



January 26, 2012

Message from the Director:

2011 was a busy year for C-SPACE! In the spring, C-SPACE received \$50,000 from the Progress Energy Foundation to provide pilot funding for educational outreach activities and graduate research related to the center's mission. We are grateful to Progress Energy Foundation for their support of our center. Funds are being used to establish an Adopt-a-class program with Lakewood High School's Academy for Aquatic Management Systems and Environmental Technology (AMSET; formerly Academy for Marine Science and Technology), to sponsor a community and campus-wide lecture series, to provide seed money to support graduate research at USFSP that is consistent with the goals of C-SPACE, and to provide pilot funding for a USFSP student initiative to help our campus join the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment. This commitment requires campuses to develop and implement plans to measure greenhouse gas emissions and pursue targeted reduction goals. As one part of this initiative, students and faculty will work together to create an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions associated with campus activities as the basis for a institutional action plan aimed at reducing waste and promoting the use of renewable resources.

In the fall, C-SPACE welcomed a new Executive Committee. Dr. Christopher Meindl (College of Arts and Sciences), Dr. Rebecca Harris (College of Business), and Dr. Malcolm Butler (College of Education) graciously agreed to serve on this committee, and work with the center's director to promote C-SPACE initiatives. Dr. Rebecca Harris has already suggested possible funding opportunities. I am excited about the potential of this new committee to broaden participation in C-SPACE activities across the USFSP campus, and am honored to be working with them. We thank the previous Executive Committee for their service during the years when C-SPACE received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Our community lecture series began in the fall. On October 24, 2011, C-SPACE, together with the Florida Studies Program and the Environmental Science and Policy seminar series, sponsored a lecture by Thomas Swihart, on his recent book, ***Florida's Water: A Fragile Resource in a Vulnerable State.***

On November 17, 2011, C-SPACE co-sponsored a lecture by University of Florida associate professor Matthew Cohen on "**Eutrophication in Flowing Waters: Nutrient Enrichment, Primary Production and Algal Proliferation in Florida's Springs**". On February 9, 2012, Florida Studies and C-SPACE will be co-sponsoring a lecture by Cynthia Barnett, about her new book, titled "**Blue Revolution**". In March, we will be co-hosting with Florida Studies a talk by Harold Wanless,

University of Miami, on sea-level rise and Florida. All of our lectures are open to the public as well as the entire USFSP community. Please join us for our Spring lecture series, and look for more seminars this coming spring and summer!

Lakewood High School's AMSET program began work in the fall on a wish list of supplies needed to support educational and research activities at the high school, and they submitted this list to the C-SPACE director and Executive Committee this January. Their new initiatives involve growing plants and animals for use in local restoration projects. C-SPACE will help fund supplies and travel, as well as coordinating faculty and student exchanges between our campus and Lakewood High School. The AMSET program was particularly interested in creating opportunities for USFSP faculty and students to become actively involved in curriculum development at the high school. If you or your students or classes are interested in participating in this initiative, we'd love to hear from you. We will be finalizing their wish list in early spring.

In February, 2012, C-SPACE will be circulating Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to graduate programs across the USFSP campus to support individual graduate student thesis and research projects. Graduate students will be asked to submit a short proposal outlining their proposed research, its purpose, its connection to C-SPACE goals, a budget and budget justification, and an estimated timeline for project completion. Funded projects will be announced in March. Check back here for more details on how graduate students can submit proposals, and deadline information. We will be looking for faculty volunteers across campus who would be willing to help review submitted proposals. If interested in serving on a review panel, please contact me. We are excited about this opportunity to support and promote graduate research at USFSP.

Best regards,

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