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June 28 - August 1, 2010

Oil spill reshapes sweeping new study of oyster reefs

Only 15 percent of global oyster reefs remain; FSU-led study to guide restoration

By Libby Fairhurst

Florida State University marine biologist David L. Kimbro will lead scientists from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and Maine in a massive effort to study the health and future of the nation's natural oyster reefs in 12 estuaries spanning 1,000 miles of Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico shoreline.

The multi-institutional project, which kicked off June 1, has become even more vital now following the calamitous Gulf

oil spill that began in April. Funded by a new, three-year \$850,342 grant from the National Science Foundation's Biological Oceanography Program, the study is expected to guide restoration of what were already the world's most devastated estuarine habitats while producing important information on the oil spill's effects. Some of the scientists' work will be documented on public television.

"Our forthcoming research will be criti-

cally important because oysters promote healthy estuaries by filtering water and increasing the diversity of economically important fishes and invertebrates," said Kimbro, a postdoctoral associate at The Florida State University Coastal and Marine Laboratory. "In turn, healthy estuaries support a lot of economic and recreational activity.

Please see KIMBRO, 2

To follow the actions of Florida State researchers as they offer their expertise concerning the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, visit the Oil Spill blog at **www.fsu.com**.

English professor's book wins award

By Libby Fairhurst NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A visionary work by an English professor at The Florida State University has won the W. Ross Winterowd Award for the most outstanding book in composition theory published in 2009.

"Vision, Rhetoric, and Social Action" by Associate Professor Kristie S. Fleckenstein has earned its distinguished prize from the Journal of Advanced Composition (JAC), a forum for the interdisciplinary study of rhetoric, writing, culture and politics. The JAC has bestowed the Winterowd Award each year for two decades in recognition of superlative scholarship. The award-winning "Vision, Rhetoric, and Social Action" (Southern Illinois University Press, 2009) examines the ways in which the classroom helps to create critically aware students who become engaged, compassionate citizens.

"Kristie Fleckenstein's Winterowd Award is confirmation of her tremendous scholarly achievement," said Professor Ralph Berry, chairman of Florida State's English department. "This well-deserved honor is a source of pride for all her colleagues here."

"Perhaps the biggest impact of the award is the validation it offers," Flecken-Please see **FLECKENSTEIN**. 2



Kristie Fleckenstein

SPREAD Ten years after is creation and through carefully planned growth, the Florida State University College of Medicine has reached a milestone: The arrival of the 120-member Class of 2014 in June gives the medical school a full enrollment of 480 students.

KIMBRO



from

page

"But, having been decimated by historical overfishing, disease and poor water quality, natural oyster reefs are now the most degraded estuarine habitat worldwide, with only about 15 percent of global oyster reefs remaining," he said. "Unfortunately, here in the United States, we've eaten and dredged away most of the oyster habitat."

Before harvesting began along the U.S. Gulf and Atlantic coasts, oyster reefs probably maintained estuarine health by filtering enormous volumes of water, cycling nutrients, and increasing biodiversity and system productivity, Kimbro said.

Although considerable funding and effort have been devoted to restoring oyster reefs in estuaries up and down the Atlantic and Gulf coasts in order to mitigate the declining trend of estuarine health, Kimbro said it's not currently clear why some restoration projects fail and others succeed at improving diversity and ecosystem functioning.

"Consequently, it is difficult for resource managers to determine where and to what degree restoration should be pursued," he said. "Our study will seek to create a biogeographic framework to help resource managers decide where and how to focus our nation's restoration dollars. We will be focusing on natural oyster reefs rather than restored ones, but our information will be able to help guide future restoration efforts."

For additional information on Kimbro and Hughes and their work, visit www.marinelab.fsu.edu.



Scientists Randall Hughes (left) and David Kimbro of The Florida State University Coastal and Marine Laboratory in an intertidal oyster reef near Tallahassee, searching for suitable oyster reefs to use in a largescale study funded by the National Science Foundation.

FLECKENSTEIN

stein said. "When researchers write a book, we believe pretty passionately in the argument we present and in the importance of that argument. But we don't always know if that belief resonates with our readers. An award of this stature provides that feedback, letting me know that what I perceive as a valuable contribution to the scholarship in my field is recognized by my discipline as valuable, too. That is a pretty heady experience."

In "Vision, Rhetoric, and Social Action," Fleckenstein contends that how reading and writing are taught offers students a set of strategies for participating in the world.

"Consequently, as teachers, we want to be sensitive to the invitations we explicitly and implicitly offer through our pedagogical choices," she said.

"The heart of the book is social action, which I define as the use of compassionate means to achieve compassionate ends," Fleckenstein said. "How do we go about developing methods of social action that will help us create and support equitable and humane environments? My response to that question forms the argument of the book."

Fleckenstein is the author of more than 40 published articles and book chapters that reflect her research interests in materiality, visual literacy, feminist theory and composition pedagogy. She was the recipient of the 2005 Conference on College Composition and Communication Outstanding Book of the Year Award for her monograph, "Embodied Literacies: Imageword and a Poetics of Teaching."





Vol. 45 • No. 1 unicomm.fsu.edu/pages/State.html

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The deadline for the Aug. 2 - 22, 2010, issue is 4:30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, JULY 21.



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Submissions should be e-mailed to **jseay@fsu.edu**. Underwriting is handled by the Florida State University Communications Group. For rates, call Crystal Cumbo at (850) 487-3170, ext. 352.

People with disabilities who require special accommodation for any event listed in *STATE* should call the unit sponsoring the event, or for the hearing or speech impaired, use the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). Requests for accommodations must be received at least five working days before the event. To receive *STATE* in an alternative format, call the FSU Student Disability Resource Center at (850) 644-9566.

Print Shop to close, UPS Store to step in

Due to ongoing budgetary constraints, the university's Division of Finance and Administration has made the difficult decision to phase out all printing services currently provided by Printing, Mailing & Postal Services. After Monday, July 5, no new jobs will be accepted by the Print Shop.

To minimize any inconvenience for those campus customers that have come to depend on this service, and to enhance printing services on campus, the university has partnered with The UPS Store located in Oglesby Union. The UPS Store was awarded the contract to operate the campus' copy center and post office and offers copying, mailing and shipping services. Under the new agreement, the store will now also handle digital printing and stationery orders (including business cards) that previously would have been completed by Printing Services.

With this agreement, customers should be aware of some new procedures for submitting print jobs. These include the following:

•For digital printing jobs valued at \$1,000 or more, an Omni requisition issued to The UPS Store should be submitted. Digital printing and stationery orders will be processed by The UPS Store; offset printing requests will be processed by Purchasing for quotes and purchase orders. This procedure is designed to ensure prompt processing of all print-job requests.

•For digital printing jobs valued at less than \$1,000 the preferred method of purchase is the P-Card. Customers may contact The UPS Store directly at (850) 561-9180 or **store6133@ theupsstore.com** or visit the store, located in Oglesby Union.

•Offset printing jobs valued at \$6,000 or more will be subject to competitive pricing through the purchasing bidding process.

Printing customers at The UPS Store can expect rates comparable to those currently charged by the FSU Print Shop, and the store commits to offering fast, friendly and professional services. In addition, The UPS Store provides services not previously offered by the Print Shop, including banners, yard signs, mounting, wide-format laminating and course packs.

For more information on any of the printing services available at The UPS Store, contact store manager Steve Valentine at (850) 561-9180 or **store6133@theupsstore.com** or visit **www. fsups.net**.



Wildwood Hall, phase

2: A groundbreaking ceremony took place June 2 on the 117,000-square-foot residence hall that will house 276 students. It is scheduled to be completed in August 2012.

NewsMakers

"That's how science works. You hang in there and do your best and believe that what you are doing is useful." Ian MacDonald, a Florida State University professor of oceanography, as quoted June 17 on MiamiHerald.com in the article "Doubts about oil spill rate put him in spotlight." After the April 20 explosion on the Deepwater Horizon oil rig, MacDonald — who has studied natural oil seeps in the Gulf of Mexico for decades — challenged BP on its overly conservative estimate of the volume of oil that was spilling into the water. Since then, he has become well known by the international media, being quoted by *The New York Times, The Washington Post*, ABC News, the Associated Press and Reuters, among others.



FSU researcher uncovers inner workings

Protein's role in cell division



By Ron Hartung COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

A Florida State University researcher has identified the important role that a key protein plays in cell division, and that discovery could lead to a greater understanding of stem cells.

Timothy L. Megraw, an associate professor in the College of Medicine, has outlined his findings in the cover story of the June 15 issue of *Developmental Cell*. The article, "CDK5RAP2 Regulates Centriole Engagement and Cohesion in Mice," was co-authored by researchers from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas and the University of North Texas.

In August, Megraw received a fouryear, \$1.2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to explore the role of centrosomes and cilia in cell division and their connections to human disease.

One long-term goal of Megraw's research has been to discover which parts of the cell play which roles in cell division. The centrosome is an important player. When a cell is ready to divide, it typically has two centrosomes, each containing a "mother and daughter" pair of centrioles tightly connected to each other, or "engaged."

"Two is important," Megraw said,

"because you divide your genetic material into two equal sets. Each of these centriole pairs organizes the cytoskeletal machinery that pulls the chromosomes apart. So you don't want there to be more than two, because then you run the risk of unequal separation of the chromosomes."

The centrioles are supposed to replicate only once during the cell cycle. What keeps them from replicating more often was discovered a few years ago, Megraw said, when researchers identified motherdaughter engagement as the key. Once those two become disengaged, it acts as the "licensing" step, in effect giving the centrioles permission to replicate.

Unknown until now, Megraw said, was what regulated those centrioles to remain engaged until the proper time, to prevent excess replication. He suspected that the protein CDK5RAP2 was at least partly responsible. His team tested the protein's role using a mutant mouse in which the protein was "knocked out" and not functioning. These researchers looked for any effects on engagement and "cohesion," in which centriole pairs are tethered by fibers.

They noted in the mutant mouse that engagement and cohesion did not occur in their typical orderly fashion and that centrioles were more numerous and often single rather than paired. The amplified centrioles assembled multipolar spindles, a potential hazard for chromosomal stability. The researchers concluded that CDK5RAP2 is required to maintain centriole engagement and cohesion, thereby restricting centriole replication.

They are looking at how this discovery might apply to the human brain.

"The two mouse mutants we made mimic the two known mutations in humans in CDK5RAP2 — which has another name, MCPH3, in humans," Megraw said. "The disease associated with that is a small brain.

"Our next step is to look at the brains of the mice and try to determine what's wrong. We think it's the stem cells — that the progenitors that give rise to all the neurons in the brain are dying early or changing from a progenitor into a neuron too early."

Another gene called myomegalin might be functionally redundant to CDK5RAP2, Megraw said, adding, "Our goal is to knock that out, too."

The research his lab has done might also be applicable to cancer drugs for humans, he said. Centrosomes organize microtubules, which are structures in the cell that many important anti-cancer drugs target.

What Does UFF Do for Me?

Contract Negotiation

If you're one of the 1,700+ Florida State University faculty members (tenured, tenure-earning, or non-tenure-track) covered by the UFF-FSU Collective Bargaining Agreement, we're the folks who negotiate with the administration for:

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We survey faculty opinion, use Florida's open-access laws to monitor the university's budgeting and performance, and we publicize our findings to the public, the press, the legislature, parents, students, the Faculty Senate and Board of Trustees.

Activism

To make our voice heard, we organize lobby days and rallies. In 2009, the UFF-FSU-led "Fate of the State" coalition organized a 1,000-person march on the capitol (the largest higher-education rally in the state), followed by targeted phone calls to legislators.

We're only as strong as our membership. Join UFF-FSU today.

Membership forms are available at www.uff-fsu.org/art/memform.pdf

Grant to advance state of the art in chemical analysis

By Susan Ray NATIONAL HIGH MAGNETIC FIELD LABORATORY

The National High Magnetic Field Laboratory at Florida State University is planning to build a state-of-the-art magnet system that will transform the study of complex environmental and biological samples. A better understanding of fossil and biological fuels, for example, could lead to applications for reducing carbon emissions and the development of new, sustainable fuels.

The 21-tesla superconducting magnet, combined with a small cyclotron spectrometer (a machine that measures the mass of molecules), is made possible by a \$17.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation's Division of Chemistry, \$15 million of which comes from funds made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

"This award pushes the frontier of large molecule analyses and further strengthens our world leadership in ioncyclotron resonance capabilities," said Kirby Kemper, vice president for Research at Florida State.

The magnet system will be housed in the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory's Ion Cyclotron Resonance (ICR) facility and will be used for Fourier transform ICR mass spectrometry — a powerful analytical technique capable of resolving and identifying thousands of different chemical components simultaneously in complex mixtures.

The addition of a 21-tesla magnet is



Alan Marshall

expected to yield major innovations in the field of chemical analysis. Going from 14.5 to 21 tesla — a 45-percent increase in field — will increase the accuracy of mass measurements by a factor of at least 2, raising it to an astonishing 50 parts per billion.

"This grant will give us the opportunity to see the chemical and molecular world in unprecedented detail — sort of like HDTV compared to ordinary TV," said Alan Marshall, director of the magnet lab's ICR User Program and the Robert O. Lawton Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Florida State. Marshall, who co-invented the FT-ICR technique and continues to develop it, is the principal investigator on the grant.

The 21-tesla magnet system will raise research already under way at the magnet lab to new heights. Areas of research include:

•Petroleomics — Analysis of the world's most complex mixture, petroleum. More precise analysis of crude oil samples can lead to better, faster and more efficient drilling, refining and delivery.

•Proteomics — The analysis and cataloging of proteins. To understand biological processes, scientists need to learn how proteins function in cells. Proteins, which compose much of the machinery of living cells, will be analyzed intact (topdown) rather than in pieces (bottom-up) as at present, a particularly promising direction for discovery of new drugs and their mechanism of action.

•Biofuels — Analysis of the chemical composition of biofuels. Although ethanol is the first widely used biofuel, other sources, including algae and pine trees, offer potentially better performance and less environmental impact. The new instrument will provide detailed insight into biofuels at every stage of their production and use.

Florida State has received its first year of funding for the project. The system's design and construction is proceeding by competitive bids from the world's leading magnet manufacturers; the complete spectrometer should be ready in four years.

Failed college dreams don't spell depression, study finds

By Jill Elish

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A wise person once said, "It is better to shoot for the stars and miss than aim at the gutter and hit it."

That's right on, says Florida State University Sociology Professor John R. Reynolds, who just completed a study to determine whether unrealized educational expectations are associated with depression among adults. Reynolds also is the director of the Pepper Institute on Aging and Public Policy at Florida State.

He and co-author Chardie L. Baird, an

assistant professor of sociology at Kansas State University, found no long-term emotional costs of aiming high and falling short when it comes to educational aspirations, despite several social psychological theories that would seem to suggest otherwise. The researchers' conclusion: Society should not discourage unpromising students who have dreams of earning a college degree.

"We should not be in a hurry to dissuade these students from planning to go to college," Reynolds said. "In fact, the only way to guarantee negative mental health outcomes is not trying. Aiming high and failing is not consequential for mental health, while trying may lead to higher achievements and the mental and material benefits that go along with those achievements."

"Is There a Downside to Shooting for the Stars? Unrealized Educational Expectations and Symptoms of Depression," which was published in the *American Sociological Review*, is the first large, national study to look at the mental health consequences of failing to meet educational expectations.



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Three researchers receive \$112,000 in 'GAP' awards

The Florida State University Research Foundation has awarded Grant Assistance Program (GAP) awards to three research projects currently under way at Florida State. The highly competitive grant program supports Florida State researchers as they seek to transfer their technology out of the laboratory and into the marketplace.

GAP awards are given twice each year to researchers who can most clearly identify the commercial viability of a project, process or license that they believe will result from their collaboration with a corporate partner.

The projects that were selected are:

•A New Type of Wound Dressing: A \$50,000 award goes to Joseph Schlenoff, the Mandelkern Professor of Polymer Science and chairman of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, for the project "Saloplastic Wound Dressing." Schlenoff has developed an entirely new material that can be molded and stretched over a wound and hardens into a cast. His material has the added advantage of being producible in a variety of different formats (spools, tubes, pellets, etc.), so conceivably the new material could be easily carried into the battlefield or with firstresponder medics. The GAP project plans for Schlenoff and his team to optimize the invention and determine a packaging strategy to show the commercial viability of the invention in a product developed by a corporate partner.

•Virus Detection Kit: A \$47,000 award goes to Hengli Tang, an associate professor in the Department of Biological Science, for the project "Development of an Infectious Virus Kit." Tang and his team are working to develop a portable "lab on a chip"-type kit that can be used to detect the presence of the hepatitis C virus in humans in a more cost-effective manner than is currently available. The GAP project plan calls for Tang and his lab to optimize the kit with animal testing to increase its viability and competitiveness. A new start-up company is under consideration.

•Preparation of Vitamin D Derivatives: A \$15,000 award goes to Jack Saltiel, a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, for the project "Preparation of Vitamin D Derivatives." Saltiel has developed a novel way to produce vitamin D, which is an essential vitamin important for maintaining bone density and is thought to play a role in cancer prevention. Florida State has obtained a patent for Saltiel's method that uses a simple photosynthesis method to convert provitamin Ds to vitamin D. The GAP project plan calls for Saltiel to scale up the quantities of vitamin D to provide an alternative, cost-effective method for commercial production by a corporate partner.

WFSU senior producer attends prestigious workshop

By Jeffery Seay EDITOR IN CHIEF

Suzanne Smith, the senior producer at WFSU-TV, was selected to attend a prestigious weeklong workshop that allowed her to learn the craft of documentary filmmaking from some of the best practitioners in the nation.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting/Public Broadcasting Service Producers Academy exposed Smith and five other PBS station producers, along with 19 independent producers, to intensive training June 19-25 at WGBH-TV in Boston. The station is home to such notable, national programs as "American Experience," "Frontline" and "Nova."

"This amazing opportunity gave me training to be able to create programs at the national level," said Smith, who cohosts and produces "Issues in Education" and co-produces "Dimensions" for WF-SU-TV. "The week focused on documentaries. I had the opportunity to work with people such as the makers of 'Freedom Riders.' I got to find out what they were thinking and why they did things a certain way." ("Freedom Riders" is scheduled to air on PBS stations in 2011.)



The training covered writing; producing and directing; editing and post-production; new media production; project management; legal issues; how to pitch a project; publicity and outreach; and fundraising.

Smith is no stranger to documentary filmmaking. In 2007, she produced "Flor-

ida War Diaries" for WFSU-TV, which aired locally in conjunction with Ken Burns' national PBS documentary "The War." The strength of Smith's storytelling skills was one reason why she was chosen from among more than 165 applicants for the academy.



>>Grant-writing workshop: Florida State University employees are invited to enroll in a twoday grant-writing workshop, July 8-9, cosponsored by the Tallahassee Fire Department and Grant Writing USA. The workshop will cover the grant-writing process from start to finish, and how to locate and track relevant grant opportunities. Multi-enrollment discounts and discounts for returning Grant Writing USA alumni are available. Tuition payment, which is \$425, is not required at the time of enrollment. Seating is limited. Participants must register online at http://grantwritingusa.com/grants-training/grantwriting-workshops/tallahassee-florida-july-2010. html?utm_source=julie&utm_medium=email&utm_ content=fsu&utm_campaign=tallahassee-floridajuly-2010. Information: Cathy Rittenhouse, cathy@ grantwritingusa.com, or Randee Eastman, randee. eastman@talgov.com.

>>Honor society endows scholarship: With a goal of enhancing undergraduate research, The Florida State University Chapter of Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society presented a \$25,000 check to the university to establish the Phi Eta Sigma Endowed Scholarship. The Florida State University Foundation will invest the principal gift of \$25,000, and scholarships will be awarded from the annual distribution. These scholarships will provide support for full-time undergraduate student members of Phi Eta Sigma conducting research and creative projects under the guidance of a faculty member.

Phi Eta Sigma is a national honor society whose goal is to encourage and reward academic excellence among first-year college students in institutions of higher learning. The oldest and largest first-year honor society, Phi Eta Sigma was founded in 1923 and chartered at The Florida State University in 1955. All students who have a cumulative gradepoint average of at least 3.5 at the end of any fulltime curricular period during their first year are eligible for membership. The Florida State University Chapter undertakes several service projects each year, including offering pre-finals tutoring to fellow students.



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RECOGNITIONS

Kathy Guthrie, Ph.D. (Education, Center for Leadership and Civic Education), has received the Outstanding Contribution to Student Affairs Award for Region III (the Southeastern United States), from NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, June.

Darrin McMahon. Ph.D. (Ben Weider Professor of History), is the recipient of a prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers from the Alexander von Humboldt McMahon Foundation. will be a guest professor at the University of Potsdam, near Berlin, working specifically at the Historisches Institute. McMahon will be conducting research in German libraries and archives with the goal of completing a book on the history of the concept



of genius and the geniusfigure in European history. It is tentatively titled "Genius: A History," and will be published by Basic Books, New York.

BYLINES

J.D. (Educational Leader-

ship and Policy Studies),

co-wrote the monograph

"Student Free Speech in

Public Higher Education,"

published by the Educa-

tion Law Association. Dav-

entific Computing), co-

wrote the paper "Unified

Framework to Evaluate

Panmixia and Migration

Peter Beerli, Ph.D. (Sci-

ton. Ohio.

Joe Beckham. Ph.D..

Direction Among Multiple Sampling Locations," with Michal Palczewski, published in the journal *Genetics*, Vol. 185, No. 1.

PRESENTATIONS

Ilese Weingarten, M.S.W. (Counseling Center), presented "Lessons Learned: How to Establish and Grow a Thriving Peer Education Program" at the annual Outreach Conference for Counseling Centers, Iowa City, Iowa, June.

SERVICE

Cecile Reynaud, Ph.D. (Sports Administration),

has been selected by USA Volleyball, the national governing body for volleyball, to lead a member safeguard task force created to ensure the safety of its members, particularly among youths.

Vasubandhu Misra, Ph.D. (Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science), has received a \$5,000 Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award from Oak Ridge Associated Universities, June. In addition, Florida State University is matching the grant.

ENRICHMENT

Annie Ransom-Reddick, M.A. (Aerospace Studies), graduated with a Master of Arts degree in religion with a concentration in Christian counseling, summa cum laude, from Bethany Divinity College and Seminary, Dothan, Ala., May.



>>A&P PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS: A&P employees must have their performance evaluated by their supervisors annually. The performance evaluations must be completed in a timely manner. Performance evaluations ensure that employees receive feedback on their performance and are a constructive tool for continued improvement and development. Evaluations for the 2009-2010 academic year (which ends Aug. 7, 2010), should be completed after Aug. 7, and forwarded to the Office of Human Resources by Aug. 31. Performance evaluations are not required for A&P employees who have been employed for fewer than three months.

If an employee has any questions regarding this procedure, they should see Section OP-C-7-G1 of the Division of Finance and Administration, Human Resources, Policies and Procedures, or call the Employee and Labor Relations Section at 644-6475.

TRAINING AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

>>INSTRUCTOR-LED AND ONLINE TRAINING: Classes are available to Florida State faculty and staff members. The Schedule of Classes for Summer 2010 and registration information is available at: www. hr.fsu.edu/train. Information: Office of Training and Organizational Development, 644-8724.

>>NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION AVAILABLE ONLINE: Each participant must certify their completion of online NEO by faxing a completed copy of the "Certification of Completion and Evaluation of Orientation" form to the Office of Training and Organizational Development as indicated on the form. The link to online new employee presentations, materials and the certification form can be found at: www.hr.fsu.edu/ Content/NEOnline/index.html. Information: Office of Training and Organizational Development, 644-8724.

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