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FAU Harbor Branch Visitor's Center Reopens to Public 'Mission: Ocean Discovery' Public Outreach Programming Reconvenes

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (November 29, 2016) – The FAU Harbor Branch Ocean Discovery Visitor's Center, 5600 U.S. 1 North in Fort Pierce, will reopen to the public on Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 10 a.m. The facility, which is the portal for “Mission: Ocean Discovery” public outreach programming, will offer updated displays and live exhibits that reflect current research being conducted at the institute. FAU and HBOI-related gear will be available for purchase, and visitors can also utilize a new FAU Admissions kiosk with information for prospective students.

Other “Mission: Ocean Discovery” programming will reconvene in January, with Immersion Tours offered each Wednesday morning and Marine Science Fridays offered on select Friday afternoons from January through March 2017. Additionally, the Ocean Science Lecture Series winter season will kick off on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017 with a talk by Anton Post, Ph.D., newly appointed HBOI executive director.

For more information, contact Gabby Barbarite, “Mission: Ocean Discovery” coordinator, at 772-242-2293 or gbarbari@fau.edu, or visit fau.edu/hboi.

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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.fau.edu/hboi.

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 critical areas that form the basis of its strategic plan: Healthy aging, biotech, coastal and marine issues, neuroscience, regenerative medicine, informatics, lifespan and the environment. These areas provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU's existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.