THANK YOU
to our sponsors

2022 Celebrating 50 Years of
Ocean Science
for a Better World
LECTURE SERIES

NEXT WEEK’S LECTURE

2022 Celebrating 50 Years of
Ocean Science
for a Better World
LECTURE SERIES

Wednesday, Mar. 2

“19,000 Test Tubes:
37 Years of Microbial Research
at Harbor Branch”

Peter McCarthy, Ph.D.,
FAU Harbor Branch

Elliott Museum
Florida Power & Light Company
Indian River County
Indian River Magazine
Indian River State College
IRSC Public Media- WQCS-88.9 FM,
WQCP 91.1 FM & WQJS-88.5 FM
Last Mango Charters LLC
MANG®
Oceans, Reefs & Aquariums LLC
Open Water
The International SeaKeepers Society
SAD Foundation
St. Lucie County
Zeigler Bros., Inc.

L3HARRIS™

Economic Development
Council of St. Lucie County

Wednesday, Feb. 23

“The Return of Florida’s Great
Goliath Grouper – New
Opportunities and Challenges”

Matt Ajemian, Ph.D., FAU Harbor Branch,
and Angela Collins, Florida Sea Grant

To live stream the presentations
or view past lectures visit:

fau.edu/hboi/osls
As Florida’s largest reef fish (weighing up to 800 pounds), the goliath grouper (*Epinephelus itajara*) is certainly great. Once fished to the brink of extinction, this species is once again common along many of Florida’s reefs, thanks to decades of protection. However, some argue that goliath grouper have become “overabundant,” making it difficult for fishermen to land smaller snappers and groupers when fishing their reefs and wrecks as these larger fish sometimes steal their catch. This lecture will discuss previous and ongoing research on this species, which lies at the center of an ongoing fishery management controversy, including some of the latest technology that is being used to study the behavior of these mysterious fish in fine detail. The speakers will outline a new partnership between University of Florida IFAS Extension/Florida Sea Grant and FAU Harbor Branch to develop best catch-and-release practices to ensure the growing recreational fishery for goliath grouper is sustainable.

Dr. Matt Ajemian has been an Assistant Research Professor at FAU Harbor Branch since 2016 and leads the Fisheries Ecology and Conservation program. Matt is a fish ecologist who studies how various species (sharks, rays, and bony fishes) interact with their environment as well as human activities (e.g., fisheries). He has published over 50 articles in the scientific literature and is currently an early-career research fellow through the National Academy of Sciences’ Gulf Research Program.

Dr. Angela Collins has been with the University of Florida since 2015 and leads the Florida Sea Grant Fisheries Work Action Group. Angela is a reef fisheries biologist who specializes in cooperative research. She has published over 20 articles in the scientific literature and advocates for partnerships between scientists and the fishing community.

FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute is rapidly evolving. Your support can catapult our impact on critical ocean issues in Florida and beyond.

Unrestricted gifts to the FAU Harbor Branch Executive Director’s Fund are powerful investments in the greatest needs of the Institute, which range from seed funding for research projects and technology upgrades, to emergency student support.

Your generous gifts support the research being conducted every day at FAU Harbor Branch:

- Marine Ecosystem Conservation
- Ocean Health: Human Health
- Aquaculture and Food Security
- Technological Innovation and National Defense
- Education and Outreach

OUTREACH PROGRAMS
For more information or reservations call 772-242-2293

Explore our exhibits to learn about research at FAU Harbor Branch as well as the marine environments we study. The center is open Tuesday-Saturday, from 10 am to 4 pm and a $5 donation is suggested.

Take a behind the scenes look at our 144-acre waterfront campus, while learning about our history and research. Offered Tuesday- Saturday, 10:30 am to noon. $20/person, reservations required.

Join us each month at the Ocean Discovery Visitors Center for this fun-filled, family friendly, outdoor event. Science Saturdays will be held on February 26, March 26, April 23, and May 28 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Calling all artists: We invite you to be creative and inspired by FAU Harbor Branch research. Prizes include VIP meet and greets, behind the scenes tours, and more! Entries will be accepted until March 25.