

[PHOTO ATTACHMENT]

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FAU Harbor Branch Names Interim Executive Director

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (November 15, 2013) – FAU’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (HBOI) has named Megan Davis, Ph.D., as its interim executive director. Davis, FAU Harbor Branch’s former associate executive director of research, begins the post effective immediately.. Davis replaces Margaret Leinen, Ph.D., who left FAU Harbor Branch in September to serve as director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography and dean of the School of Marine Sciences at UC San Diego.

“It is a privilege to have this opportunity to work in this leadership role with the faculty and staff at HBOI and FAU,” said Davis. “Keeping the continuity and advancement of our research and education directions, based on our five-year strategic plan is my highest priority.”

Davis has been with FAU Harbor Branch for nearly 18 years, serving as associate executive director of research since 2008. Her career spans more than 36 years and includes research in the areas of marine science, ecology and aquaculture. Davis’ experience encompasses a wide range of leadership roles in research, academics, for-profit companies, technology transfer, institutional leadership and administration. She played a significant role in the transition group that was formed when HBOI became a research institute of FAU in December 2007.

Davis will hold the position until a national search is conducted for a permanent replacement.

For more information, contact Carin Smith at 772-242-2230 or carinsmith@fau.edu, or visit www.fau.edu/hboi/community/events.php.

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About FAU’s 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.