



Contents

FANREP President Message	1
New Structure in UF/IFAS Extension Administration	2
Embrace the Gulf	3
Getting Ready for ANREP	4—5
Climate Smart Floridians Program	6

MESSAGE FROM THE FANREP PRESIDENT!

Hello FANREP colleagues,

Happy new decade! I'm delighted to serve as your President for 2019-2020. FANREP is an impactful and passionate organization that I'm proud to be a part of. We all benefit from the work we do together and the support we get from one another. Let's have another great year in 2020!

There are several ISTs coming up this spring and I encourage you all to look on the PDEC site (pdec.ifas.ufl.edu) and sign up to learn something new or hone your skills. Also coming up soon is the Florida Water Institute Symposium on February 25-26, 2020 in Gainesville, Florida. The Symposium aims to "bring together individuals from a broad range of disciplines and organizations to explore complex water challenges from multiple perspectives. The 2020 Symposium will focus on innovative science, technology, cultural, policy, and management solutions to the following pressing issues: harmful algae blooms in springs, lakes and coastal waters; sources, impacts, and management of contaminants; water scarcity, allocation, and use; impacts of and resilience to climate change, extreme events and sea level rise." I believe it's safe to assume that those issues touch on all our diverse programs.

In other professional development news, Libby Carnahan, FANREP President-Elect, and I are your FANREP representatives on the EPAF Board. We had our first EPAF Board meeting on January 9th where we reviewed the 2019 EPAF evaluation and started planning for the upcoming conference. The 2020 EPAF Conference is being held at the Sheraton Bay Point Resort in Panama City, FL from August 31st-September 3rd. More details will be announced soon once everything is finalized. We hope to see many of you there!

Special thanks to Carrie Stevenson and Linda Seals for putting this newsletter together and for everyone who submitted articles. The newsletter could not be realized without them- they encompass the newsletter committee for FANREP. Other standing committees include: Scholarship, Awards & Recognition, Abstracts, Membership, and Technology/Website. Thank you to all committee chairs and members for your time and commitment.

I'd like to take a moment here to discuss our committee opportunities. If you are a veteran to Extension you know how important professional organization committees are. If you are new you will soon learn. Committees are where a lot of work gets done- awards and scholarships granted, abstracts chosen for sharing, and so much more. We are all busy but as the saying goes: many hands make light work. If you are not already part of a committee, please consider signing up. The benefits are not only for the organization, you will benefit as well. You will be rewarded with the camaraderie of your fellow committee members, opportunities to review the great work your colleagues are doing, and involvement and leadership roles for your Report of Accomplishments (ROA). I will add to that the gratitude and admiration of the board because we can't do it without your participation.

Here's to an educational and transformative 2020! Please let me know if you have any questions or comments at any time. I hope you will contact me to add your name to a committee (wink, wink). Thank you. I can be reached at tmgwaves@ufl.edu or 727-582-2109.



Theresa Badurek, President

New Structure in UF/IFAS Extension Administration

As you've likely heard by now, there's been some restructuring within UF/IFAS Administration. We've moved into a new paradigm where there's still one **Dean and Director for Extension** (Dr. Place) and one **Senior Associate Dean and Associate Director** (Dr. Obreza), but now only two Associate Deans (Dr. Mukhtar and Dr. Gutter). Dr. Gutter remains **Associate Dean and Program Leader for 4-H Youth Development and Families and Communities**, while Dr. Mukhtar transitions to **Associate Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources**. Just as Dr. Gutter works with two Associate Program Leaders (Stacey Ellison is **APL for 4-H Youth Development** and Dr. Karla Shelnett is **APL for FYC**), Dr. Mukhtar now has two interim Associate Program Leaders (Dr. Maia McGuire is **APL for Sea Grant** and Dr. Holly Ober is **APL for Natural Resources**).

Maia and Holly were invited to serve on an interim, part-time basis as Associate Program Leaders for Sea Grant and for Natural Resources in late 2020. Maia continues in her prior role as the Sea Grant Extension agent in Flagler and St Johns Counties, while now allocating 15% of her time to administrative duties. Holly continues to function as an Extension Specialist in Wildlife Ecology, now allocating 25% of her time to administrative duties. Both of these Associate Program Leader positions are expected to be filled on a permanent basis sometime during 2020, after the new **Sea Grant Director** and **Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources** positions have been filled.

During the next several months, Holly and Maia plan to work collaboratively on a number of endeavors.

- Their most ambitious undertaking involves revisiting Initiative 3 in the UF/IFAS Extension Roadmap. The current roadmap spans the decade extending from 2013 to 2023, and a team has already begun the process of developing a new plan that will begin in 2024. In the meantime, Maia and Holly are considering the way Initiative 3 (defined as *Enhancing and Conserving Florida's Natural Resources and Environmental Quality*), is split into 3 priority areas: *Informed community decision making*, *Natural resources operations*, and *Environmental literacy and stewardship*. Stay tuned as they develop a plan to gather your input on the framework of this initiative.
- Another issue Maia and Holly are investigating is the language used to describe Extension efforts in natural resources reporting (i.e., situation statements, objectives, impacts, etc.). Several other initiatives have developed common language that can be used by agents and specialists in annual reports and promotion packets. It would be nice to have some of this for Initiative 3.
- They also provide administrative approval for EDIS documents and IST proposals addressing natural resource issue.
- Lastly, they're attempting to spread the word about this new administrative structure. Using a variety of approaches, they're trying to explain the new composition of the admin team and the timeline for permanent changes. Hence, this article!

In addition to the above, Maia is serving as the Florida Sea Grant Extension leader for the National Sea Grant Extension Assembly and will be accompanying other FSG leaders to Washington DC in March for the Sea Grant Association meeting and meetings with legislators on Capitol Hill.



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Holly is also participating in interviews of candidates for all agent positions that have responsibilities for natural resources.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to either of them with questions or suggestions.



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The graphic features the text "EMBRACE THE GULF 2020" in a bold, sans-serif font. "EMBRACE THE" is in a light teal color, "GULF" is in a vibrant red, and "2020" is in a dark teal. The text is superimposed on a background image of a sunset over the ocean, with a yellow and green geometric shape in the top right corner.

EMBRACE THE GULF 2020

In commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Gulf of Mexico Alliance has launched “Embrace the Gulf 2020.”

According to a press release from the Alliance, Embrace the Gulf is “a daily awareness campaign highlighting the value and vitality of the world’s ninth-largest body of water. The goal of the campaign is to promote the sustainability, beauty, and productivity of the Gulf of Mexico. The Alliance is highlighting five focus areas that make the Gulf of Mexico a special place: resilient coastal communities, prosperous industries, superior educational opportunities, thriving tourism, and healthy ecosystems.”

Extension personnel from states all along the northern Gulf Coast are co-branding educational events with #EmbracetheGulf. Many are involved with coordination of a regional “Paddle the Gulf” effort to bring hundreds of paddlers to the region and promote sustainable ecotourism.

Local and state elected officials have signed proclamations supporting 2020 as the “Year of the Gulf,” and many businesses have also pledged support. A major effort of the initiative is an eye-catching series of educational messages highlighting wildlife,

ecosystems, and economic benefits of the Gulf of Mexico, shared daily on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (@GOMAlliance). Members and staff of the Alliance are encouraging the public to share and engage with these social media efforts and post positive messages and photos about the Gulf.

“The Gulf of Mexico is an astonishingly valuable natural resource that supports 60 million people who live here and an even greater number of people who visit,” said Laura Bowie, Executive Director of the Alliance. “As an organization, the Alliance wants to ensure positive messages are shared across a broad section of the local, regional, and national population. I’m immensely excited to share my personal passion for the Gulf of Mexico and her rich resources through Embrace the Gulf 2020.”

More information on the campaign is online at <https://gulfofmexicoalliance.org/embrace/>

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Getting Ready for ANREP

FANREP members should know that registration is now open for the 2020 biannual Conference in Sunriver (near Bend), OR on May 3-6, 2020! We have a full program for you and we are thrilled for you to join us. You can get all the details at <https://www.anrep2020.org/>. ANREP had over 120 abstracts submitted so get ready to learn, share and contribute! We will have a fun run, mobile workshops and a field tour. Make sure to join us for the banquet dinner on Tuesday. There will be a call for you to join an [initiative](#) and volunteer for [committees](#)!

Come early or stay late because Bend is in the beautiful Cascade Mountain range with lots to do at the Sunriver resort and in town. Did you know Bend has the most breweries per capita in Oregon and is called “Beer Town USA”? Bend offers an Ale Trail ‘passport’ that you can get stamped at each of their local breweries. Surrounding Bend are miles of hiking and biking trails. Mt. Bachelor is just a shuttle ride from the resort for skiing and snow-board fun. The mountain usually stays open till the end of May. The shuttle is 10\$ for resort guests and a three-day lift ticket will cost you about 200 bucks.

Don’t forget to make your lodging arrangements. There are lots of options for rooms, suites, and guestrooms so you and your family or colleagues can bunk up. See the options here: <https://www.anrep2020.org/blank>. Short on money? ANREP is offering several \$250 travel scholarships for the purpose of encouraging both students pursuing a career in natural resources and ANREP members to attend this national conference. For more information about the scholarship and the criteria, click [HERE](#). To apply for the scholarship, click the [Scholarship Form](#). Scholarship recipients will be expected to volunteer for part of the conference. If you are looking to share a room, contact Alicia Betancourt at abb@ufl.edu and she will try to match you up! Did you received an ANREP award in 2019 or in 2020 and elected to be recognized at the ANREP conference? We will have our awards ceremonies during the business meeting on Monday May 4th, and during lunch on Wednesday May 6th. We can’t wait to see you in Bend!

Alicia Betancourt, ANREP President-elect and Holly Abeels, ANREP Southern Region Rep



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ANREP 2020

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information, please visit WWW.ANREP.ORG



Climate Smart Floridians Program

University of Florida Sea Grant and Extension agents, specialists and researchers developed the ***Climate Smart Floridians*** program to complement existing educational programs such as “Sustainable Floridians,” “CIVIC,” and the soon to be completed “Climate 101” online training for Extension professionals. This program is specifically aimed at educating participants on individual actions to reduce climate change impacts. ***Climate Smart Floridians*** is a model for providing citizens research-based information about climate change and engaging them as ambassadors to help reduce household expenses and greenhouse gas emissions. The program covers climate change and how it will impact Florida. It addresses how climate change relates to topics such as landscaping, water resources, transportation, home energy, food, and waste. This program will result in critical decision-making skills about the impacts of individual choices on climate change. Individuals are encouraged to increase use of alternative transportation, changes in daily habits around consumption and waste, and implement home energy efficiency improvements.

This program has been adapted from two existing Climate Masters programs. Oregon State University and University of Nebraska both have well designed Climate Masters Programs. The subject of global climate change can be overwhelming to the individual and this program is intended to answer the question “What can I do?”

This program can be provided as a stand-alone educational program, as an additional offering following community climate action workshops, or other Extension programs where the audience is interested in learning more about individual action on climate change. On the topic of climate change, Extension works to apply research-based knowledge to the issue, which allows participants to explore current research and best practices, and to make up their own mind about what and how to apply that knowledge to their situation.

This program uses core sustainability fundamentals and Extension agents who may not be comfortable yet with addressing global climate change will find this program very easy to understand. The teaching guide, activities and informational sections for the volunteers are designed to be easily taught by agents in any program area. Agents will find that participants will be interested in learning about key local impacts and the program encourages exploration of those. Regardless of an agent’s knowledge about climate change, in these days of economic struggles many people are seeking ways to reduce their everyday living expenses. The ***Climate Smart Floridians*** program presents options from which participants may choose depending upon what makes good sense to them in their situation. Climate change science is a priority goal area of the US Department of Agriculture’s National Institute for Food and Agriculture, which funds Extension in Florida and in all other US states and territories.

Want to learn more? Log in at pdec.ifas.ufl.edu to register for the upcoming in-service training #31806.

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