

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Head of FAU Harbor Branch to Testify Before U.S. Senate Committee on Climate Change

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (July 18, 2013) – Margaret Leinen, Ph.D., executive director of FAU’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute and president-elect of the American Geophysical Union, will share her expertise as she testifies today before a U.S. Senate Committee in Washington, D.C.

This is the first congressional climate change hearing that the Senate Environmental and Public Works Committee has hosted since U.S. President Barack Obama unveiled his global warming plan in June.

Leinen will testify during the hearing titled “Climate Change: It’s Happening Now,” where she plans to discuss the changes that researchers are observing in U.S. North Atlantic fisheries and Florida-Caribbean coral reefs, as well as the South Florida sea level rise and its impact on shoreline communities.

*(*Written testimony and Dr. Leinen’s bio attached. *)*

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

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About Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute:

Founded in 1971, Florida Atlantic University’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute 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.