

Meet William Warmke and Scott Sandoval

USF Student Body President and Vice President

Take a moment to meet William Warmke and Scott Sandoval, best friends and roommates, and the leaders of the USF Student Body.

Tell us about yourself.

William: My name is William Joseph Warmke and I was born and raised in Tampa, FL. I grew up with a brother and a sister, and participated heavily in JORTC and the Marching Band while in high school. Having grown up in the area, USF was a natural selection for me to attend for college! I am set to graduate in May with three BA degrees in Political Science, Criminology, and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences. During my time at USF, I have been heavily involved with my fraternity, Sigma Nu, and the Greek Programming Board. Outside of Greek Life, I was able to serve as a Resident Assistant, engage myself in Student Government, and be involved in the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement on the Dance Marathon and LEAD Fellows Executive Boards. I also previously served as the President of USF Pre-Law Society, and plan on attending law school next fall where I will pursue a joint degree in Law and Public Administration.

Scott: My name is Scott Sandoval and I am an English Education Graduate Student here at USF. My career plans are to acquire a teaching position in Secondary Education. I am involved all over USF. I was the past president of a social Fraternity and now serve as one of their advisors. In addition I work with the Graduate Council. I am from Tampa, Florida and did my K-12 education here in Hillsborough County. I have a brother and sister, and with my dog, Rupert.

What is Student Government at USF?

William: USF Student Government is an entity comprised of over 250 student volunteers and employees that advocates and serves the needs of the entire student body. It is the premier opportunity for involvement here at USF and it is comprised of three branches, similarly to the federal government, and allows students to volunteer/become employed in various areas that suit a variety of interests.

continued

Scott: USF Student Government is comprised of over 250 student volunteers and employees. It is the premier opportunity for involvement here at the University of South Florida. It is comprised of three branches and allows students to volunteer or become employed in an area of their interest.

What is your role in Student Government?

William: My role as the Student Body President is primarily to serve as the point person for all Student Government initiatives, oversee the day-to-day operations of the Executive Branch, and advocate on behalf of the diverse student body that I have the privilege of representing.

Scott: My role in Student Government is to oversee the three agencies, which are Bulls Radio, Computer Services, and SAFE Team. I oversee their structure and operations. I have had many roles in Student Government. I started as a volunteer in Senate and moved up the ladder. I went from a senator to the chairperson of the Senate Committee on University Affairs and then to the Vice President of Senate.

Why should a student take an active interest in Student Government?

William: We are all USF students and any one issue can easily affect us all, like the library situation at the beginning of the fall semester. It is critical to be engaged with your student government so that it does what it was created to do - represent the needs of the student body. Students don't necessarily need to work or serve in Student Government, but it is imperative that we all be knowledgeable with the issues facing our university and the jurisdiction that Student Government has to address these concerns.

Scott: A student should take an interest in Student Government, because it can help shape them in ways they might not find in the classroom. From leadership to sharpening their skills, the student can have a lot of takeaways to implement when they leave their undergraduate experience.

What are three of your hobbies?

William: Three of my hobbies would definitely include spending quality time with my friends, playing video games, and watching movies/TV shows on Netflix.

Scott: A hobby of mine is reading new Young Adult novels as they come out. I enjoy playing Xbox and working out during my down time.

continued

How do you handle stress?

William: When I am stressed, I always make a point to remove myself from the situation so I can collect my thoughts in peace. This often means going for a quick walk, turning off my phone, or even listening to music.

Scott: The way I cope with stress is that I take a step back and look at the situation. My mother played a huge part in my success at USF, through open communication. A call every so often to remind me that she was thinking about me really brightened up some of my most stressful days.

What book are you reading now?

William: A current book that I've been reading over the last few months, and I'm determined to finish before I graduate, is "No Higher Honor" by Dr. Condoleezza Rice. I selected this book because Dr. Condoleezza Rice has been an idol of mine for her work on the National Security Council and as Secretary of State. More importantly, the experiences she discusses in the book are what I wish to pursue upon the completion of my academic endeavors, so I find her personal testimonies to be very insightful for the career field I wish to join.

Scott: The last book I read was the Percy Jackson Series. I have been working on a research project about bringing the Jackson books into the classroom as a bridge to Mythology. Furthermore the series was a nice break for me from my Graduate work.

What is something that you think every parent and family member should know about USF?

William: That USF not only accepts diversity, but we embrace diversity. One of the hardest lessons in life is learning how to work with people who are different from you, and at USF this is a lesson that every student will learn before they graduate. Through classes and extracurricular activities, we learn about people from all walks of life, with varying personalities and leadership styles. This is a critical skill that we offer the workplace, because we very seldom see a place where all the employees are the same.

Scott: Every parent and family member should know that their child is in good hands when they are at USF. From safety, to development, to growth, USF really stands out.

continued

Tell us about one event at USF that showcases your school spirit.

William: Having had the honor of serving as the USF Homecoming King, I would say Homecoming is definitely an event that showcases my school spirit, and my favorite event of the year! During this time we see members of our USF community, whether students, faculty, staff, or alumni, all come together in a great celebration. This event is just a joyful reminder that while our time at USF isn't temporary, we are Bulls for a lifetime.

Scott: One event that stands out in my mind is the Homecoming Parade. For the first time the Fraternity that I advise used a fire truck for the parade. Riding on the SG float and then going back to walk with the fire truck really created a memorable experience for me. Never before had I participated in homecoming, but now, every year I want to return to see how Homecoming grows.

What do you want your legacy at USF to be?

William: Most people would want their legacy as something physically tangible, like a statue or new tradition, but for me, I want my legacy to be that we have leaders in our student government that truly serve the student body, who work long days and nights because of their passion for helping other students. I want my legacy to be that Student Government will always be about representing the needs of the students, especially the underrepresented populations, instead of the needs of those who may hold a formal office or title.

Scott: I want Graduate and Undergraduate student representation to be better than it was before I got here!