

[PHOTO ATTACHMENTS]

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FAU Harbor Branch Partners with St. Lucie County Tax Collector

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (February 3, 2014) – The next time you visit the main office of the St. Lucie County Tax Collector, you’ll notice a very colorful new lobby, thanks in part to a partnership with FAU Harbor Branch and the Specialty License Plate program.

Tax Collector Chris Craft approached HBOI Communications regarding his lobby, which had to be renovated to make space for the newly added Department of Motor Vehicles duties. Craft offered the new wall space to HBOI to decorate. The communications team worked with Ironside Press in Vero Beach on a wall design, which was installed in December. The project was officially unveiled at a ceremony on January 29.

“We view this as an amazing chance to show St. Lucie County residents how the purchase of one of our four Florida specialty license plates helps us pursue our research,” said HBOI Interim Executive Director Dr. Megan Davis. “We couldn’t ask for a better way to educate the public than this!”

Under the statutes that govern the four specialty license plates, up to 10 percent of the money generated from plate sales may be used for marketing and outreach. Those dollars helped to fund the lobby project.

For more information, contact Carin Smith at 772-242-2230 or carinsmith@fau.edu.

(Photo captions:)

TCSLC wall project unveil CCP, MHD, Chris Craft, CCS:

HBOI’s Cara Perry and Dr. Megan Davis, SLC Tax Collector Chris Craft and HBOI’s Carin Smith

Tax Collector Wall Project Install:

The installation of the artwork took place in December 2013.

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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.