



Florida Climate Institute ANNUAL EVENT

November 14, 2011 - 10:00am-8:30pm - UF Emerson Alumni Hall, Gainesville, FL

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Welcome



Dear Colleagues, Students, and Guests,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Florida Climate Institute Annual Event 2011.

The Florida Climate Institute (FCI), a joint venture between the University of Florida and Florida State University, is bringing the most current scientific findings together toward understanding, mitigating and adapting to a changing environment. The FCI brings together outstanding expertise from across disciplines, universities, organizations, and industry to develop projects that integrate research, education, and outreach that will identify and evaluate potential societal responses to climate change and climate variability.

During our first year, the FCI has submitted several successful proposals with 48 partner institutions, begun a monthly newsletter with the latest news, events, and opportunities, created an “Ask the Expert” feature on our website, sponsored a bi-weekly radio spot “Environmental Minute” on WFSU Tallahassee, hosted 42 seminars on various climate-related topics with speakers from around the country, established relationships with several state and local agencies, and hosted UF’s first Climate Change Fellow with the US State Department and country of Colombia.

Only the cooperative efforts of the broadest range of scientists and scholars will allow us to address the challenges of climate change and sea level rise. The FCI was conceived to support this interdisciplinary approach recognizing that the issues we face cross all political, disciplinary, and professional lines and may affect all segments of society.

We look forward to learning how we can serve Floridians’ needs for science-based research and education and to working with you to develop programs that meet these needs

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of James W. Jones.

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FCI Research Highlights



In its first year, The Florida Climate Institute has successfully partnered with 48 organizations, universities and research institutions on multidisciplinary projects, has hosted 42 seminars on climate science, has started a new Radio Program aired on the National Public Radio called “The Environmental Minute”. The FCI is also responsible for the Florida component of the National Climate Assessment for NOAA and has hosted and participated in the Climate Change Fellows Program in Colombia partnering with the US Department of State. The Florida Climate Institute has also awarded two seed grants to increase the number of inter-disciplinary collaborations in climate science between the University of Florida and the Florida State University: (1) “Food (wheat) Security in a Warming World” - Vasubandhu Misra, FSU, and Asseng Senthold, UF, and (2) “Prediction of Southeastern U.S. Winter Temperatures with Application to Agriculture and Aquaculture - Allan Clarke, FSU, Clyde Fraisse, UF, and David Zierden, FSU.

Key Projects

Pine Integrated Network: Education, Mitigation and Adaptation Project

University of Florida forestry experts Tim Martin, Gary Peter, and Martha Monroe are among the leaders of a consortium that was awarded a \$20 million grant to improve pine forest management in the Southeastern U.S. The grant is aimed at helping landowners and foresters adapt to and mitigate global climate change.

The Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP): Improving Simulation of Climate Change Risk and Adaptation Strategies for the Agricultural Sector

AgMIP, led by a team from Columbia University, the University of Florida, and USDA-ARS, is a project that the USA and UK partner in and was acknowledged as a way forward to better understand the implications of climate change on food production and food security around the world and to develop adaptation strategies.

Climate Variability to Climate Change: Extension Challenges and Opportunities in the Southeast USA

This project, funded by USDA-NIFA, is led by UF expert Clyde Fraisse and involves the collaboration of

six organizations: The University of Florida, The Florida State University, Auburn University, The University of Georgia, Clemson University and The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. The goal of this project is to improve and broaden the Climate Extension efforts in agriculture for the Southeast in order to contribute to the existence of a vibrant and sustainable agricultural industry in the region that is capable of adapting to and mitigating risks associated with climate variability and change.

Optimizing Future Crop Yield Projections Using Weighted Multi-Model Ensemble Approaches - A New Framework for an Integrated Climate Application System

FSU-COAPS scientists Dong-Wook Shin, Steve Coker, and James O'Brien are the lead investigators on a new project to optimize crop yield projections using advanced climate modeling techniques. The scientists are receiving a 3-year award through the US Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture interagency climate change program to integrate state-of-the-art climate projections, crop modeling systems, and economic evaluations to develop a tool for studying agricultural production in the Southeast USA. This integrated framework will enable the scientists to assess the potential impact of future climate variability and trends on the production of economically-valuable crops in the region.

A State University System Climate Change Task Force: Science Addressing the Needs of Florida Agencies, Industry, and Citizenry

The University of Florida, Florida State University and Florida Atlantic University received a grant from the State University System Board of Governors to examine how climate change will progressively impact Florida's life and economy. The Florida Climate Change Task Force is holding its second workshop in Gainesville, on November 15, 2011. Four White Papers on the following climate change sectors will be presented: Biodiversity and Land Use, Climate Scenarios for Florida, Education, Training, and Outreach on Climate Change, Water Management and Coastal County Adaptation.

Role of Low Frequency Sea Surface Temperature Modes within a Changing Climate in Modulating Atlantic Hurricane Activity

The project seeks to put upper and lower bounds on North Atlantic hurricane activity in the mid to late 21st Century. To accomplish this project, FSU-COAPS scientists Tim La Row and Lydia Stefanova were awarded a grant from the Department of Education. They will use the latest projections of sea surface temperatures from several state-of-the-art climate models (CMIP5) as lower boundary conditions in the FSU/COAPS global atmospheric model. To obtain the bounds on hurricane activity we will impose the observed extreme positive and negative phases of the Atlantic Multi-decadal Variability in the sea surface temperatures.

Collaborative Development of Public Water Supply Utility Relevant Climate Information for Improved Operations and Planning

The UF Water Institute, the Florida Climate Institute, and the Southeast Climate Consortium along with representatives from 6 major public water supply

utilities and 5 Water Management Districts in Florida, were awarded a grant from NOAA/CPO to develop and implement a collaborative working group to increase the usability of climate variability, climate change and sea level rise data and models by public water supply utilities. The working group will operate as a social learning and collaboration platform and will employ participatory methods and a knowledge management framework to promote shared knowledge, data, models and decision-making tools among public water suppliers, water resource managers, climate scientists and hydrologic scientists.

Lesser Antilles Specific Assessment

Vasubandhu Misra (FSU-COAPS) was awarded an FCI grant to study the fidelity of the participating models in the International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment Report 5 (AR5) in simulating the 20th century mean AWP and its variability. Specifically this research proposes to examine the interannual and the decadal variability of the AWP in the 20th century simulations of the AR5 models. This study will then establish a hierarchy of AR5 models based on the fidelity of their 20th century simulation.

Impact of Climate on Dinoflagellates and Ciguatera Fish

Vasubandhu Misra (FSU-COAPS) was awarded an FCI grant to assess the impact of climate on Dinoflagellates and Ciguatera Fish.

The working hypothesis is that the seasonal cycle of the Ciguatera incidence in the U.S. Virgin Islands is largely dictated by the seasonal variations in surrounding meteorological and surface oceanography conditions. It is the relationship between the seasonal cycle of Ciguatera incidence and the Atlantic Warm Pool that will be interrogated in the modeling component.

Agenda



10:00am **Welcome and Poster Session**

12:00pm **Lunch Break**

1:00-1:20pm **PINEMAP - Mapping the Future of Southern Pine Management in a Changing World**
By Dr. Gary Peter, University of Florida



Gary Peter is a Professor at the School of Forest Resources and Conservation at the University of Florida.

Gary Peter uses a wide range of approaches to elucidate the genetic and molecular mechanisms that control stem growth, wood properties and to understand the ecological adaptations and the evolution of xylem structure and function in forest trees. In addition to this fundamental research, Gary Peter leads a commercial breeding program for southern pines with the Cooperative Forest Genetics Research Program. Gary Peter is a co-director of the Forest Biology Research Consortium whose objectives are to understand the mechanisms that control planted pine forest ecosystem productivity, health and sustainability.

1:20-1:40pm **Empirical Constraints on Future Sea Level Rise: Lessons from the Past**
By Dr. Andrea Dutton, University of Florida



Dr. Dutton is a carbonate geochemist and sedimentologist with a particular interest in paleoclimate and paleoceanography. Her current focus is to establish the behaviour of sea level and ice sheets during previous interglacials to better inform us about future sea level rise. She also has an ongoing interest in ancient greenhouse climates, and the response of the atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and lithosphere to climate change.

Dr. Dutton received her MS (2000) and PhD (2003) from the Department of Geological Sciences at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI. She spent the following 7 years in Australia as a Postdoctoral Fellow and a Research Fellow at the Research School of Earth Sciences in The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. She joined the faculty at the University of Florida in 2011.

1:40-2:00pm **Climate Without Borders: A Perspective on Florida's Climate**
by Dr. Vasubandhu Misra, Florida State University



Vasubandhu Misra is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science at the Florida State University. He is also affiliated with the Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies and the Florida Climate Institute. His primary research interest is in climate variability and

predictability. His ongoing research is dwelling on southeast US hydro-climate variability and change, oceanic variability in the Intra-Americas Seas, ENSO and monsoon variations.

2:00-2:20pm Sea Level Changes in the Southeastern United States. Past, Present, and Future
By Dr. Gary Mitchum, University of South Florida



Gary T. Mitchum is a Professor of Physical Oceanography in the College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida, where he has been since 1996. After receiving his PhD from the Department of Oceanography at the Florida State University in 1985, he spent 11 years in the Department of Oceanography at the University of Hawaii, first as a postdoctoral researcher and then as a member of the research faculty and as the Director of the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center. His research interests emphasize short-term climate changes, ranging from interannual variations such as ENSO, to decadal processes, to the long-term sea level rise problem. He has also done work on continental shelf dynamics, mesoscale eddy interactions with mean flows, internal tide generation and propagation, and physical controls on fisheries variables. Although he has used many types of data in his research, he is especially interested in analyses of tide gauge and satellite altimetric data, and notably proposed and developed the presently accepted method of calibrating altimeters via comparisons with the global tide gauge network.

2:20-2:40pm Economic, Policy and Other Issues Related to Climate and SLR Research in Florida
By Dr. Julie Harrington, Florida State University



Dr. Harrington holds a doctorate in Economics and a MS in Fisheries from Auburn University, and a BS in Fish and Wildlife Management from Montana State University. She is currently the Director of the Center for Economic Forecasting and Analysis (CEFA) at the Florida State University. Her current research interests are directed towards the areas of energy, environment, advanced technologies, economic development, and education economics. She is a member of the Florida Climate Institute, and is also a member of the FSU Institute for Energy Systems, Economics and Sustainability (IESES) <http://www.ieses.fsu.edu> formed within the Florida Energy Systems Consortium (FESC) with primary focus on energy economy and policy. She has recently conducted economic research in the areas of climate, sea level rise, clean energy, carbon pricing and utility management in Florida. She recently served as a member on the “Governor’s Action Team on Energy and Climate Change”. Dr. Harrington also works with statistical and economic input-output modeling software.

2:40-3:00pm Facilitated Discussion: FCI Directors

3:00-5:00pm Compass Training Workshop
By Dr. Heater M. Galindo, University of Washington



With a background in biological oceanography (B.S., University of Washington) and English literature (B.A., University of Washington), Heather Galindo went on to get her Ph.D. in biological sciences at Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station. Her research combined approaches from oceanographic modeling, field ecology, and population genetics to study how marine populations separate in space are connected by larval dispersal. Heather also researched how people develop mental models of this concept and worked at the intersection of science and policy in a state-level planning process. After completing a postdoctoral position in fisheries genetics at the University of Washington, Heather became the Assistant Director of Science at COMPASS where she has focused on advancing the science of the effects of climate change and ocean acidification on marine ecosystems.

The Communication Partnership for Science and the Sea (COMPASS) will introduce workshop participants to communication tools to help scientists distill facts and data into focused, relevant messages. Whether you are preparing to speak with a local newspaper reporter, a U.S. Senator, or a group of students, these tools can help you tailor your approach to fit your audience's needs, preconceptions, and level of familiarity with the subject matter. See the attached materials (pages 9 and 10).

3:00-5:00pm Poster session

5:00-6:15pm Reception

6:15-6:30pm Florida Climate Change Task Force Workshop Welcoming Remarks:
Dr. James Jones - University of Florida, Dr. Leonard Berry - Florida Atlantic University, Dr. Eric Chassignet and Dr. Lynn Dudley - Florida State University

6:30-7:30pm Keynote Address: Steve Seibert, Founder, The Seibert Law Firm

7:30-8:30pm Keynote Presentation: Virginia Burkett, Senior Science Advisor for Climate and Land Use Change, U.S. Geological Survey

8:30pm Adjourned



THE MESSAGE BOX

A simple tool for communicating complex ideas

The message box is a tool to help you organize your thoughts and identify key points. It is designed to be flexible – you can use it to help structure a presentation, organize a lecture, outline a proposal or prepare for an interview.

Your audience – a journalist, colleagues at a professional meeting or a group of second graders – can only absorb a limited amount of information. Your goal as an effective communicator is to identify the information that is critical to your audience. What *really* matters to them? What do they *need* to know?

Distill your information into concise messages by answering the following questions:

- o **Problem?** What is the main problem, conflict, or decision to be made?
- o **So What?** Why does this matter to my listener?
- o **Solutions?** What actions do I want my listener to take or support?
- o **Benefits?** How would my listener benefit by resolving this problem?

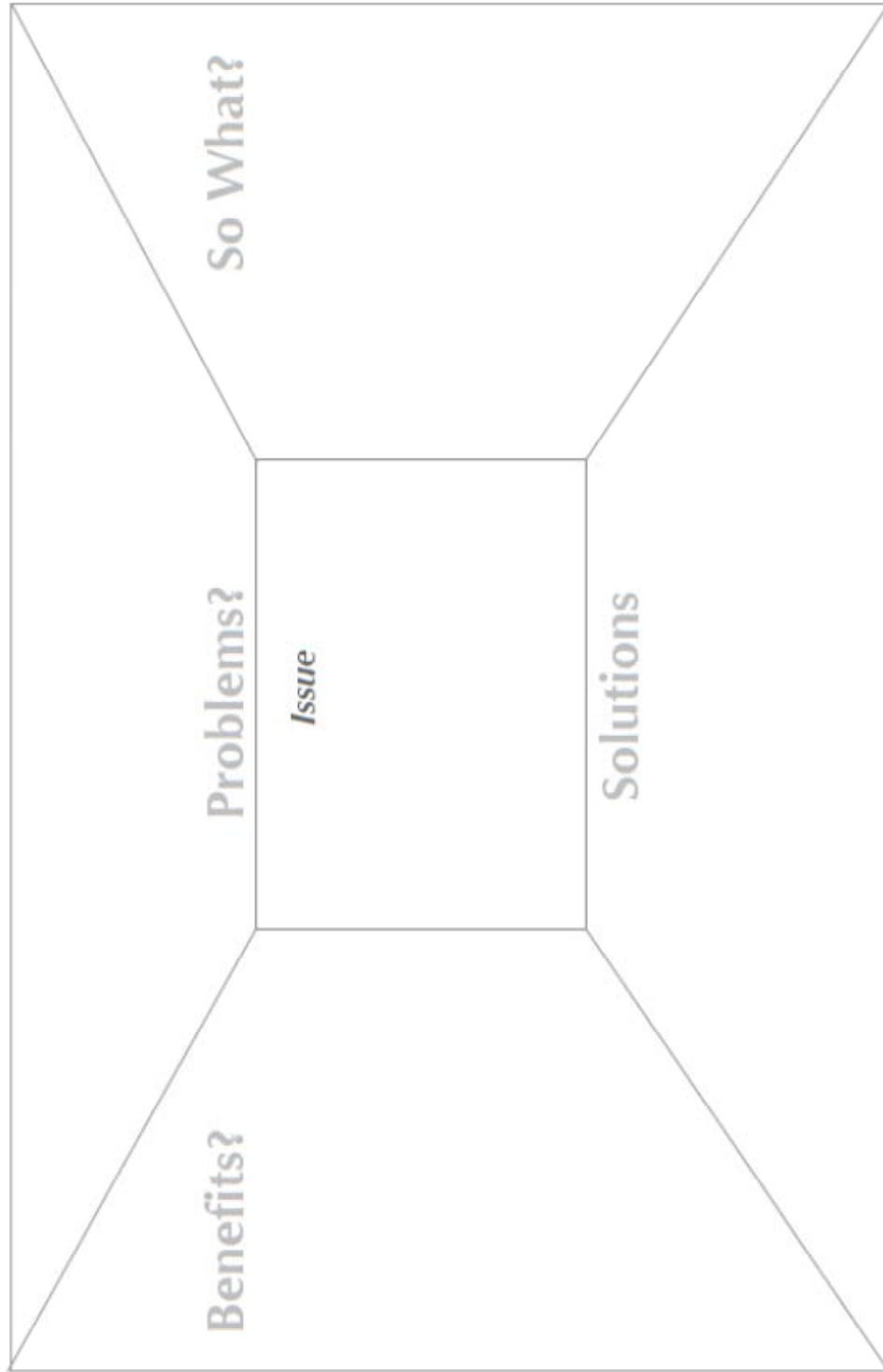
Consider these questions as your starting point. If the questions don't exactly apply, rework them to get at the heart of your story. Keep asking yourself: *So What? Why?* Always keep your audience's needs in mind.

Pare down your ideas so that each of these four questions can be answered in one or two concise sentences. If you still have a paragraph, keep working. Once you have honed in on your key points, list anecdotes, sound bites, and facts that reinforce your messages.

The principle is easy but it takes time to develop messages that work for you and your audience. Keep working to refine your messages, and keep practicing your delivery - both will evolve and get better over time.

The Message Box

Audience: _____



Attendee List



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Poster Session



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Alessio Russo, F. Escobedo, and S. Zerbe	Green spaces and urban climate regulation in cities of South Tyrol, Italy	alessio.russo@unibz.it
Aline Lopes, M. Kohmann, and C. Fraisse	Simulation of carbon storage scenarios using different forestry systems to offset greenhouse gas emissions from a typical cow-calf operation in Florida	alinepopes@gmail.com
Barry N. Heimlich	A Probabilistic Method for Estimating Sea Level Rise Exceedances	barryces@bellsouth.net
Wendy-Lin Bartels, C. Furman, C. Fraisse, D. Zierden, F. Royce, and B. Ortiz	Warming up to climate change: A strategy for engaging with agricultural stakeholders in the southeast USA	wendylin@ufl.edu
Brian Benschoter	Linking Ecosystem Form and Function: Implications of Disturbance in a Changing Climate	bbenscot@fau.edu
C.A. Nettleman, III, A. Abd-Elrahman, G. Barnes, T. Ruppert, B. Dewitt, and T. Fik	Understanding How Climate Change Will Affect Title to Coastal Property	charles.nettleman@gmail.com
Carlos A. Gonzalez Benecke, T. A. Martin, E. J. Jokela, W. P. Cropper Jr., and R. De La Torre	Flexible Hybrid Models of Life Cycle Carbon Balance for Southern Pines Plantations	cgonzabe@ufl.edu
Chelsea Fenn, E. E. Martin, and C. Basak	Seawater and Detrital Marine Pb Isotopes as Monitors of Antarctic Weathering Following Ice Sheet Development	cfenn@ufl.edu
Christa Zweig, H.F. Percival, M. Allen, W. Kitchens, and M. DeSa	Climate Change Effects in the Big Bend of Florida	czweig@ufl.edu
Dan Dourte, and C. Fraisse	Climate Variability to Climate Change: Extension Challenges and Opportunities in the Southeast USA	ddourte@ufl.edu
Danielle E. Ogurcak, and M. S. Ross	The Influence of Disturbance, Seasonality, and Hydrologic Controls on Plant Community Boundary Dynamics in the Lower Florida Keys	dogur001@fiu.edu
David Keellings, and P. Waylen	Investigating Drivers of Maximum Daily Temperatures in Florida using Extreme Value Analysis	nessie@ufl.edu
Di Tian, and C. J. Martinez	Forecasting regional reference evapotranspiration using Global Forecast System reforecasts	tiandi@ufl.edu
Donielle Rouse, B. Ziems, and C. Matyas	Comparison of storm-total rainfall among tropical cyclones with tracks similar to Irene (2011)	rouds@gmail.com
Jennifer Seavey, and S. Cameron Devitt	Between the river and the deep blue sea: how freshwater limitations aggravate sea level rise impacts.	jseavey@ufl.edu
Julie Lambert, B. Soden, R. Bleicher, and A. Edwards	Climate Science Investigations (CSI): South Florida Using NASA Data to Improve Young Adults' Climate and Science Literacy	aedwards@fau.edu
DW Shin, G. Baigorria, S. Cocke, J. J. OBrien, J. W. Jones, D. Letson, D. Solis, and N. Breuer	A new framework for an integrated climate application system	shin@coaps.fsu.edu
Eduardo Gelcer, T. Zortea, and C. Fraisse	An AgroClimate web tool for ARID (Agricultural Reference Index for Drought) monitoring	egelcer@ufl.edu
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