

# Saleta Powell

Tampa, FL, Jane473@usf.edu, 443-770-4580

## EDUCATION

---

University of South Florida (NCAA Division 1)  
Bachelor's in Mathematics, Judy Genshaft Honors College

GPA: 3.66 / 4.00  
Expected: Fall 2025

## EXPERIENCE

---

### **Prospective CCNY Graduate Research Assistant, Grove School of Engineering**

Admitted: Fall 2026

- Doctoral student of chemical engineering to be advised by Dr. Charles Maldarelli of the Levich Institute.
- Research focus will likely involve hydrodynamic motion of colloids on fluid interfaces and particle assembly.

### **Engineering Intern, Skyway Organization, St. Petersburg, FL**

Summer 2025 to Present

- Creating digital models of class-mini foiling sailboats to be utilized in The Ocean Race.
- Performing strain gauge and on-site tests to ensure the dinghies adhere to Tampa Bay's unique conditions.

### **USF Undergraduate Researcher, Zou Research Lab**

Fall 2024 to Present

- Conducting Gaussian experiments to study degradation mechanisms of polylactic acid and solvent effect.
- Collaborating closely with a Ph.D. student specializing in engineering biodegradable polymers.

### **USF Student-Athlete, Varsity Sailing Team**

Fall 2021 to Spring 2024

- Competed in fall and spring regattas amongst the top fifteen ranked women's and co-ed teams in the nation.
- Named "Sailor of the Week" by the South Atlantic Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association (September 2023).

## PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH

---

### **[Tentative] Upcycling of Aliphatic Polyesters: Mechanistic Insight into Polylactic Acid Degradation**

Nicholas Hall<sup>1</sup>, **Saleta Powell**<sup>2</sup>, Elamthal Abuoabaida<sup>1</sup> and Weizhong Zou<sup>1</sup>.

Expected: Fall 2025

## ACADEMIC HONORS & AWARDS

---

USF Green and Gold Presidential Waiver Award	Fall 2021- Spring 2025
Dane K. Harmon Memorial Scholarship for Mathematics	Fall 2024- Spring 2025
R. Kent Nagle Endowed Memorial Scholarship for Mathematics	Spring 2025
Francis Elvidge Endowed Memorial Scholarship	Fall 2022- Spring 2025
Demetrius Karamesoutis Endowed Scholarship	Fall 2022- Spring 2025
Women in Leadership & Philanthropy CREW Tampa Bay Endowed Scholarship	Fall 2024
All-Academic Team, Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association	Fall 2023- Spring 2024
Dean's List, College of Arts and Sciences	Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023

## TECHNICAL SKILLS & COURSEWORK

---

**Engineering Skills:** Computational Fluid Dynamics, Finite Element Analysis, Gaussian, ORCA, SolidWorks

**Mathematics:** Abstract Algebra, Intermediate Analysis, Combinatorics, Differential Equations, Differential Geometry, Graph Theory, Linear Algebra, Symbolic Computations, Theory of Computation, Vector Calculus

**Interdisciplinary Sciences:** Calculus-Based Physics, Cellular Processes, Organic Chemistry, Statistics

## CERTIFICATIONS

---

Master SCUBA Diver, Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI):

August 2024

Emergency Oxygen Provider, Primary Care (CPR) & Sec Care (1st) w/ AED, Rescue Diver, Underwater Photographer