

# Ms. Melissa L. Griffin

Assistant State Climatologist of Florida

The Florida Climate Center  
Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies (COAPS)  
The Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2840 USA  
Ph: (850) 644-0719 fax: (850) 644-5092 email: [griffin@coaps.fsu.edu](mailto:griffin@coaps.fsu.edu)

## Education

December 1997 to August 2000  
Bachelor of Science, Meteorology  
Florida State University

## Professional Experience

Florida State University: Assistant State Climatologist (2006-present)  
Florida State University: Data Analyst (2003-2006)  
Florida State University: OPS Research Assistant (2000-2003)  
National Weather Service Tallahassee: Intern (Summer 2000)  
Florida State University: Undergraduate Research Assistant (Fall 1999)

## Honors and Awards

Partnership Award Recipient for Multistate Efforts, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, 2014  
Exemplary Service Award for Scientific & Research Services, Florida State University, 2008

## Professional Membership

Associate Member of the American Association of State Climatologists

## Other Professional Activities

Chair: WERA 1012 – Managing and Utilizing Precipitation Observations from Volunteer Networks (2013-2014)  
Chair: WERA 1012 – Managing and Utilizing Precipitation Observations from Volunteer Networks; Outreach and Education Committee (2009-2014)  
Secretary: WERA 1012 – Managing and Utilizing Precipitation Observations from Volunteer Networks (2012-2013)  
Secretary: American Meteorological Society Committee on Applied Climate (2012-2014)  
Member: American Meteorological Society Committee on Applied Climate (2010-2014)  
Coordinator: Florida Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow (CoCoRaHS) 2007-present

## Research Interests and Activities

Lead and create educational outreach activities in classroom and informal settings.  
Develop software and create web-based applications for public distribution of climatic data products.  
Construct databases and derived datasets for research purposes.  
Conduct and collaborate in original applied climate research projects with a focus on climate variability and prediction.  
Research and provide/develop products and technical reports based on requests for the climatic data and information from the public and private sectors.

## Refereed Publications

Gilford, D. M., S. R. Smith, **M. L. Griffin**, and A. Arguez (2013), Southeastern United States daily temperature ranges associated with the El Niño Southern Oscillation, *Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climate*, 52(11), 2434-2449, doi:10.1175/JAMC-D-12-0273.1.  
Stefanova, L., P. Sura, and **M. Griffin** (2013), Quantifying the Non-Gaussianity of Wintertime Daily Maximum and Minimum Temperatures in the Southeast United States, *Journal of Climate*, 26(3), 838-850, doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-12-00161.1.  
Misra, V., J-P Michael, R. Boyles, E. Chassignet, **M. Griffin**, and J.J. O'Brien (2012), Reconciling the spatial distribution of the surface temperature trends in the Southeastern United States, *Journal of Climate*, 25(10), 3610-3618, doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-11-00170.1.  
Stefanova, L., V. Misra, S. C. Chan, **M. Griffin**, J. J. O'Brien, and T. J. Smith III (2012), A proxy for high-resolution regional reanalysis for the Southeast United States: Assessment of precipitation variability in dynamically downscaled reanalyses, *Climate Dynamics*, 38(11-12), 2449-2466, doi:10.1007/s00382-011-1230-y.  
Kennedy, A. J., **M. L. Griffin**, S. L. Morey, S. R. Smith, and J. J. O'Brien (2007), Effects of El Niño-Southern Oscillation on sea level anomalies along the Gulf of Mexico coast, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 112, C05047, doi:10.1029/2006JC003904.  
Winsberg, Morton D., J.J. O'Brien, D. Zierden, and **M. Griffin** (2003), *Florida Weather*, pp 1-192, University Press of Florida

## Other Publications

4-H Weather and Climate Toolkit. (2013-2014) Prepared for the Southeast Climate Extension NIFA/USDA Grant  
Florida Monthly Climate Summary Report. (2008-present)  
Florida Climate Center Monthly Newsletter. (2011-present)  
Florida CoCoRaHS Monthly Newsletter. (2007-present)  
Extreme Temperatures. (2007-2010) Prepared for the Red-Cross/Florida Emergency Management Hazardous Weather Awareness Week Brochure.  
*The State Climatologist*. (2007-2009) Prepared for the American Association of State Climatologists.  
Fraise , C. W., W. R. Lusher, **M. L. Griffin**, A. A. Texeira (2009). 4-H Weather Workshop. University of Florida IFAS Extension. Circular EDIS AE447.  
O'Brien, J. J., D. F. Zierden, and **M. Griffin** (2002), Long-term Forecasting of Wildfire Season Severity in Florida, COAPS Technical Report 02-2, 42 pp., Center

for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, 32306-2840. USA.

**Griffin M. L.**, and S. R. Smith, 2001: Polarstern Data Quality Control Report: May 1993 – November 1996. RVSMDC Report 01-01, Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies, The Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2840.

### **Professional Presentations**

“Examining Heat Advisories and Health Impacts in Florida,” *NOAA CDC Heat and Health Summit*. Silver Spring, MD, October 2014.

“Using Analog Methods to Illustrate Possible Climate Change for Agricultural Producers,” *39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association of State Climatologists*. Stevenson, WA, July 2014.

“An Overview of Climate Education and Outreach Activities at FSU,” *National Academy of Sciences: Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate*. Tallahassee, FL, April 2014.

“Using Analog Methods to Illustrate Possible Climate Change for Agricultural Producers,” *94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society*. Atlanta, GA, February 2014.

“Climate: A History Lesson,” *North Florida Chapter of American Meteorological Society*. Tallahassee, FL, November 2013.

“Developing a Localized Climate Extreme Index for Individual States,” *93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society*. Austin, TX, January 2013.

“Craziest Weather You May Not Know,” *North Florida Chapter of American Meteorological Society*. Tallahassee, FL, December 2011.

“Historic Weather Events in Florida Prior to 1970,” *North Florida Chapter of American Meteorological Society*. Tallahassee, FL, March 2011.

“Winter 2010-2011 Climate Outlook,” *Polk County OJ Break, Polk County Extension Service Meeting*. Bartow, FL, December 2010.

“CoCoRaHS Program in Florida.” *American Meteorological Society Greater Miami Chapter*. Miami, FL, November 2010.

“Winter 2010-2011 Climate Outlook,” *Florida Strawberry Growers Association*. Citra, FL, November 2010.

“Improved Aerial Precipitation Estimates for Tropical Storm Fay Due to Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network Observations,” With C. McGhee and L. Eaton. *AMS/NWA Inland Impacts of Tropical Cyclones*. Atlanta, GA, June 2009.

“Climate Services: A State’s Perspective,” *NWS Southern Region Headquarters*. Fort Worth, TX, July 2005.

“Climate Assessment Tool for the Coastal Community of the Southeast US,” *15<sup>th</sup> Applied Climate Conference of the American Meteorological Society*. Savannah, GA, June 2005.

“Development into a Climate Assessment Tool for the Coastal Community of the Southeast US.,” *Climate Predictions Applications Science Workshop*. Palisades, NY, March 2005.

“The Florida Climate Center's Approach to Climate Services,” *Climate Predictions Applications Science Workshop*. Tallahassee, FL, March 2004.

“Florida Freezes,” *Broward County Extension Service Meeting*. Belle Glade, FL, August 2002.

“What Is El Niño?” *Broward County Extension Service Meeting*. Belle Glade, FL, August 2002.

## **Outreach Presentations**

### Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *National Weather Service WeatherFest*. Jacksonville, FL, February 2011.

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *91<sup>st</sup> American Meteorological Society Conference Weatherfest*. Seattle, WA, January 2011.

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *National Weather Service WeatherFest*. Tallahassee, FL, January 2011.

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *90<sup>th</sup> American Meteorological Society Conference Weatherfest*. Atlanta, GA, January 2010.

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *Tampa Bay Ham Radio Operator Festival*. Sarasota, FL, December 2009.

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *Leon County's KidsFest*. Tallahassee, FL, May 2009

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *National Weather Service WeatherFest*. Tallahassee, FL, January 2009.

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *89<sup>th</sup> American Meteorological Society Conference Weatherfest*. New Orleans, LA, January 2008.

“Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Training Seminar,” *Northwest Florida University*. Crestview, FL, October 2007.

### Classroom (K-12)

“Weather Basics: Energy Transfer in the Atmosphere,” *West Gadsden High School*. Quincy, FL, December 2014.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *Canopy Oaks Elementary School*. Tallahassee, FL, December 2014.

“An Evening of Weather,” *Killearn Lakes Elementary School*. Tallahassee, FL, November 2014.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *Riversink Elementary School*. Crawfordville, FL, November 2014.

“An Introduction to El Niño and La Niña,” *Taylor County 4-H Agriculture Day*. Perry, FL, May 2014.

“Tornadoes: Introduction to Forecasting Severe Weather,” *Taylor County High School*. Perry, FL, May 2014.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *Buck Lake Elementary School*. Tallahassee, FL, April 2014.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *DeSoto Trail Elementary School*. Tallahassee, FL, April 2014.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *Fairview Middle School*. Tallahassee, FL, February 2014.

“Introduction to the 4-H Weather and Climate Professional Development Toolkit,” *Florida 4-H Youth Development Institute*. Gainesville, FL, January 2014.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *Canopy Oaks Elementary School*. Tallahassee, FL, December 2013.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *Riversink Elementary School*. Crawfordville, FL, November 2013.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *School for the Arts and Sciences*. Tallahassee, FL, November 2013.

“An Evening of Weather,” *Fairview Middle School*. Tallahassee, FL, October 2013.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *School for the Arts and Sciences*. Tallahassee, FL, October 2013.

“Careers in Meteorology,” *Career Day at Stars Middle School*. Tallahassee, FL, May 2013.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *School for the Arts and Sciences*. Tallahassee, FL, December 2012.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *Gilchrist Elementary*. Tallahassee, FL, October 2012.

“Becoming A Weather Observer Workshop.” *DeSoto Trail Elementary*. Tallahassee, FL, September 2012.

“Climate Education through Extension Workshop.” *Florida 4-H Congress*. Gainesville, FL, August 2012.

“Careers in Meteorology,” *Career Day at Stars Middle School*. Tallahassee, FL, May 2012.

“Florida Severe Weather,” *Killearn Lakes Elementary*. Tallahassee, FL, April 2012.

“Climate Education through Extension Workshop,” *Florida 4-H Youth Development Institute*. Ocala, FL, January 2012.

“Forces of Nature: Introduction to Weather and Climate Classroom,” *4-H Day at the Capital*. Tallahassee, FL, April 2010

“Climate and Weather Workshop,” *Florida 4-H Youth Development Institute*. Gainesville, FL, January 2010.

“Climate and Weather Workshop,” *Florida 4-H Youth Field Day*. Ona, FL, June 2009.

“Climate and Weather Workshop,” *Bellevue Middle School*. Tallahassee, FL, February 2009.

“Climate and Weather Workshop,” *Florida 4-H Congress at the University of Florida*. Gainesville, FL, July 2008.

#### Summer Camps

“Coastal Weather Patterns,” *Taylor County 4-H*. Tallahassee, FL, July 2014.

“Forces of Nature: An Introduction to Weather,” *Taylor County 4-H*. Perry, FL, July 2014.

“Florida Weather and the Hydrologic Cycle,” *FAMU Gulf of Mexico Stewardship and Conversation Program*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2014.

“Weather Basics: Wind,” *Literacy Volunteers of Leon County Summer Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2014.

“Forces of Nature: Introduction to Weather,” *Literacy Volunteers of Leon County Summer Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2014.

“Review of Weather Basics,” *Oasis Girls Summer Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2014.

“Florida Severe Weather,” *Wakulla Christian School*. Crawfordville, FL, August 2012.

“Florida Severe Weather,” *Orange Avenue Community Center*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2012.

“Florida Severe Weather.” *Tallahassee Natural History Museum*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2012.

“Florida Severe Weather.” *Literacy Volunteers of Leon County Summer Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2012.

“Tsunamis vs. Storm Surge,” *Springfield Community Center Summer Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, July 2011.

“Tsunamis vs. Storm Surge,” *Literacy Volunteers of Leon County Summer Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2011.

“Forces of Nature: Introduction to Weather Classroom,” *Terrence Fregly Community Center*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2010.

“Forces of Nature: Introduction to Weather Classroom,” *Orange Avenue Community Center*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2010.

“Forces of Nature: Introduction to Weather Classroom,” *Literacy Volunteers of Leon County Summer Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2010.

“Climate and Weather Workshop,” *Florida State University Alumni Village Recreational Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, August 2009.

“Climate and Weather Workshop,” *Orange Avenue Community Center*. Tallahassee, FL, July 2009.

“Climate and Weather Workshop,” *Literacy Volunteers of Leon County Summer Camp*. Tallahassee, FL, June 2009.

### Community Events

“Sea to Sky,” *Florida State University High Magnetic Field Lab Open House*. Tallahassee, FL, February 2014.

Children’s Day at the Museum of Florida History. Tallahassee, FL, January 2014.

“Sea to Sky,” *Florida State University Marine Lab Open House*. Carrabelle, FL, April 2013.

Florida State Day at the Capitol. Tallahassee, FL, March 2013.

“Sea to Sky,” *Florida State University High Magnetic Field Lab Open House*. Tallahassee, FL, February 2013.

Children’s Day at the Museum of Florida History. Tallahassee, FL, January 2013.

National Weather Service Hurricane Preparedness Event. Tallahassee, FL, May 2012.

“What is a Front?,” *Florida State University High Magnetic Field Lab Open House*. Tallahassee, FL, February 2012.

Florida State Day at the Capitol. Tallahassee, FL, February 2012.

Children’s Day at the Museum of Florida History. Tallahassee, FL, January 2012.

Florida State Day at the Capitol. Tallahassee, FL, April 2011.

“From Sea To Sky: Where Oceanography Meets Meteorology,” *Florida State University Marine Lab Open House*. Carrabelle, FL, April 2011.

Florida State University Earth Day. Tallahassee, FL, April 2011.

FSU Women in Math, Science and Engineering COAPS Visit. Tallahassee, FL, February 2011.

“How Much Rain Can You Squeeze From A Cloud? Introduction to Weather Observations,” *Florida State University High Magnetic Field Lab Open House*. Tallahassee, FL, February 2010.

“Climate and Weather Workshop,” *Earth Science Week at the Florida Geological Survey Open House*. Tallahassee, FL, October 2009.

“From Sea To Sky: Where Oceanography Meets Meteorology,” *Florida State University Marine Lab Open House*. Tallahassee, FL, April 2009.