Seminars have been a tradition at the EREC since its beginnings in the 1920’s.

The Conference Center, built in 2001, provides an ideal venue for the Friday Seminar program.

Friday Seminars provide an opportunity to share current research and extension information with our local and statewide agricultural community.

Technology has permitted us to share these seminars; livestreaming them to other UF facilities throughout the state upon request.

“\textit{A university should be a place of light, of liberty, and of learning.}\\nBenjamin Disraeli (1804-1881)\\British statesman and novelist\\

Seminar Committee: R. Borkhataria, Chair; R. Cherry; S. Daroub; A. Wright; and K. Krawchuk

Friday Seminars

At the Everglades Research & Education Center in Belle Glade

Seminars begin at 10:45 a.m. with light refreshments and are free and open to all.

Everglades Research & Education Center
3200 East Palm Beach Road
Belle Glade, FL 33430
Phone: 561-993-1500
Fax: 561-993-1582
Website: http://erec.ifas.ufl.edu

“A university should be a place of light, of liberty, and of learning.”
Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881)
British statesman and novelist
Dr. Rena Borkhataria is an assistant research scientist in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation at the UF/IFAS Everglades Research and Education Center. Her research program focuses on wading bird ecology and conservation, wetland restoration, and the role of wildlife as beneficial predators or detrimental pests in agriculture. She also studies the demography and movements of the endangered wood stork.

Dr. Huangjun Lu joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor in plant breeding at the UF/IFAS Everglades Research and Education Center in 2010. His research focuses on development of lettuce cultivars for use in Florida’s lettuce production and improvement of St. Augustine grass suitable for lawns and landscapes in Florida and other Gulf Coastal areas in the U.S. His extension responsibility is to develop an educational program for more profitable production of lettuce and vegetative propagation of St. Augustine grass.

Dr. Vendrame teaches courses in environmental horticulture and his research program involves production and conservation of plants using tissue culture, molecular biology, biotechnology, and cryopreservation techniques. His research currently focuses on biofuel plants, ornamental plants, and space biology, including orchids, flowering trees and other species.

Dr. Laura Brandt is a Wildlife Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service based in South Florida. Dr. Brandt has worked on projects examining individual species population dynamics (alligators), distribution of vertebrate species in relation to habitats, modeling current and predicted future species distribution on a landscape scale, analysis of landscape patterns, and ecological characteristics of tree islands.

Dr. Chris Martinez is a hydrologist in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department at the University of Florida and is a faculty member of the UF Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology. His current research focuses on improving weather and climate forecasts for water resource management, evaluation and attribution of variations in hydrology to changes in large-scale climate, and improving the communication of climate information to water resource decision makers in the SE USA.

Dr. Melissa Martin is an ecologist for the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge and the Everglades Program Team, a group of scientists and engineers tracking the progress of Everglades’ restoration and assessing the potential impacts of restoration. She has held multiple positions focused on ecosystem management and restoration in South Florida, including serving as the Lake Science Program Coordinator for the South Florida Water Management District and as biologist for the Regulatory Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Seminar reminders, special seminars (not listed) and changes to the current program are sent out in an email to our mailing list. If you would like to receive these announcements please email Kathy at kllk@ufl.edu.

Additional information about programs at the Everglades Research and Education Center may be found on our website at http://erec.ifas.ufl.edu