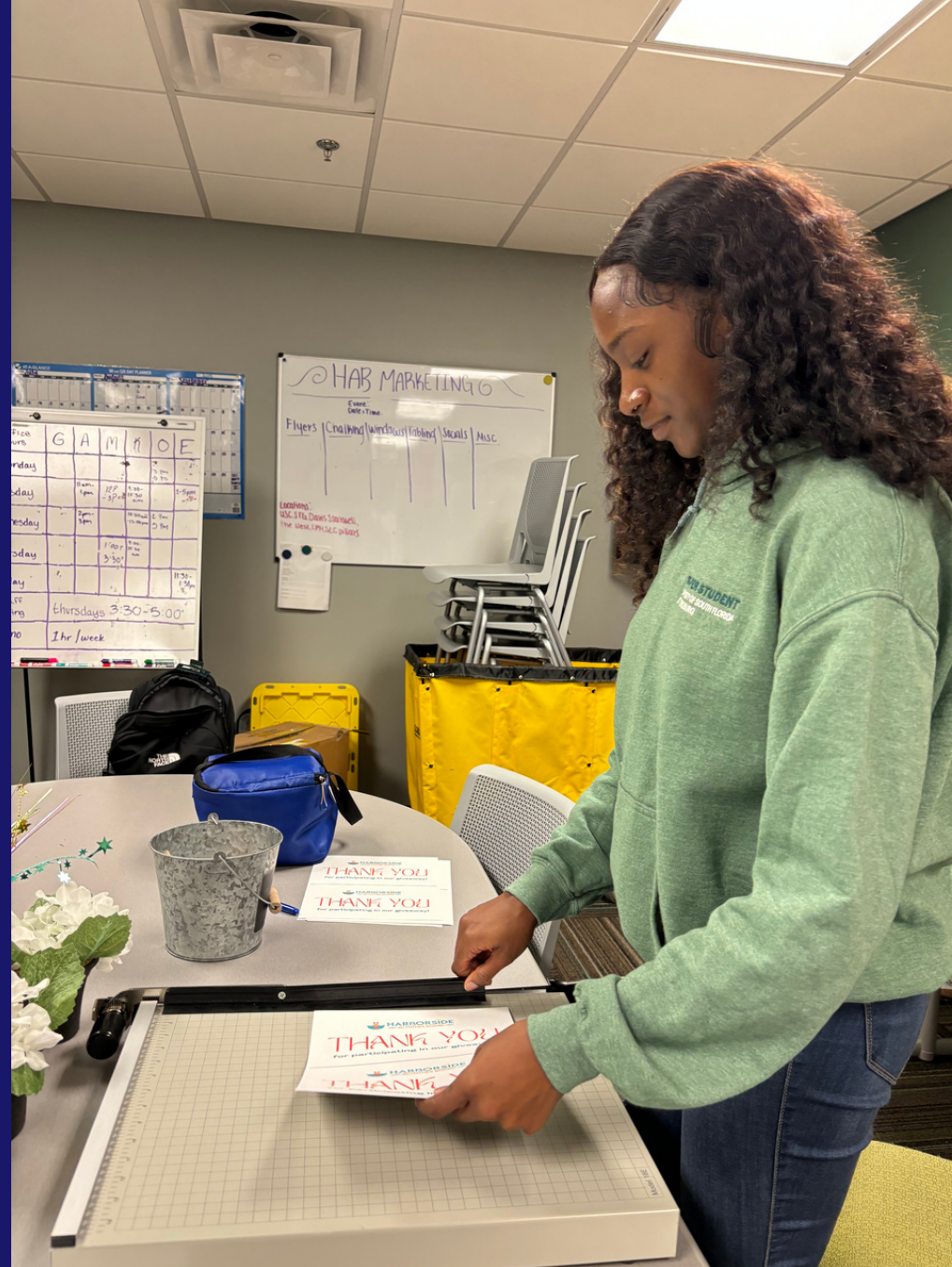


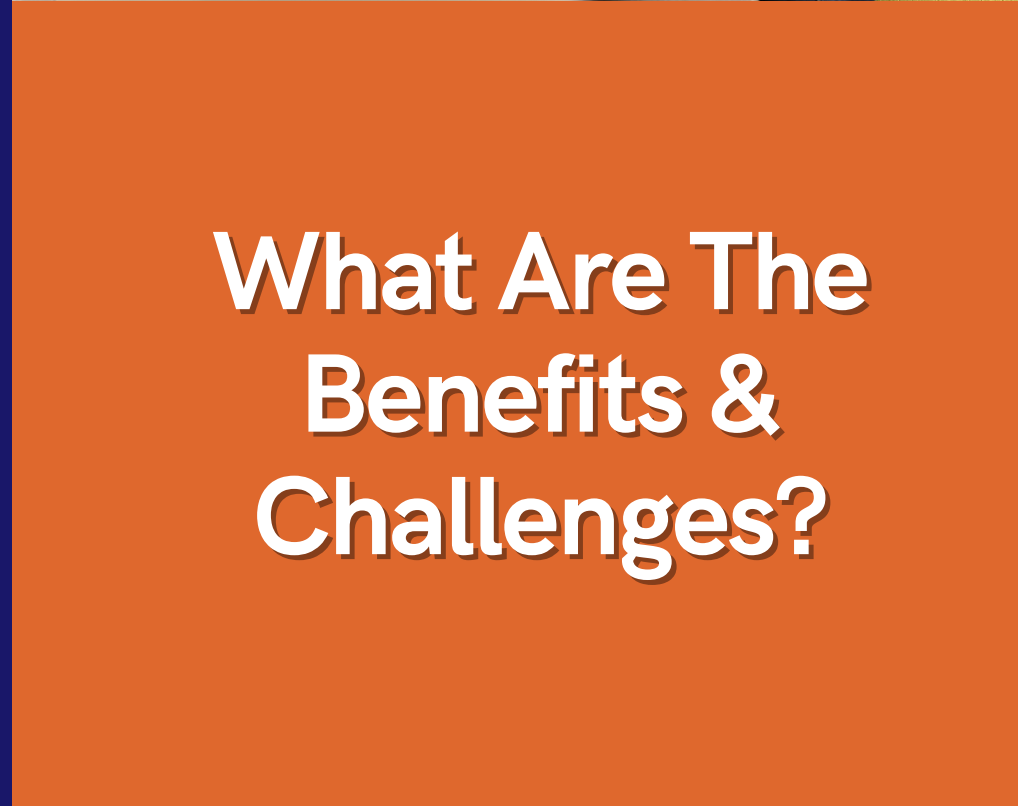


Earning While Learning: The Art of On-Campus Student Employment

8 March 2024



Why Work On Campus?



What Are The Benefits & Challenges?

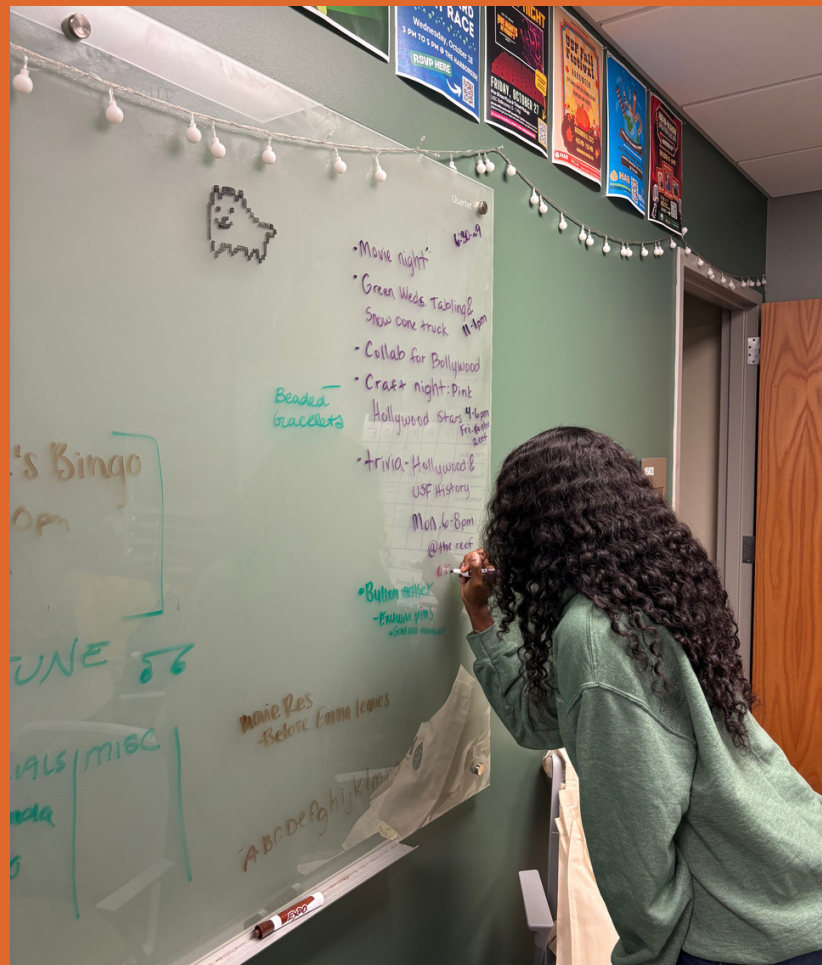
Who is she?



Ananda Myers

She is a senior Psychology major on a PreMed track at USFSP. Currently, she holds three on-campus jobs: Harborside Activities Board vice president, New Student Experience transfer peer coach, and U Matter academic & residential mentor. Ananda lives locally with her parents and commutes to school by car.

Ananda's Why



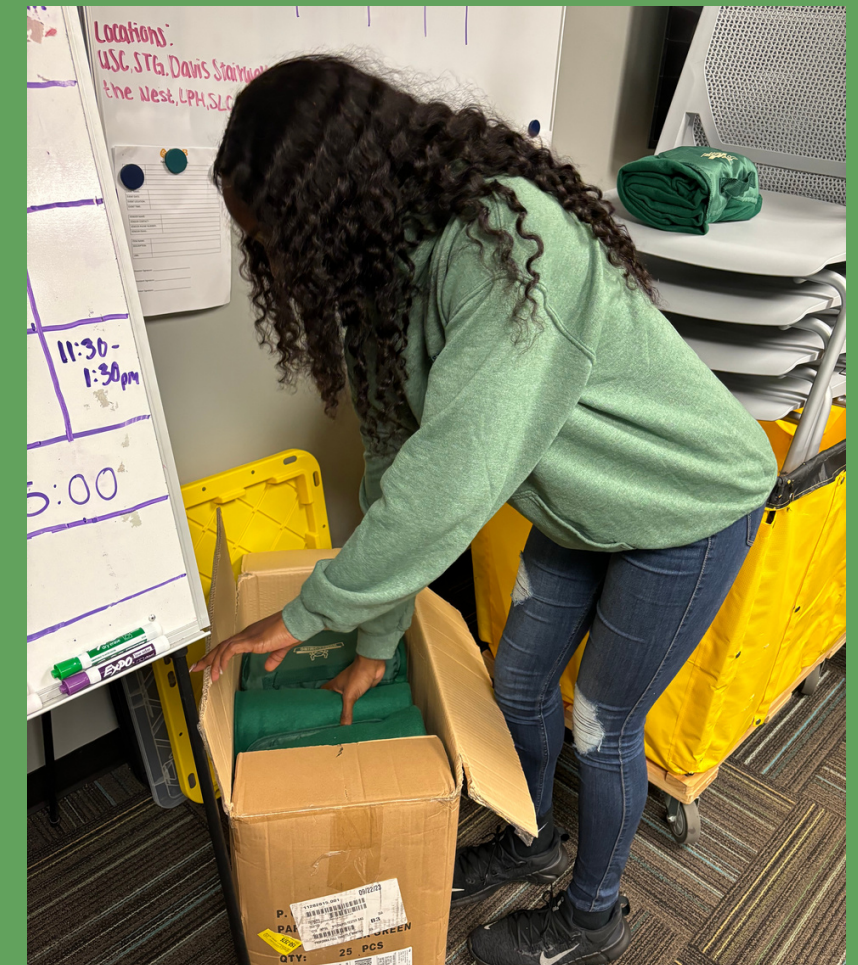
More Convenient Than Off Campus Employment

"Going to work and then going to class and then being able to return to work is a benefit. Since I already commute to campus for classes, being able to stay on campus to work and then go home at the end of the night is a plus for me."



Opportunities To Make New Connections With Students, Faculty and Staff

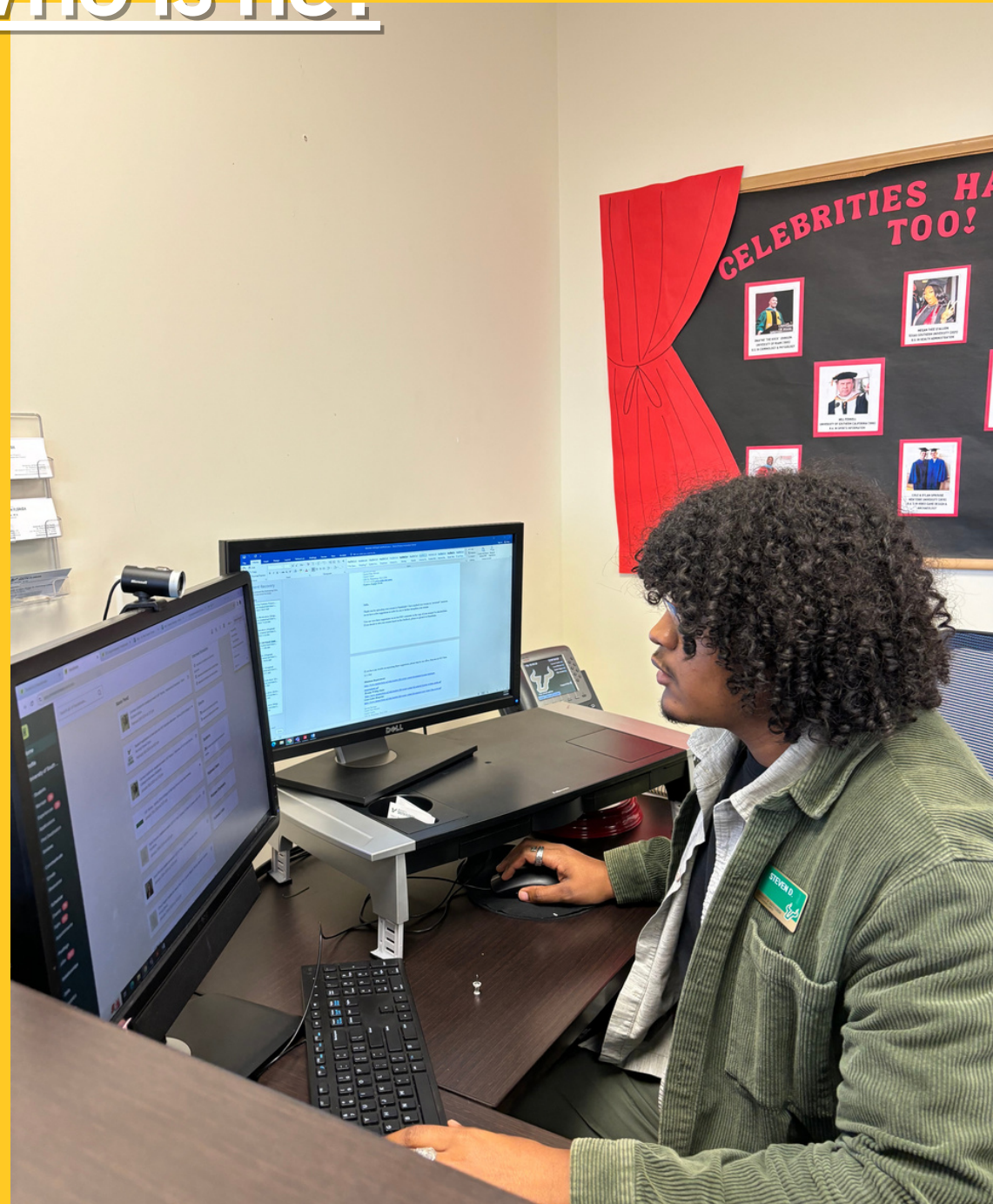
"With these roles, I can make new friends and help other students along the way."



Not too demanding

"Most on-campus jobs are 9 hours each, so it does not take up too much of my time and fits my schedule better than working with an off-campus job." Since Ananda works on campus, there is no work on weekends, which she appreciates dearly.

Who is he?



Steven Duvrge

He is a senior political science major at USFSP. He is a career peer advisor at the Center for Career and Professional Development, beginning this role during his freshman year. His family lives in Ruskin, FL, and he lives on campus but does not own a vehicle.



Steven's Why

Accessibility

"Since I didn't have a car, I knew I wouldn't want to walk or take public transportation to work. Having an on-campus job meant I could get to and from class very quickly."



Awareness

"You are working with professional staff where they know all the resources available to students. Since you are constantly communicating with them, there is so much information that is being thrown at you. It helps you feel better prepared and more connected to faculty and staff."



Accommodations

"Since they know I am a student, they understand that my classes come first, which is universally understood by employers on campus." Steven also mentioned how they are very flexible with his work hours.



The Cons



Challenges

“If you're aiming to boost your finances, the key is multiple on-campus jobs; a single job just won't cut it,” Myers said.

Given that general student employees at USF are only paid Florida's minimum wage, one on-campus job won't suffice to support yourself.

“In general, off-campus jobs offer better pay. As an on-campus worker, you might find securing the hours you desire challenging,” Duvrge said.

Another concern for Duvrge that was a benefit for Myers is that you can't work on weekends.

“If I were to have a job off campus, chances are I would probably put the bulk of my time on the weekends to have enough time throughout the week for class and extracurriculars,” he said.



Directors

Kyonna Henry, Director of Student Life and Engagement & Lesa Shouse Director of the Center of Career and Professional Development

These two professionals do an excellent job of fostering a work culture of hard work, collaboration, and fun.

Faculty Perspective

Henry and Shouse ensure that students benefit the most from their employment experience.



“I suggest on-campus employment over off-campus employment,” Henry insisted.

“We as supervisors know course schedules and when final exams are. We understand you have an academic journey that needs to be number one. When you go to Publix or Target, they don’t care about your course schedule; they could care less about what you are doing on campus,” Henry cautioned.

STUDENT Employee

“I joke with supervisors, parents, and students all the time that a student employee is a STUDENT first,” Shouse emphasized.

“A student can tell their supervisor that they have to study for an exam tomorrow, and their supervisor would be more sympathetic to that than maybe some large company externally,” she said.

