

Water Institute Quarterly Report
May 15-Aug 15, 2006

Logistics

- Acquired 1300 sq ft space in 570 Weil Hall requiring minor renovations
- Arranged for phone and IT services to be provided courtesy of the Civil and Coastal Engineering Dept.
- Arranged for fiscal services to be provided courtesy of the IFAS Dean for Research
- Purchased basic office equipment and furniture required for startup
- Hired two Research Coordinators: Kathleen McKee (M.S. Soil and Water Science), Mark Newman (Ph. D. Civil Engineering)

Stakeholder Development

- Conducted the following on Campus Meetings with Faculty groups
 - March 30 CLAS Ecology and Environment
 - April 13 Florida Water Resources Research Center
 - April 14 School of Natural Resource and Environment
 - April 19 Interdisciplinary International Water Interest Group
 - May 5 Hydrologic Sciences Academic Cluster
 - May 8 IFAS Extension
 - May 9 Center for Latin American Studies
 - May 11 Public Utilities Research Center
 - May 18 Soil and Water Science Department
 - May 22 UF Geoplan Center
 - May 23 UF Office of Sustainability
 - May 26 Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Department
 - June 20 Program for Resource Efficient Communities

- Conducted the following Meetings with External Stakeholders
 - March 23, Frank Rijsberman, Director of International Water Management Institute (Sri Lanka)
 - May 2 Florida Century Commission (in conjunction with SNRE)
 - May 12 Stan Bronson, Director Florida Earth Foundation (WPB)
 - May 12 South Florida Water Management District (WPB)
 - May 22 Delegation from Punjab Agricultural University (India)
 - May 24 Hilary Swain, Director Archbold Biological Station
 - May 25 Florida Pesticide Review Council Meeting
 - May 25 Dean of Science, Makerere University, Uganda
 - May 30 NSF Geosciences Director, Washington DC
 - June 1 US Geological Survey
 - June 6 Progress Energy
 - June 12 Suwannee River Water Management District
 - June 15 Florida Association for Water Quality Control, Naples

- June 16 Tampa Bay Water
- June 20 Delegation from Ranga Agricultural Univ (Hyderabad, India)
- June 22 Conserv Florida Clearinghouse Steering Committee
- June 27 Delegation from the Florida Chapter AWWA
- June 29 Lake Okeechobee Interagency Meeting (SFWMD, DACS, DEP)
- July 25 Nancy Johnson International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT – Columbia)
- July 26 Florida Department of Environmental Protection & Florida Department of Agriculture (Tallahassee)
- July 28 Swisher Foundation (JAX)
- August 3-14 ICRISAT (Hyderabad India), Ranga Agricultural University (Hyderabad India), International Water Management Institute (Colombo, Sri Lanka)

Strategic Planning

- Planned formal On-Line Faculty Survey of interests and priorities for release in late August
- Planned 1-day Faculty Forum for Late September/Early October
- Planned Opportunity Fund Call for November release, January due date

Water Institute Projects Initiated:

- Conserve Florida Clearinghouse (\$150K for 1 year, planning grant)
 - Funded by DEP, and the WMDs
 - Joint effort by COE (Heaney) CALS (Haman) and COB (Berg)
 - Mission is to collect, analyze and make available research information and technical assistance to public water supply utilities and water managers for use in developing effective and efficient water conservation programs
 - Began Summer 2006
- Suwannee River Hydrologic Observatory
 - Funded by NSF (\$460K for 2 years, planning grant)
 - Joint effort between COE (Delfino, Slatton), CALS (Graham, Cohen), CLAS (Martin)
 - Member of group of 8 watersheds serving as test beds for a national network of observatories
 - Will address the relative roles of climate change and human development on water dynamics, water quality, and ecology across US hydroecoclimate regions
 - Begins Fall 2006

Pending Water Institute Proposals:

- National Science Foundation, “Influence of Hydrologic Variability on Carbon Processing and Fluxes in an Organic Carbon and Carbonate Rich Watershed, Suwannee River Florida”, \$2,407,910
- Legislative Budget Request, “Solutions for Water Resources Sustainability”, \$4,776,000
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, “Use of Seasonal Climate Forecasts to Reduce Risk in Regional Public Water Supply Management in the Tampa Metropolitan Region”, \$300,000
- US Department of Agriculture India Agricultural Knowledge Initiative, “Sustainable Water Resource Management: U.S - India Collaborative Research and Education”, \$90,000

Water Institute Plans
Aug 15, 2006- Dec 31, 2006

Logistics

- Continue office space development
- Evaluate the need for a full-time Communications Coordinator (web manager, meetings manager, office manager, proposal writer, etc.)

Teaching

- Teach CWR 6536, Stochastic Subsurface Hydrology (3 credits)

Stakeholder Development

- September 18-23, 2006 Participate in Joint U.S.-India AKI Water Workshop in Delhi India (One of 10 faculty members from the US invited to participate)
- September 2006 Meeting with St. Johns River Water Management District
- October 2006 Meeting with South Florida Water Management District
- October 2006 Meeting with SouthWest Florida Water Management District

Strategic Planning

- Execute Faculty Survey and Faculty Forum
- Issue Opportunity Fund Call
- Write Draft Strategic Plan to be circulated by Dec 31, 2006
- Conduct Election of Internal Advisory Board January 2007
- Plan External Stakeholder Summit for Early Spring 2007
- Plan Formation of External Advisory Board for Late Spring 2007
- Plan First Annual Water Summit (Tentative date Feb 2008)

Proposal Development

- Form and manage faculty group to submit proposal to NSF Critical Zone Observatory RFP (\$4,500,000 over 5 years) LOI due October 1 2006 , Proposal due December 15, 2006