

MEDIA ADVISORY

MEDIA CONTACT: Carin Campbell Smith
772-242-2230, carinsmith@fau.edu

Oceans Day Feature: Harbor Branch Scientist Spends Career Studying Florida's Reefs

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (June 5, 2013) – Scientist John Reed could be considered an “ocean expert,” having spent the majority of his more than 40-year career at FAU Harbor Branch studying the deep-water coral reefs off the coast of eastern Florida.

Reed, a senior research scientist and research professor currently heading the Robertson Coral Reef and Conservation Program at FAU Harbor Branch, was among the team of scientists who first discovered the *Oculina* reefs in 1975, and was instrumental in making it a Marine Protected Area through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the early 1980s.

Reed is available for interviews in advance of Oceans Day (Saturday, June 8). Additional information is attached and archive video/photos of the *Oculina* coral reefs and Reed's work are available upon request.

To request an interview, contact Carin Campbell Smith at 772-242-2230 or carinsmith@fau.edu.

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About Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute:

Founded in 1971, FAU'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.