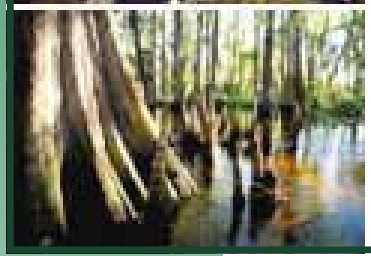

The Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment

May 15-20, 2006

Jupiter, Florida

Coordinated by

School of Communication & Multimedia Studies

FAU

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Our Sponsor

*The **Scripps Howard Foundation** is the corporate foundation of The E.W. Scripps Company. Our mission is to advance the cause of a free press through support of excellence in journalism, quality journalism education and professional development. The Foundation helps build healthy communities and improve the quality of life through support of sound educational programs, strong families, vital social services, enriching arts and culture, and inclusive civic affairs, with a special commitment to the communities in which Scripps does business.*

SCRIPPS HOWARD FOUNDATION

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Mission Statement

The Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment strives to deepen journalists' understanding of important and sometimes complicated environmental issues. Participants will find an array of experts on the agenda during our six days of classroom study, field trips and group discussion – among them scientists and researchers, government regulators, environmental lawyers and other journalists who write about environmental problems, public health and natural resources. South Florida is an ideal laboratory for environmental exploration. At least half our time will be spent examining some key natural features of the region — including the Everglades, Kissimmee River and Indian River Lagoon — and the impact of development, pollution and drainage. The agenda attempts to cover several bases, combining briefings on environmental issues, treks through some of Florida's key conservation lands, updates and primers on law and technology and writing and reporting pointers from experienced members of the Florida media. Although rooted in South Florida, the program is designed to be relevant beyond the region, offering broader and more generic information that should be useful to journalists working in other states. The Scripps Howard Foundation, and the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies at Florida Atlantic University, together make this program happen. We hope, by the week's end, to have helped mold a better-informed group of journalists, elevating the standards of environmental reporting.

Sincerely,

Neil Santaniello

Neil Santaniello, Institute Director

School of Communication and Multimedia Studies,
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters,
Florida Atlantic University

Monday, May 15, 2006

Noon **Registration and refreshments**

1:00-1:30pm **Welcome and introduction**

Dr. Susan Reilly, Director, School of Communication and Multimedia Studies , FAU

Dr. Leonard Berry, Director, FAU's Florida Center for Environ-

Environmental Law: the plume beneath our feet

1:30-2:30pm **Clean Water Act: Litigation and practical realities**

David Guest, Managing Attorney, EarthJustice Tallahassee

2:30-3:15pm **Endangered Species Act update**

John Kostyack, Senior Counsel, National Wildlife Federation

3:15-3:30pm *Break*

3:30-4:15pm **A toxin runs through it: Contamination cleanup technology**

Chris Herin, Principal and Hydrogeologist, GeoSyntec Consultants

Dr. Tom Peel, Principal and Branch manager, GeoSyntec Consultants

4:15-4:45pm **Brownfields: Redeveloping stigmatized industrial land**

Lee Hoefert, Southeast District Brownfields Coordinator, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

4:45-5:15pm *Break*

5:15-7:00pm Depart for dinner at local restaurant

7:00pm *Return to campus*

7:30-8:30pm ***Keynote Address:***

Global warming and hurricanes: What do observations of storms tell us?

Dr. Chris Landsea, Science and Operations Officer, National Hurricane Center

INSTITUTE AGENDA

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

6:30am *Breakfast on campus*

7:30-8:45am *Travel to USDA Invasive Plant Research Laboratory in Davie*

Invaders from afar: bio-control

8:45-9:30am Tour of the biological control laboratory

Dr. Ted Center, Team Leader and Lab Director, Agricultural Research Service/USDA

9:30-9:55am **The Green Menace: Plants that ate the Everglades and other natural areas**

Mike Bodle, Senior Environmental Scientist, South Florida Water Management District

9:55-10:20am **Pythons and swamp eels and lionfish, oh my: Alien animals, foreign fish**

Tom Jackson, Fisheries Biologist, NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service

10:20-10:45am **Media case study: "Burmese python wrestles alligator" and the quieter exotic species invasions that don't make headlines**

Skip Snow, Wildlife Biologist, Everglades National Park

10:45-10:55am *Break*

10:55-11:20am **Debugging unnatural landscapes with bugs: the bio-control method**

Cressida Silvers, Project TAME Coordinator, Agricultural Research Service

11:20-11:50am *Round table discussion*

Return of the natives: If exotic species control appears to be a never-ending job, why bother?

Discussion group: *Bodle, Silvers, Snow, Jackson, institute participants*

11:50-1:30pm *Lunch on the bus, travel to the central Everglades for airboat trip*

The water management balancing act

1:30-3:30pm **The Every-Glades: Managing a water delivery system for multiple needs — wildlife, flood control, water supply and protected species mandates — and the solutions proposed by Everglades restoration**

Dr. Fred Sklar, Chief Scientist - Everglades Division, South Florida Water Management District

Paul Linton, Chief Consulting Engineer, South Florida Water Management District

Jamie L. Serino, Director of Everglades Division, South Florida Water Management District

3:30-4:00pm *Travel to Everglades National Park*

4:00-5:30pm **Shark Valley Field Trip**

Dr. Sue Perry, Staff Ecologist, Everglades National Park

Maria Thomson, Interpretative Ranger, Everglades National Park

5:30-7:30pm *Travel back to campus*

7:30pm *Dinner on your own*

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

7:00am Breakfast on campus

8:00-8:45am *Travel to Stormwater Treatment Area 1 East*

Re-engineering nature: The phosphorus trap, and putting the kinks back into a river

8:45-9:30am **Green filtration: using aquatic plants and algae to cleanse agricultural and suburban runoff**

Christy Combs, Senior Environmental Analyst, South Florida Water Management District

9:30-11:30am *Travel to the Kissimmee River*

Alana Edwards, Education and Training Coordinator, Center for Environmental Studies

11:30am–noon **Riverwoods: Restoration that worked – Kissimmee River restoration overview**

Loisa Kerwin, Riverwoods Director, FAU's Center for Environmental Studies

Noon-3:00pm **Reconnecting the historic Kissimmee – a three-hour boat tour through the first phase of river restoration**

Joseph Koebel, Senior Environmental Scientist, South Florida Water Management District

Lunch on the boat

3:00-3:30pm **Downstream: Lessons learned from the degradation of Lake Okeechobee**

Dr. Paul Gray, Science Coordinator for the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Program, Audubon of Florida

3:30-4:00pm *Travel to Lake Okeechobee*

4:00-5:00pm **More lake biology: How a fishery starts to collapse**

Donald Fox, Fisheries Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Steve Gornak, Fisheries Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

5:00pm *Dinner at Lightsey's Seafood Restaurant*

6:00pm *Depart for Jupiter campus*

Thursday, May 18, 2006

7:00am *Breakfast on campus*

Green Ink: Environmental reporting lessons

8:00-8:45am **Examples of environmental stories using data from the web and government agencies**

John Maines, Investigative Reporter/Researcher, Sun-Sentinel

8:45-9:30am **Investigative example: St. Petersburg Times series on disappearing wetlands**

Craig Pittman, Environmental Reporter, St. Petersburg Times

Matthew Waite, Investigative Reporter, St. Petersburg Times

9:30-9:45am *Break*

9:45-10:30am **Investigative example: Naples Daily News "Gulf in Peril" series**

Jeremy Cox, Reporter, Naples Daily News

Cathy Zollo, Reporter, Sarasota Herald-Tribune

10:30am- Noon **Workshop: Public records with an environmental focus**

Neil Reisner, Associate Professor, Florida International University; former training director, Investigative Reporters and Editors

Noon *Lunch on campus*

12:30-1:30pm **How TV news reporters approach the environment beat: Talk and tape**

Jeff Burnside, Reporter, WTVJ NBC6 (EcoWatch)

Jay Cashmere, Reporter, WPTV Newschannel 5 (Underwater Wednesdays)

Paving Paradise for a Parking Lot: Growth and Development

1:30pm **Introduction to sprawl and "smart growth"**

Marie York, Associate Director, Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions

2:00-3:00pm **Growth management and environmental permitting: What the press should know**

Richard Grosso, Executive Director/ General Counsel, Everglades Law Center, Nova Southeastern University

3:00-3:15pm *Break*

3:15-4:00pm **NIMBY TO YIMBY: Can infrastructure embrace the environment and community?**

Michael Singer, Visiting Professor of Comparative Studies, Florida Atlantic University

4:00-5:30pm **Abacoa, a new urbanist approach to environmental management**

Tour leader: Ed Maietta, Research Associate, FAU's Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions

5:30pm *Dinner on your own*

Friday, May 19, 2006

7:00am	*Breakfast on campus*
8:00-8:15am	*Travel to Loggerhead Marinelife Center*
8:15-9:15am	**Beach digs in danger: Protecting sea turtles on developed coastlines** *Larry Wood, Director, Loggerhead Marinelife Center*
9:15-10:15am	*Travel to Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution*
10:30-11:30am	Overview; campus and research boat tours
11:30am	*Lunch*
12:30-1:30pm	**Harbor Branch staff briefings:** **Diseased ocean mammals** *Dr. Gregory Bossart, Director, Marine Mammal Research* **Pollution affecting coral reefs** *Dr. Brian Lapointe, Senior Scientist* **Drugs from the sea** *Dr. Peter McCarthy, Associate Director, Biomedical Marine Research Division*
1:30-1:50pm	***Sea turtles as ambassadors for conservation*** *Dr. Blair Witherington, Research Scientist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute*
2:15-3:30pm	*Pontoon boat tour of the Indian River Lagoon*
4:30-5:30pm	*Travel to Jupiter campus*
5:30-6:00pm	*Break*
6:00-8:30pm	*Dinner at the beach, Nature Center pavilion, John D. MacArthur Beach State Park*
8:30pm	Sea turtle walk

Saturday, May 20, 2006

7:00am	*Breakfast on campus*
8:00-8:45am	**Repairing coral reefs damaged by ship groundings** *Rick Spadoni, vice-president, Coastal Planning and Engineering*
8:45-9:30am	**Computer modeling and its predictive strengths and weaknesses for managers of water and natural areas** *Dr. Jayantha Obeysekera, Director of Hydrologic and Environmental Systems Modeling, South Florida Water Management District*
9:30-9:45am	*Break*
9:45-10:30am	**Environmental ethics: environmental justice, sustainability and environmental health** *Dr. Robin N. Fiore, Adelaide R. Snyder Professor of Ethics, Florida Atlantic University*
10:30-11:45am	**Roundtable discussion: Improving communications between reporters and scientists** Participants: *Mark Schrope, Science Writer, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution* *David Fleshler, Environmental Reporter, South Florida Sun-Sentinel* *Hank Smith, Wildlife Biologist, Florida Park Service; Affiliate Research Assistant Professor, Florida Atlantic University* *Dr. Nick Aumen, Aquatic Ecologist, National Park Service* *Dr. Barry Rosen, Assistant Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service* *Curtis Morgan, Environmental Reporter, The Miami Herald*
11:45am-noon	*Break*
noon	*Lunch on campus*
1:00-2:00pm	**Closing talk — The Swamp: The Everglades, Florida, and how they became a book** *Michael Grunwald, reporter for The Washington Post and author of* ***The Swamp***
2:00pm	*Program ends*

Speaker Bios

All speakers for the conference are listed in alphabetical order.

Keynote Speaker | Field Presenters | Formal Presentations | Roundtable Participant

Aumen

Berry

Bodle

Bossart

Dr. Nicolas Aumen, *Scientist, U.S. Interior Department*, nick_aumen@nps.gov

Nick Aumen is an aquatic ecologist for Everglades National Park, and oversees an interagency team of scientists and engineers tracking the progress of the south Florida ecosystem restoration program. His team, located at the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge near West Palm Beach, Florida, assesses the potential impacts of restoration programs on Everglades National Park and other sensitive federal lands. Formerly, Nick was the Research Director at the South Florida Water Management District in West Palm Beach, directing a team of 120-plus scientists and engineers conducting research in support of ecosystem restoration.

Dr. Leonard Berry, *Director, FAU's Center for Environmental Studies*, berry@fau.edu

Leonard Berry earned his Doctorate from the University of Bristol, England, with studies focusing on East and South Asia tropical environment. Twelve years residence in Eastern Africa at various university positions drew him toward an interest in natural resource management, rural development applied problems and regional planning problems. At Clark University, Massachusetts, in 1970 he served as Professor of Geography, Graduate School of Geography Director and Provost before leaving Clark for Florida Atlantic University in 1987. In 1994 he was appointed Director of the Florida Center for Environmental Studies (CES) a statewide center of the Florida State University System which focuses on critical environmental management issues of the state and of tropical, subtropical ecosystems worldwide. Dr. Berry has authored/edited 21 books, over 250 professional papers and reports and has been consultant for many environmental development agencies.

Mike Bodle, *Senior Environmental Scientist, South Florida Water Management District, mbodle@sfwmd.gov*

Mike Bodle has been a South Florida aquatic biologist for more than 20 years. He holds a B.S. from Notre Dame and an M.S. from Florida Institute of Technology. A past chair of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, he works as a senior environmental scientist for the South Florida Water Management District specializing for the past 18 years in vegetation management.

Dr. Gregory Bossart, *Director, Marine Mammal Research and Conservation, Harbor Branch*, gbosart@HBOI.EDU

Dr. Gregory Bossart has spent the last 27 years working in marine mammal and avian medicine and wildlife pathology. He has 80 publications focused primarily on the pathologic basis of disease in wild animals. He received his doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Pennsylvania. He has helped characterize the first viral disease in manatees and was responsible for developing the first immunohistochemical technique for diagnosing brevetoxicosis in marine mammals and birds. This diagnostic methodology is now being tested in humans exposed to brevetoxins. Dr. Bossart was awarded the Dean's Clinical Research Award for his pioneering work at the University of Miami School of Medicine. He has collaborative research projects with the National Marine Fisheries Service, NOS, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Miami Museum of Science.

Jeff Burnside, *Reporter and Creator, NBC6's EcoWatch segment*, jeff.burnside@nbc.com

Jeff Burnside has been in the news business for more than 20 years; as a reporter, anchor or manager in cities such as Seattle, Boston and now Miami. He was one of the reporters for the WTVJ NBC 6 Decision 2004 team and has covered presidential politics from Carter, Bush 1, Clinton and Bush 2, as well as local and state politics. He has served on numerous panels covering political issues, as well as media ethics and environmental issues, his other area of focused coverage. As such, Burnside created NBC 6's award-winning EcoWatch segment. He was a Fellow at the Metcalf Institute for Environmental Reporting at the University of Rhode Island, and has been an invited speaker at the Pew Marine Fellows global conference three years, and twice at the Aldo Leopold Leadership Seminar. He is serving on a National Science Foundation commission examining climate change and the media. Burnside won a Packard/Seaweb grant to cover the International Coral Reef Symposium in Bali, Indonesia and the Marine Conservation and Biology conference in San Francisco. He's the recipient of more than 20 awards including three regional Emmy's.

Jay Cashmere, *Reporter, WPTV-Channel 5*, jcashmere@wptv.com

Jay was born in New Orleans, LA and grew up 50 miles north of the city in Folsom, LA. Jay graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in Broadcasting and minors in English and Geography. Jay has won two Associated Press awards for best reporting and feature reporting. In 2004 he was nominated for a Suncoast Emmy award on "Destructive Tires," one of his scuba diving reports featured in his yearly series "Underwater Wednesday's." That series also earned Jay a community service award from the US Coral Reef Task Force in 2004 for increasing public awareness on coral reef conservation.

Dr. Ted Center, *Research Leader, Agricultural Research Service* tcenter@saa.ars.usda.gov

Dr. Ted Center's research career began in 1961 at the Dayton Museum of Natural History where he worked for over 10 years. In 1970, after receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology at Northern Arizona University, he began work on a Master of Science degree in Biology dealing with the biology, ecology and evolution of seed beetles (Bruchidae) and their host plants. In 1971, he began at the University of Florida and completed a PhD in Entomology in 1976 while working at the ARS biological control quarantine facility. Dr. Center's dissertation dealt with the ecology and effects of a native insect on water hyacinth. He then accepted a post-doctoral position to expand this research by investigating the effects of introduced biological control agents on water hyacinth growth processes. This was followed by a personal services contract with USDA-ARS to investigate the feasibility of initiating a biological control project on the submersed aquatic weed *Myriophyllum spicatum*. This work took him to Italy where he was based for several months at the European Biological Control of Weeds Laboratory in Rome. He has conducted research on the biological control of aquatic weeds for the U.S. Department of Agriculture from February 1978 to the present time and has been the research leader of the Aquatic Weed Research Unit since May 1994. His research has led him to numerous countries around the world including Italy, Switzerland, Germany, England, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Belize, Panama, Brazil, Argentina, Jamaica, Haiti, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas and Canada.

Christy Combs, Senior Environmental Analyst*, South Florida Water Management District*, ccombs@sfwmd.gov

Christy Combs has a background in environmental conservation and a Master's Degree in Biology from FIU. For the past eight years, she has worked on management, development, and research of Storm Water Treatment Areas (STAs). Current responsibilities include managing approximately 14,000 acres of federally-mandated constructed wetlands designed to reduce nutrient load from stormwater before released into the natural areas of Florida. Integration of wetland function, biology, engineering, and vegetation control are examples of management concerns affecting STAs. Additionally, Ms. Combs also acts as the wildlife coordinator for Environmental Operations addressing issues associated with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Endangered Species Act.

Jeremy Cox, *Reporter, Naples Daily News*, jgcox@naplesnews.com

Jeremy Cox grew up on one of the South Florida Water Management District's main canals in Broward County, so it's no surprise that environmental issues would turn into the focus of his career. With a journalism degree from the University of Florida and a handful of internships under my belt, he joined the Naples Daily News in January 2002 as a city government reporter. For 15 months, he was part of a group of NDN reporters that investigated the Gulf of Mexico's ills, which led to the publication of the 15-part Gulf in Peril series. The series won several awards, including a first place in the Scripps Howard Foundation Award's environmental reporting category. When the project's leader, Cathy Zollo, set sail to the Sarasota Herald-Tribune last summer, he was tapped to fill her place as the paper's oceans/environmental reporter.

Speaker Bios

Edwards

Fiore

Fleshler

Fox

Gornak

Alana Edwards, *Education & Training Coordinator, FAU's Center for Environmental Studies*, aedwards@fau.edu

Alana graduated with her master's in Environmental Science from FAU in 2001. Since that time she has worked as Education and Training Coordinator for CES. For several years she was stationed at the Riverwoods Field Laboratory located on a remnant section of the Kissimmee River where she educated students, teachers and environmental professionals about the Kissimmee River Restoration project. She is currently working on the Jupiter campus of FAU where she is involved in a variety of projects including the Robert J. Huckshorn Arboretum and the Environmental Summer Camp.

Dr. Robin N. Fiore, *Adelaide Snyder Professor of Ethics and associate professor of Philosophy, Florida Atlantic University*, rfiore@fau.edu

Dr. Robin N. Fiore is Adelaide R. Snyder Professor of Ethics at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton; her specialties are ethics, the environment, and the social implications of science and technology. She serves as Special Assistant to the Dean for Ethics Initiatives and directs certificate programs in Environmental Studies and in Ethics, Law and Society. Dr. Fiore earned her Doctorate in Philosophy from Georgetown University in Washington, DC. She also studied religion and ethics at Drew University Graduate and Theological School, Madison, New Jersey. Previously, Fiore was senior consultant and a principal of an international actuarial and employee benefits consulting firm.

David Fleshler, *Environmental Reporter, Sun-Sentinel*, dflesher@sun-sentinel.com

David Fleshler has covered the environment for the South Florida Sun-Sentinel for the past six years. Before that, he covered Broward County government and the city of Hollywood. A native of Buffalo, N.Y., Fleshler has a bachelor's degree in philosophy from New York University and a master's in journalism from Columbia University.

Donald Fox, *Biological Scientist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission*, donald.fox@myfwc.com

Donald Fox is a native of northeast Tennessee who received his BS degree from East Tennessee State University and his MS from Tennessee Technological University. Before coming to Florida he was employed by Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency . He joined the Okeechobee Project in 1982 as a Biological Scientist. He has been with conservation commission for 23 years, all based in Okeechobee. He has participated in and supervised numerous research and management projects associated with Lake Okeechobee and the Kissimmee River.

Steve Gornak, *Biological Scientist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission*, steven.gornak@fwc.state.fl.us

Paul Gray, *Scientist, National Audubon Socieity*, audubon@okeechobee.com

Paul Gray is the Science Coordinator of Audubon of Florida's Lake Okeechobee Watershed Program. In this role, he works with technical and policy teams designing and implementing the various restoration plans in the region, including Everglades restoration, the Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan, Kissimmee Chain of Lakes Long Term Management Plan, and the Kissimmee River Restoration. Audubon believes that only by making Lake Okeechobee's watershed healthier will we be able to ensure the health of the lake. Paul's educational background includes a BS from the University of Missouri, a master's from Texas Tech University on wetland ecology, and a doctorate from the University of Florida, working on Florida's Mottled Duck in the Okeechobee region. He worked three years for the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission before joining Audubon.

Richard Grosso, *Executive Director/General Counsel, Everglades Law Center, Inc.—Nova Southeastern University*, grosso@nsu.law.nova.edu

Since 1996, Richard Grosso has led a non-profit, public interest law firm representing clients on major legal cases and public policy decisions affecting the South Florida ecosystem. His clients include major environmental organizations. He lectures and writes frequently on legal and policy issues concerning the environment and land use. Before that, he served s the legal director of 1000 Friends of Florida for six years and an Assistant General Counsel for the Florida Department of Community Affairs and the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation. Among other honors, he was named 2005's "Most Effective Environmental Lawyer" by Daily Business Review and 2002's Everglades Coalition Conservationist of the Year by the Everglades Coalition.

Michael Grunwald, *Reporter, Washington Post*

Michael is a reporter on the national staff of *The Washington Post*. He has won the George Polk Award for national reporting, the Worth Bingham Prize for investigative reporting, and numerous other awards, including the Society of Environmental Journalists Award for his in-depth reporting on the Everglades. In March 2006, Simon & Schuster published his first book, *The Swamp: The Everglades, Florida, and the Politics of Paradise.*

David Guest, *Managing Attorney, EarthJustice Tallahassee*, dguest@earthjustice.org

David Guest is the managing attorney of Earthjustice's Tallahassee office. In 1978, he graduated from the University of Chicago Law School where he was a member of the law review. He has a B.Sc. in Government and Economics from Florida State University. In his spare time, he takes friends out on his 1968 hand-built pontoon boat to watch birds, manatees and other wildlife.

Chris Herin, *Prinicipal hydrogeologist, GeoSyntec Consultants*, cherin@GeoSyntec.com

Chris Herin, P.G., is a principal hydrogeologist with GeoSyntec Consultants, an environmental firm with over 30 offices in the U.S., including offices in Boca Raton (headquarters), Titusville, Tampa and Jacksonville. Mr. Herin oversees GeoSyntec's Environmental Management practice in Florida. He has over eighteen years of experience as an environmental consultant in Florida. Much of his experience has included: assistance with various environmental litigation matters; assessment and remediation of contaminated soil/groundwater (metals, pesticides, petroleum, and solvents); environmental compliance and due diligence; and development on environmentally impaired property. In his practice, he has worked with federal, state, and local governments, telephone, electric and water utilities, and companies involved with agriculture (nurseries, citrus, sugar cane, vegetables, livestock, golf courses), manufacturing (fertilizer, pesticide, aerospace, automotive, printing, chemical, building products, medical), railroad, marine and air transportation, petroleum distribution, dry cleaning, recycling (hazardous, non-hazardous waste), landfills, and property development/management.

Speaker Bios

Hoefert

Jackson

Kerwin

Koebel

Kostyack

Lee Hoefert, *Brownfields Coordinator, Southeast District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection*, lee.hoefert@dep.state.fl.us

Lee Hoefert is the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Southeast District Brownfields Coordinator. The Brownfields Redevelopment Program is an environmental program that provides incentives and liability protection to parties willing to redevelop land that may require environmental cleanup. Lee's primary responsibility is the management of cases associated with the assessment and remediation of contaminated sites. Previously, Lee was the Southeast District Solid Waste Program Manager for 5 1/2 years. While Lee was in the Solid Waste Program, he permitted and monitored solid waste facilities that included landfills, waste to energy plants, and recycling operations. Prior to DEP, Lee worked in the electric power generation industry for 14 years. Lee has a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin and a master's degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of South Florida.

Tom Jackson, *Fisheries Biologist, NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service*, tom.jackson@noaa.gov

Loisa Kerwin, *Riverwoods Director, FAU's Center for Environmental Studies*, lkerwin@strato.net

Loisa Kerwin's expertise is in the development and implementation of creative education and outreach programs that focus on environmental issues. Complementing her educational expertise, Ms. Kerwin has over 15 years of management experience in which she has supervised and facilitated environmental education programs for student, teacher and adult audiences. In 1996 she joined the Florida Center for Environmental Studies (CES) at FAU. In partnership with the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), she implemented and developed educational programs highlighting water and natural resource conservation and preservation. In 2000, she was promoted to Director of the Riverwoods Field Labortory (RFL), a comprehensive Education and Research facility managed in partnership with SFWMD. Over the past seven years, she has developed a variety of field-based education programs including Student Field Studies, Student Service-learning and Volunteer Program, Student Summer Camp Programs, Water Resources Education for Teachers, Eco-tours and Environmental Training for Adults and Professionals, and Under-served Community Outreach Programs.

Joe Koebel, *Senior Environmental Scientist, South Florida Water Management District - Kissimmee Division*, jkoebel@sfwmd.gov

Joseph is a senior environmental scientist with the Kissimmee Division. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Science from North Carolina State University and a Master's of Science in Biology from The University of Alabama. Joe has been a part of the Kissimmee team since 1993 and is primarily responsible for assessing responses of aquatic invertebrate communities to restoration and collaborates with other Kissimmee Division staff to assess response of amphibian and reptile communities.

John Kostyack, *Senior Counsel, National Wildlife Federation*, kostyack@nwf.org

John Kostyack is Senior Counsel and Director of Wildlife Conservation Campaigns in the National Wildlife Federation's Washington, D.C. office. An expert on the Endangered Species Act, he is responsible for overseeing NWF's advocacy on endangered species before Congress, the federal agencies and the courts. He also oversees NWF's work on invasive species and state wildlife action plans. John serves as counsel for NWF and other conservation groups in a variety of legal initiatives, including cases to protect the ivory-billed woodpecker in Arkansas, to protect the Florida panther in the Everglades and to restore the gray wolf in the northeastern U.S. John frequently writes and lectures on meeting the challenges of conserving U.S. wildlife. He is the author, with Professor Reid Ewing of the University of Maryland, of Endangered by Sprawl: How Runaway Development Threatens America's Wildlife (January 2005), the first national study to quantify the impact of sprawl on the nation's biological diversity.

Dr. Chris Landsea, *Science and Operations Officer, National Hurricane Center*

Dr. Chris Landsea is the Science and Operations Officer at the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami. In addition to forecasting and training duties, he is responsible for administration and evaluation of Joint Hurricane Testbed projects, which may be implemented operationally to assist in the monitoring and forecasting of hurricanes. Dr.Landsea's main expertise is in seasonal forecasting of hurricanes, in hurricane climate variability and change, and in testing applied research projects for possible use in weather forecasting.

Dr. Brian Lapointe, *Senior Scientist, Harbor Branch*, lapointe@hboi.edu

Brian E. Lapointe obtained a BS in Biology from Boston University (1973), a MS in Environmental Science from the University of Florida (1979), and a Ph.D. in Marine Biology from the University of South Florida (1982). Brian worked for Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (Cape Cod, MA) and Skidaway Institute of Oceanography (Savannah, GA) in his early career and has been a Research Scientist with Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution (Ft. Pierce, FL) since 1983. Brian has extensive experience in water quality issues in South Florida and the Caribbean region. He has authored over 70 peer-reviewed publications in scientific journals and was a contributing author to the book *Clean Coastal Waters: Understanding and Reducing Nutrient Pollution* (2000, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC).

Paul Linton, *Engineer, South Florida Water Management District*, plinton@sfwmd.gov

Paul Linton has worked for over eight years with the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) as a an Engineer providing engineering evaluation, conceptual design and modeling for support of the Northern Palm Beach County Comprehensive Water Management Plan, the Central & Southern Florida Project Comprehensive Review Study (RESTUDY), Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan, and the Water Preserve Areas Feasibility Study and technical leadership for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). Currently, he is the Project Manager for the Combined Structural and Operational Plan (CSOP) for the Modified Water Deliveries (MWD) to Everglades National Park (ENP) and C-111 Canal projects.

Ed Maietta, *Research Associate, Abacoa Project, FAU*, emaietta@fau.edu

Ed Maietta, executive director of the Abacoa Partnership for Community, joined the Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions as an Associate in Research for the Abacoa Project in October 2000. He has expertise in corporate and non-profit management, educational program design and implementation, and career and professional development and counseling. Ed serves on the Advisory Board of Roger Dean Stadium, Corn Maya (serving the Guatemalan-Mayan Community) and the Abacoa Greenway Committee. Ed and his family reside in the New Urban community of Abacoa.

John Maines, *Investigative Reporter/Researcher, Sun-Sentinel*, jmaines@sun-sentinel.com

John Maines has been the computer-assisted reporting specialist with the South Florida Sun-Sentinel since 1998, and oversees the newspaper's database-related projects. Past projects include the statewide analysis of the voting problems in the 2000 presidential election; a database tracking the 9/11 terrorists, the 2001 anthrax attack on Boca Raton-based American Media Inc. and, more recently, the questionable disaster payments by FEMA following Florida's four hurricanes in 2004 and hurricanes Katrina and Wilma in 2005. Prior to 1998, Maines was a newspaper reporter for 21 years, working at the *Massena Observer*, *The Ithaca Journal*, and *The Clarion-Ledger* in Jackson, Miss. He has also been a contributing writer for *Washington Technology* newspaper and American *Demographics* magazine. He has won several national journalism awards and was a finalist for the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting.

Speaker Bios

McCarthy

Morgan

Obeysekera

Peel

Perry

Peter McCarthy, *Associate Director, Biomedical Marine Research Division, Harbor Branch*, pmccarthy@hboi.edu

Dr. Peter McCarthy was educated in England and received his Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Kent at Canterbury. Following a post-doctoral fellowship at Smith Kline Beckman working with the Natural Products Discovery group, Dr. McCarthy joined Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution in 1985 and is currently the Associate Director of Biomedical Marine Research and Head of Microbiology. Research projects taking place in his lab include the identification of the symbiotic microbes present in deep-water marine sponges and the development of novel isolation methods to increase the numbers of microbes that can be cultured. Dr. McCarthy has over 40 publications in the scientific literature and is a former President of the Florida Branch of the American Society for Microbiology.

Curtis Morgan, *Environmental Reporter, Miami Herald*, cmorgan@miamiherald.com

Curtis Morgan, 48, covers the environment for the Miami Herald. He has worked at the Herald in a variety of reporting positions since 1987 and previously worked as a reporter or editor at Florida Today, USA Weekend magazine and the Virgin Islands Daily News. He is a native of Miami and a graduate of the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Jayantha Obeysekera, *Department Director, South Florida Water Management District*, jobey@sfwmd.gov

Jayantha Obeysekera, Director of the Hydrologic & Environmental Systems Modeling Department at SFWMD, holds a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from University of Sri Lanka, M. Eng. from University of Roorkee, India, and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University with specialization in water resources. Prior to joining SFWMD in 1987, he worked as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at Colorado State University. He also has taught courses in the water resources area at George Washington University, Washington, D.C. and at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. He has also held the position of Courtesy Associate Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of South Florida in Tampa. During his career, Dr. Obeysekera has published numerous research articles in refereed journals in the field of water resources. He is a co-principal investigator for a US NSF funded project on the investigation of the tsunami impacts on coastal water resources in Sri Lanka.

Dr. Tom Peel, *GeoSyntec Consultants*, tpeel@GeoSyntec.com

Dr. Tom Peel has over 20 years experience as a consultant, specializing in contaminated site assessment and remediation. He has been involved in the assessment and remediation of more than 400 sites during his career, under CERCLA/Superfund, RCRA, and voluntary clean-up programs. His clients have included Fortune 50 companies, federal, state, and local governments, attorneys, as well as other public and private firms. Dr. Peel is currently the Managing Principal for GeoSyntec's Florida/Gulf Coast Region, responsible for over 100 professionals in the geoenvironmental fields. He received his Ph.D. and M.S. in Environmental Engineering at Duke University and his Bachelors of Science in Environmental Resource Management from Penn State University. Dr. Peel has also served as an Adjunct Professor in the Civil/Environmental Engineering Department at the University of Central Florida, and as an instructor for the Florida Chamber of Commerce Environmental Summer School.

Dr. Sue Perry, *Ecologist, Everglades National Park, Sue_Perry@nps.gov*

Sue Perry has been an ecologist at the South Florida Natural Resources Center, part of Everglades National Park (ENP), for the last 9 years Previous to her work in Florida, she was a professor in the federal Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at West Virginia University. She worked as the lead ecologist for ENP on the Restudy and supervised a group of aquatic biologists who worked on developing methodologies for monitoring fish and invertebrates. She is now working primarily on habitat restoration in developed areas of ENP and on butterfly reintroductions and monitoring. Currently she is planting butterfly host and nectar plants at Shark Valley and Everglades City for interpretive purposes.

Craig Pittman, *Environmental Reporter, St. Petersburg Times*, craig@sptimes.com

Craig Pittman, 45, has been a newspaper reporter since 1981. He has spent the past seven years covering environmental issues for Florida's largest daily paper, the *St. Petersburg Times.* He graduated from Troy State University in Alabama, where his muckraking for the student paper prompted an agitated dean to brand him "the most destructive force on campus'' and a grand jury once subpoenaed him in an unsuccessful attempt to get him to name his sources. Since then he has covered a variety of newspaper beats, including courts, politics and local government, as well as such disasters as hurricanes, wildfires and the Florida Legislature. He has worked for the *Times* since 1989. In 2004 he won the Waldo Proffitt Award for Distinguished Environmental Journalism in Florida for stories revealing a secret plan by the state's business leaders to transfer water from sleepy North Florida to booming South Florida. The stories caused such an uproar that Governor Jeb Bush scuttled the plan. This year he and colleague Matthew Waite shared third place in the inaugural Philip Meyer Award competition for their series on Florida's vanishing wetlands.

Dr. Susan Reilly, *Director of the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies, Florida Atlantic University,* sreilly@fau.edu

Susan Reilly is the Director of the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies at Florida Atlantic University and regularly teaches the Introduction to Graduate Studies class. An established mass communication scholar as well as a writer/producer of public television documentaries, she has published widely on international media, international public television, and critical pedagogy issues. Her co-authored books include *Rethinking Media Literacy: A Critical Pedagogy of Representation, Media Knowledge: Popular Culture, Pedagogy and Critical Citizenship.*

Neil Reisner, *Associate professor, Florida International University; former training director, Investigative Reporters & Editors,* reisnern@fiu.edu

Neil Reisner, associate professor of journalism at Florida International University, is a veteran journalist and trainer with close to 25 years of experience. Before coming to FIU, Reisner was a reporter and/or editor at the Bergen (NJ) Record, the Miami Herald and the Miami Daily Business Review. He has also taught at Columbia and Rutgers Universities and served as training director for Investigative Reporters & Editors, where he led seminars throughout the U.S. and abroad. Recently dubbed an "Internet Hero" by Poynter Institute internet columnist Sree Sreenivasan, Reisner is a frequent presenter at journalism conferences around the country. He is a member of the Forum on Media Diversity at Louisiana State University.

Dr. Barry Rosen, *Assistant Field Supervisor Everglades Restoration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*, barry_rosen@fws.gov

Dr. Barry Rosen holds a B.S. in Botany from the University of Connecticut, an M.A. in Biology (Aquatic) from St. Cloud State University (Minnesota) and a Ph. D. in Biology from Bowling Green State University (Ohio). His area of expertise is in freshwater biology, with emphasis on algal physiology since 1974. He worked with the EPA's Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) on freshwater lakes, rivers and wetlands. He was an American Association for the Advancement of Science-EPA Environmental Science Fellow, working on the impact of pollutant discharges to the marine environment from public-owned treatment works. He was one of the original contributors to the restoration efforts for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) in South Florida. He joined the US Fish and Wildlife Service in June 2002, as Assistant Field Supervisor and is the manager for the restoration efforts, including, CERP in South Florida.

Dr. Mark Schrope, *Science Writer, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution*, schrope@hboi.edu

Mark Schrope's duties include writing a quarterly newsletter and working with local, national, and international media. Prior to taking his position at Harbor Branch, he was a full-time freelance writer, and he continues to write regularly for several publications. Mark's articles have appeared in Popular Science, Outside, Outside Traveler, Nature, Surfer, and New Scientist, among others. He was born and raised in Florida and received a bachelor's in biology from Wake Forest University and a master's in oceanography from Florida State University. After three years of research work at the College of William and Mary's Virginia Institute of Marine Science, he transitioned to a writing career with the help of a one-year graduate program in science journalism at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Mark's work has taken him around the world from Nicaragua to Indonesia, and many points in between.

Speaker Bios

Silvers

Singer

Sklar

Smith

Snow

Spadoni

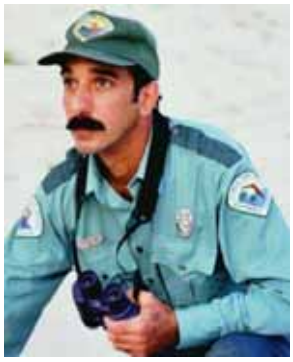
Cressida Silvers, *Project TAME Coordinator, Agricultural Research Service*, csilvers@saa.ars.usda.gov

Cressida Silvers is an entomologist with the USDA-ARS Invasive Plant Research Laboratory in Fort Lauderdale. She is currently project coordinator of TAME Melaleuca, a multi-agency program demonstrating and promoting long term, integrated melaleuca management based on biological control. Cressida has a B.A. in Biology from Swarthmore College and an M.A. in Entomology from the University of California, Riverside. She worked for several years in integrated pest management in California's fruit orchards, and then spent two years as a research associate for a non-profit agricultural policy group in Washington, DC before joining ARS in Florida in 2001.

Michael Singer, *Visiting Professor of Comparative Studies, Florida Atlantic University*, msinger@fau.edu

Dr. Fred Sklar, *Chief Scientist, South Florida Water Management District-Everglades Division*, fred.sklar@sfwmd.gov

Dr. Sklar is a Chief Scientist at the South Florida Water Management District in West Palm Beach, Florida. His research is designed to facilitate Everglades restoration and to quantify the relationship between environmental stressors and ecological processes, particularly at the landscape scale. He has been the scientific leader of many high profile, multi-disciplinary projects for the District, including the Everglades Forever Act mandate to define the hydrologic needs of the Everglades, the development of current and historical vegetation maps, and the ecological assessments of tree islands. Most recently, Dr. Sklar is the scientific leader of the keystone CERP project known as the Decompartmentalization Adaptive Management Plan (DAMP) and the innovative CERP macrocosm known as LILA.



Hank Smith, *Affiliated researcher in biology and environmental studies, FAU; state biologist, Florida Atlantic University Honors College; Florida Park Service*, hank.smith@dep.state.fl.us

Professor Hank Smith is the District Biologist for wildlife resources with the Florida Park Service in Hobe Sound; his region encompasses 24 state parks extending from Fort Pierce to Key West. He is Affiliate Research Assistant Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies at Florida Atlantic University, Wilkes Honors College supervising student research, internships, and theses in biology and environmental studies. Hank has over 20 years of experience in wildlife management, and has published over 70 research articles. His research publications include the ecology of colonial waterbirds, the effects of human disturbance on wildlife resources, bioeconomics of wildlife management, and exotic herpetofauna colonization dynamics in Florida.

Skip Snow, *Park Biologist, Everglades National Park*, skip_snow@nps.gov

Ray W. "Skip" Snow has over 30 years' experience with the National Park Service, 17 of which have been addressing natural resource management issues at Everglades National Park. Snow's experience in South Florida has involved a broad range of natural resource issues including evaluating effects of recreational use and water management scenarios on wildlife resources. A major focus of Snow's recent work focuses on the management and control of non-native invasive animal species and the reintroduction of native extirpated species. Current projects include control strategies for non-native Burmese pythons and non-native channeled apple snail, and reintroduction plans for native eastern bluebirds, brown-headed nuthatches, and Florida wild turkeys.

Rick Spadoni, *Senior Vice President, Coastal Planning & Engineering Inc.*, Rspadoni@coastalplanning.net

Rick is a coastal engineer and biologist with 30 years of experience in the coastal engineering field, specializing in environmentally sensitive projects. He grew up in coastal southern Florida and has been diving on the south Florida reefs for 46 years. Rick has been the project manager for 20 major beach nourishment and renourishment projects from Texas to Massachusetts, but primarily in Florida. He has been the involved with the design and construction of a number of artificial reefs, including one which was constructed from the remains of the old Tampa Bay bridge, which had been rammed and destroyed by a cargo vessel. Rick has also been the project manager for three major coral reef repairs conducted for the Marine Sanctuary Program of NOAA.

Matthew Waite, *Investigative Reporter/Researcher, St. Petersburg Times*, waite@sptimes.com

Matthew Waite, 30, is the kind of reporter who doesn't go anywhere without his laptop. Although technically a general assignment reporter, his assignment is to get computer-assisted reporting into the *St. Petersburg Times* as much as possible. But he's no armchair journalist. While a student at the University of Nebraska, he traveled to Bosnia to report on the conflict there for the college paper. He won an IRE award in 1996 for a *Daily Nebraskan* story involving a computer-assisted examination of crime rates in a Lincoln, Neb., neighborhood. He and colleague Craig Pittman won third place in the inaugural Philip Meyer Award competition for their series on Florida's vanishing wetlands. At both the *Little Rock* (Ark.) *Democrat-Gazette* and at the *Times,* he has used computer-assisted reporting to cover the environment, crime, transportation, utilities, education, real estate and the occasional hurricane.

Blair Witherington, *Associate Research Scientist, Florida Fish and wildlife Research Institute*, witherington@cfl.rr.com

Blair Witherington received his BS and MS in Biology from the University of Central Florida in 1984 and 1986, and was graduated with a PhD from the Department of Zoology, University of Florida, in 1992. Both of his graduate theses were on subjects of sea turtle biology. Since 1992 he has conducted work on sea turtle biology and conservation within the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute and has served on numerous graduate student committees, panels, and working groups. He has an appointment as adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Zoology, University of Florida, has served as president of the International Sea Turtle Symposium, and is a member of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the IUCN. He has authored or contributed to more than 40 scientific articles, monographs, and book chapters.

Larry Wood, *Curator, Loggerhead Marinelife Center*, lwood@marinelife.org

Mr. Wood has been the Curator of the Marinelife Center since the fall of 1988. His lifelong interest in herpetology took him to Miami University of Ohio, where he pursued a degree in zoology. The opportunity to work at the Marinelife Center brought him to Florida, where he finished his undergraduate degree in ecology at Florida Atlantic University, followed by his masters in Environmental Science, also at FAU. His thesis focused on the spatial nesting patterns of three species of sea turtles and the resulting nest productivity observed in the Juno/Jupiter area. Mr. Wood's experiences at the Center have enabled him to become a local authority on sea turtle biology and conservation. He has developed educational programming for students and adults helped establish the beaches of Juno and Jupiter as critically important nesting habitat and was instrumental in developing the sea turtle rehabilitation effort at the Marinelife Center. In 2003, he published *A Field Guide for Sea Turtle Nesting Surveys*, the only full-color, comprehensive guide to conducting sea turtle nesting beach research. He has also served as a resource for many local, national, and international documentaries about sea turtles.

Marie York, *Associate Director, Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions*, myork@fau.edu

Marie L. York, AICP, is a founding member of the Florida Public Officials Design Institute at Abacoa and directs the program. Marie is a 2003-04 Knight Fellow in Community Building, which is directed by the University of Miami's School of Architecture. She served on the Executive Committee of the American Planning Association (APA) Chapter Presidents' Council. She recently completed service as President of the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association (2000-2003) and currently chairs the organization's committee on Growth Management Review. Marie is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, Leadership Florida (Class XVI), and the Urban Land Institute (ULI). She is the former Vice Chair for Academia for ULI Southeast Florida/Caribbean District Council. Her research areas include urban design, urban economics, growth management, environmental preservation, housing, education and the relationship of transportation to land use.

Cathy Zollo, *Reporter, Sarasota Herald-Tribune*, cathy.zollo@heraldtribune.com

Cathy Zollo is a science writer for the Sarasota Herald Tribune and covers the environment and hurricanes. She's been a reporter since 1997, following a other careers that laid the groundwork for a move to journalism (teaching high school and college English, working as an investigator for Children's Protective Services in Texas and working as an observer in the Naval Weather Service). She has a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in English from Midwestern State University in Texas.

Institute Information

- If you have any questions or concerns during your “off-time” while participating in the Institute, you may contact Neil Santaniello in SR257 or by phone at the following numbers:

  Cell: 561-212-7446.

  Office: 799-8047

- Please be sure to turn in your evaluation of the Institute for a conference keepsake.

Notes

FAU

Florida Atlantic University
John D. MacArthur Campus
5353 Parkside Drive
Jupiter, Florida 33458
561-799-8500

BUILDING LEGEND

AD	Administration/Classroom
AR	Huckshorn Arboretum
DH	Dining Hall Commons
EC	Education and Classroom
HA	Hibel Fine Arts
HC	Wilkes Honors College
HM	Hibel Museum
LB	Library
LL	Elinor Bernon Rosenthal Lifelong Learning Complex
MA	Maltz Center for Education
PA	Perloff Administration
PC	Perloff Classroom
PH	Pool House / Recreation Area
RF	Research Facility
RH	Residence Halls 1 & 2
SR	Student Resources/Classroom
WB	Wilkes Psychology
	Campus Directories

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From I-95: take exit 83 (Donald Ross Road) east to Parkside Drive. Turn North on Parkside Drive and turn right into parking area.

From Florida Turnpike headed South: take exit 116 (Indiantown Road) east to I-95 South. From I-95 exit 83 and follow above.

From Florida Turnpike headed North: take exit 109 (PGA Blvd) east to Central Blvd. North. Turn West on Donald Ross Road. Turn North onto Parkside Drive and turn right into parking area.

"In the end we will conserve only what we love.

We will love only what we understand.

We will understand only what we are taught."

Baba Dioum,
Senegalese conservationist

Scripps Howard Institute On the Environment: Conference Organizers

FAU's School of Communication and Multimedia Studies

FAU's Center for Environmental Studies

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