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## **UF Water Institute Munch Bunch Seminar**

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### **The Water Resource Implications of Large-Scale Bioethanol Production**

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Energy independence is clearly among the key 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges, underscored by recent escalating gasoline prices and observable effects of global climate change. Ethanol is widely viewed as a viable alternative: it locates energy production regionally, catalyzes national farm production, minimizes costs and logistics of infrastructural changes, and possibly limits CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. However, drawbacks of ethanol production with regard to environmental and social costs inextricably link consideration of energy alternatives to some of our other challenges. Among them: how we allocate increasingly scarce water amongst a growing array of users? How do we reverse nitrogen pollution in our rivers and estuaries? How do we conserve undeveloped lands for future generations of humans and other species? These and other trade-offs are the crucible within which aggressive bioethanol policies need to be evaluated.

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**Thursday January 22, 2009**

**Frazier-Rogers Hall 122**

**12:30 to 1:30 → seminar and 20 minute discussion**



**pizza provided**