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Harmful Algal Bloom Detection the Next Topic in FAU Harbor Branch Lecture Series

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (August 26, 2013) – How to properly identify cyanobacteria, the toxin-producing species that cause harmful algal blooms in the Indian River Lagoon, will be the subject of the next FAU Harbor Branch Ocean Science Lecture Series. Guest speaker Niclas Engene of the Smithsonian Marine Station in Fort Pierce will present “What’s My Name? How Better Taxonomy Can Aid in Understanding Harmful Algal Blooms” on Wednesday, August 28 at 7 p.m. in the Johnson Education Center, 5600 U.S. 1 North, in Fort Pierce.

The presentation will focus on new classification systems that are being used to identify the cyanobacteria in the lagoon that produce toxins and cause harmful algal blooms. This information is also used to predict their production of toxins which is an important step in monitoring and controlling these potentially dangerous blooms.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 772-242-2400 or visit www.fau.edu/hboi/OceanLectureSeries.php.

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About Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute:

Founded in 1971, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University is a research community of marine scientists, engineers, educators and other professionals focused on Ocean Science for a Better World. The institute drives innovation in ocean engineering, at-sea operations, drug discovery and biotechnology from the oceans, coastal ecology and conservation, marine mammal research and conservation, aquaculture, ocean observing systems and marine education. For more information, visit www.hboi.fau.edu.

About Florida Atlantic University:

Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of \$6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU’s world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of three signature themes – marine and coastal issues, biotechnology and contemporary societal challenges – which provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU’s existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.