



Summer, 2007

Dear USF Student (or incoming student):

I am excited to tell you about a new opportunity for which you might be eligible. The University of South Florida (USF) has just received funds from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to provide scholarships to beginning undergraduates interested in pursuing degrees in the fast-growing fields of computational science. Computational scientists use the largest and most powerful computers to solve problems that can't be tackled any other way. Examples of current computational-science problems include predicting atmospheric conditions, modeling nanotechnology, and looking at the behavior of never-before-synthesized liquids and solids. This is one of the most exciting areas in all of science, yet most students never get to use large, parallel computers until graduate school (if then!). Computational scientists often have broad knowledge across the sciences in addition to their specialized degrees; participation in this program is open to majors in chemistry, physics, and statistics. Recipients will not only be provided scholarships to pursue their chosen majors but will also get training and experience in large-scale, scientific, parallel computing, putting them on the fast track to becoming successful computational scientists. The background will be equally useful for those planning to pursue medical school or graduate work in any area of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

You may be eligible if you meet the following criteria in fall 2007:

- you are a U.S. citizen or permanent resident (green card holder)
- you intend to choose one of the following majors: chemistry, physics, or statistics
- you have unmet financial need, as determined by the Financial-Aid office

No prior computing experience is required, and the scholarship will also include academic support to give you every opportunity to succeed in the challenging course you have chosen. Scholarships of up to \$10,000 per year will be awarded (based on financial need) for up to four years, subject to continued eligibility and satisfactory progress. For more information and an application form, see our Web site:

## http://rc.usf.edu/sstem

or write to us at the address below. The University of South Florida is one of the top 50 public universities in the United States in terms of research funding; the National Science Foundation is an agency of the United States Government responsible for funding scientific, engineering, and mathematical research. Together, our team of computational scientists will offer you the learning opportunity of a lifetime. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Prof. David A. Rabson Department of Physics, PHY-114 University of South Florida 4202 E. Fowler Ave. Tampa, FL 33620