

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Carin Campbell Smith  
772-242-2230, [carinsmith@fau.edu](mailto:carinsmith@fau.edu)

## **FAU Harbor Branch Announces Series of Events in February to Focus on the Indian River Lagoon**

**FORT PIERCE, Fla. (January 21, 2013)** – FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (HBOI) has announced a series of special events in February that will focus on the Indian River Lagoon. The events include a guest lecture by Sir Peter Crane of Yale University, a scientific symposium, a public forum on lagoon health and the second annual “Love Your Lagoon” dinner.

The events will begin Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. with a special Ocean Science Lecture Series featuring Sir Peter Crane of Yale University. Crane will present “The Interconnectedness of Natural and Human Systems: From Global Change to the Indian River Lagoon” at St. Edwards School, 1895 Saint Edwards Dr., in Vero Beach. The event is sponsored by the Yale Club of the Treasure Coast. Admission is free.

“The Indian River Lagoon Symposium 2013: Health of the Lagoon” will take place on Thursday, Feb. 7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the HBOI Johnson Education Center, 5600 U.S. 1 North, in Fort Pierce. Admission is \$20, and \$10 for students. This is a multi-institutional, multi-agency scientific symposium including a series of oral presentations and panel discussions. The community is encouraged to attend the “Meet the Scientists” poster session following the symposium from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Admission to the poster session is free.

“The Forum on Lagoon Health” will take place on Friday, Feb. 8 from 9 a.m. to noon at the HBOI Johnson Education Center, 5600 U.S. 1 North, in Fort Pierce. Three speakers will provide individual perspectives on working to establish and sustain a healthier Indian River Lagoon, followed by an open discussion of what can be accomplished to improve the lagoon’s health. The event is free and open to the public, and registration is required at [indianriverlagoon.org/symposium.html](http://indianriverlagoon.org/symposium.html).

The second annual “Love Your Lagoon” dinner will take place on Friday, Feb. 8 from 6 to 10 p.m. in the HBOI Plaza, 5600 U.S. 1 North, in Fort Pierce. Hosted by the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation (HBOIF), the dinner aims to raise awareness about the lagoon and raise funds to support HBOI’s ongoing Indian River Lagoon Observatory research

and outreach efforts. This year's guest of honor is Alto "Bud" Adams, Jr., selected by the HBOIF Board of Directors for his leadership in utilizing best practices in agriculture, which greatly benefit the lagoon.

For more information on HBOI's February event series, or to register and purchase tickets for the "Love Your Lagoon" dinner, visit [indianriverlagoon.org](http://indianriverlagoon.org), or call 772-466-9876 ext. 224.

**- FAU -**

**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](http://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](http://www.fau.edu).*