



Florida Climate Institute

A joint venture between the University of Florida and the Florida State University

UF | UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA



James W. Jones, Director (UF)
Eric P. Chassignet, Co-Director (FSU)
PO Box 110570 • Gainesville, FL 32611
FloridaClimateInstitute.org
jimj@ufl.edu
echassignet@coaps.fsu.edu



Climate Variability and Change

Climate variability and change pose significant **economic, food security, health, and environmental risks** worldwide.



Drought, wildfires, storms with heavy rain, high winds, flooding, and freeze events **cause billions of dollars in losses** to the agricultural and natural resources sectors locally in Florida and globally.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change predicts that by the year 2100 **global average temperature is likely to increase** by 2 to 11.5° F, **global mean sea level will rise** from 7 to 23 in, and there will be **increased risks of both flooding and drought**.





Climate Information Challenges

Much of the climate change information communicated to the public is based on IPCC projections that are at the global level and relatively long-term (50 to 100 years).

There is tremendous uncertainty regarding the regional and local impacts of global change.

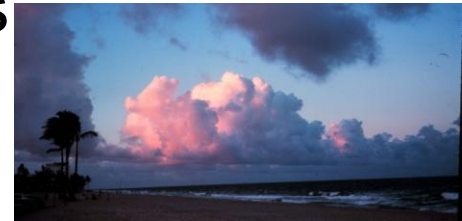
Climate stakeholders, including policy makers, farmers, and the public, need information at local to regional levels and at shorter time scales.





Mission of the Florida Climate Institute

- Improve understanding of the processes and effects of ***climate variability, climate change, and sea level rise*** on the economy and on natural and human-built systems
- Develop technologies and information for reducing economic and environmental/health risks in managed and natural systems and supporting environmental policies
- Engage society in research, extension and education programs for enhancing adaptive capacity and responses to associated climatic risks





Why an Institute?

- Lack of understanding of how society should respond to climate change information at local to regional scales and at multiple time scales over which decisions, policies are made
- Many questions without answers in Florida on climate change, sea level rise, and associated decisions and policies
- Large number of faculty at FSU and UF conducting relevant research
- Success of the Southeast Climate Consortium (SECC) during the last 10 years





Our Goals

- **Disseminate science-based information** on regional climate variability and change to a diverse audience.
- Use climate change information to **build resiliency and adaptive capacity**.
- **Enhance understanding** of the interrelationships among climate, natural resources, ecosystems, health, and society.
- **Promote and support effective partnerships** between university faculty and stakeholders.





Project Examples

- Using seasonal climate forecasts to reduce risk in regional **public water supply** management.
- Negotiating water management in the **Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) river basin**.
- Reducing the risk of climate change effects and human disturbances on **snowy and piping plovers**.
- Studying the impact of climate on **ciguatera fish poisoning**.
- Advancing student knowledge of global climate change through **teacher education**.
- Investigating **offshore wind power** potential in the Northern Gulf.





Governance

- Director – J. W. Jones (UF)
- Co-Director – Eric Chassignet (FSU)
- Steering Committee –10 people (5 at UF and 5 at FSU)
 - Dr. Vasu Misra – Co-Chair (EOAS/COAPS)
 - Dr. O'Brien (COAPS)
 - Dr. Chanton (EOAS)
 - Dr. Harrington (CEFA)
 - Dr. Craig (Law)
- \$250K as seed money for 2 years from the Office of Research and the College of Arts and Sciences



Please join us for the

Florida Climate Institute K I C K O F F

Keynote Speakers • Special Guests • Poster Session • Reception

Date

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Time

2:00pm – 7:00pm

Location

FSU Alumni Center
1030 W. Tennessee Street
Tallahassee, FL

Registration Information

Please register by October 1 at
www.coaps.fsu.edu/fcickickoff

Contact

fcickickoff@coaps.fsu.edu

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