

# Spring 2019 LEEF Mini-Conference Report

ABRIDGED WEB VERSION

Prepared by Dustin Angell, 2019



The League of Environmental Educators in Florida held our spring mini-conference for 78 people at the Silver River Museum and Environmental Education Center in Ocala, FL on March 16, 2019. The event schedule included: field trips, heritage craft workshops, LEEF's first keynote panel, lunch, general membership meeting, breakout sessions, and concurrent presentation sessions. This mini-conference highlighted more academic research than others thanks mostly to the contributions of Dr. Martha Monroe from the University of Florida. She led a keynote panel consisting of five of her environmental education graduate students. In addition, one of our presentation spaces was dedicated to research talks. This mini-conference made a net profit of \$3,594.13. This mini-conference was one of our highest attended and most profitable.

## Conference Details

- Attendance: 78 people (mini-con record)
  - 96% attendees registered online
  - 84% of online registrations received early bird pricing
- Theme: Next Generation of EE
- Keynote Panel of University of Florida students, facilitated by Dr. Martha Monroe, UF
- 2 field trips
- 2 heritage craft workshop
- 19 presenters (including keynote panel)
- 14 presentations (plus keynote and breakouts)
- Conference bingo for \$10 off registration for the spring 2020 conference
- Members voted to change board structure to eliminate regional directors.

## Facilities and Food

- Location provided free of charge
- Free onsite camping
- Sandwich boxes from Jersey Mike's Subs

## Accounting

- Total Revenue: \$4,767.12
- Total Expenses: \$1,172.99
- **Net Profit: \$3,594.13**

## Conference Chair

- Dustin Angell

## Conference Committee

- Erin Benavides
- Martha Monroe
- Vicki Crisp
- Lilian Norris
- Dolly Cummings

## LEEF Board 2018-2019

- President - Andrea Leavitt Andersen
- President Elect - Sarah Davis
- Past President - Dustin Angell
- Secretary - Robin Reccasina
- Treasurer - Vicki Crisp
- Big Bend/Panhandle - Vacant
- Crown - Vacant
- North - Leslie Straub
- West Central - Lilian Norris
- East Central - Jamie Craighead
- Southeast - Megan Harris
- Southwest - Jennifer Macbeth
- South - Dawn Miller-Walker

# SAVE THE DATE



**Spring 2019 MINI-CONFERENCE**  
March 16, 2019 @ The Silver River Museum in Ocala



## APPENDIX II: PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Destiny Cardentey  <b>Affiliation:</b> University of Florida  <b>Bio:</b> I am a third-year undergrad at the University of Florida, studying Wildlife Ecology and Conservation with an interest in Conservation Education and Communications. As an undergraduate researcher in the Media Effects and Technology Lab (METL), I assist graduate students with research pertaining to immersive storytelling and its effects on empathy for environmental issues such as climate change.</p>	<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Bryan Nichols  <b>Affiliation:</b> Florida Atlantic University  <b>Bio:</b> Bryan Nichols is an assistant professor of science and environmental education at Florida Atlantic University. His background is behavioral ecology, and he has done research and taught from British Columbia to Belize.</p>
<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Jessica Ireland  <b>Affiliation:</b> Florida Project Learning Tree, UF School of Forest Resources &amp; Conservation</p>	<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Mike Kennison  <b>Affiliation:</b> Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  <b>Bio:</b> Outreach and Education staff for the Lionfish Control Team</p>
<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Dave Finnigan  <b>Affiliation:</b> Green Actioneers  <b>Bio:</b> I've delivered one-day programs in over 2,000 elementary/middle schools in 46 states. I'm now focused on Climate Change, but for political reasons have changed the name of the program from "Climate Change is Elementary" to "Green Actioneers."</p>	<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Dr. Martha Monroe  <b>Affiliation:</b> University of Florida  <b>Bio:</b> Dr. Martha Monroe is a Professor, Extension Specialist, and Associate Director of the School of Forest Resources and Conservation at the University of Florida. Her work in environmental education includes curriculum development, evaluation, and conservation behavior.</p>
<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Gabby Salazar  <b>Affiliation:</b> University of Florida  <b>Bio:</b> Gabby Salazar is a doctoral student at University of Florida in the School of Forest Resources and Conservation. She is currently helping to design and evaluate an environmental education program in India's Western Ghats. Gabby is a conservation photojournalist and a National Geographic Explorer.</p>	<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Jessica Andreasen  <b>Affiliation:</b> Green Cay Nature Center  <b>Bio:</b> With a Bachelor's of Science in Marine Biology, I have been informally teaching science and environmental education since 2012. Currently, I am the naturalist at Green Cay Nature Center in Palm Beach County. I am also a FL Master Naturalist, Project WILD Facilitator and proud lifetime LEEF member.</p>
<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Vicki Crisp  <b>Affiliation:</b> LEEF  <b>Bio:</b> Vicki Crisp has been active in LEEF for over 30 years and has served as a board member for many of those years. She is the current LEEF treasurer. As a Florida teacher and teacher-trainer, she has helped strengthen working relationships between classroom teachers, higher education faculty, and non-formal environmental educators.</p>	<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Walter Cheatham  <b>Affiliation:</b> The Nature Guy  <b>Bio:</b> I am an independent environmental educator and consultant in Southwest Florida focused on eco-centric connection and interaction.</p>
<p><b>Presenter name:</b> Natalie Cooper  <b>Affiliation:</b> University of Florida</p>	<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Karen Willey  <b>Affiliation:</b> Around the Bend Nature Tours</p>

<p><b>Bio:</b> Natalie Cooper is a PhD student in the School of Forest Resources and Conservation at the University of Florida. Over the last decade she has engaged with a diversity of rural communities and stakeholders on environmental conservation projects across Panama and forest management in the Brazilian Amazon. Currently, her research is focused on civic engagement and extension communications around water sustainability issues in Florida.</p>	<p><b>Bio:</b> Karen Willey has spent the last 35 years walking the local trails in SW Florida and learning the stories of our land. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Florida in Ornamental Horticulture with an Environmental Studies Minor. Through Around the Bend Nature Tours Karen has been offering guided nature walks, field study trips for schools, and outdoor education classes for adults since 1999. In 2018, Around the Bend Nature Tours impacted 8600 students and 2700 adults. Karen is a NAI Certified Interpretive Guide and a Nationally Certified Climate Change Interpreter. Karen's motto is: Go Wild! And Learn the Florida story.</p>
<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Dr John Pipoly  <b>Affiliation:</b> Broward County Parks and Recreation  <b>Bio:</b> Program Coordinator for STEAM/Environmental Education providing over 90 programs among 22 natural areas, 17 regional and 8 neighborhood parks, and 4 nature centers with 10 other educators. Also serves as Grants Administrator and Volunteer Coordinator. 42 years of scientific experience, 148 peer-reviewed publications in the areas of sustainable development, systematic and evolutionary biology, STEAM/Environmental Education, tropical tree architectural modeling, measurement and monitoring of biodiversity, science and educational administration, economic and ethnobotany, climate change and resiliency.</p>	<p><b>Presenter Name:</b> Lara Milligan  <b>Affiliation:</b> University of Florida  <b>Bio:</b> Lara Milligan is the Natural Resources Agent for UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County. Her work focuses on wildlife, water, and general environmental education. Lara earned her Bachelors and Master's degree in Natural Resource Conservation from the University of Florida and is a graduate of the Natural Resources Leadership Institute.</p>
<p><b>Presenters Names:</b> Debbie Fritz-Quincy  <b>Affiliation:</b> Hobe Sound Nature Center, Inc.  <b>Bio:</b> Debbie Fritz-Quincy has served as the Director of the Hobe Sound Nature Center, Inc. since 1982. The Center is a cooperating association with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and located at the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge in Martin County. She is a native Floridian, a member of the National Association for Interpretation for over 30 years and a charter member of the League of Environmental Educators in Florida (LEEF). Throughout her career, Debbie has shared her love and commitment to Florida's natural environment through programming on Florida's local wildlife and habitats.</p>	<p><b>Presenters Names:</b> Dawn Miller-Walker  <b>Affiliation:</b> Science Eye &amp; Environmental Conservation Organization  <b>Bio:</b> For 20 years Dawn Miller-Walker has enjoyed teaching hands-on science topics, specializing in environmental conservation in schools and in the field to any organized group through Science Eye &amp; Environmental Conservation Organization (ECO). She attends and presents at many science and environmental conferences and workshops. Science is a verb, not a noun!</p>

**APPENDIX III: CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**SPRING 2019  
MINI-CONFERENCE**

SILVER RIVER MUSEUM &  
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER  
OCALA, FLORIDA  
MARCH 16, 2019



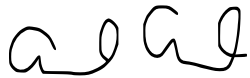
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League of Environmental Educators in Florida

# LEEF President's Welcome

It is an exciting time to be part of the League of Environmental Educators in Florida. The past year has been a time of building our overall capacity as an organization through strategic planning and developing a new, more effective structure for LEEF's board of directors. We have also worked to become more efficient and effective in our board meetings by having monthly hour-long meetings via conference calls. It is appropriate that our Keynote Panel is focused on moving environmental education into the future as much of our work has been focused on creating an organizational structure that will support this future growth. It is my hope that this conference will be an enriching experience and that we will each come away with new ideas and new friends, and be recommitted to moving EE forward.

Thank you for being here!



Andrea Andersen  
LEEF President

## Unique Collaboration

*LEEF is collaborating with the Silver River Museum and Education Center to hold this year's spring mini-conference.*

Located within the Silver Springs State Park in Ocala, Florida, the Silver River Museum and Education Center is a program of Marion County Public Schools. The museum serves the school system during the weekdays and is open to the public on the weekends. The site includes the museum and classrooms, as well as a pioneer settlement.



## Agenda Quick Check

7:30-8:30	Registration Light Breakfast
8:30-10:30	Field Trips Craft Workshop Mingle Room
10:30-10:45	Opening Remarks
10:45-11:45	Keynote Panel
11-45-1:00	Lunch/General Member Meeting
1:00-1:45	Session 1
1:45-2:30 –	Session 2
2:30-2:45	Snack Break
2:45-3:15-	Session 3
3:15-4:00 –	Session 4
4:00-4:15 –	Closing Remarks

## Field Trips & Crafts Workshops

**8:30-10:30**

Conference participants can choose between two field trips or sign up for one of two heritage workshops. All field trips and workshops leave from the Silver River Museum at 8:30am.

### Field Trips

#### **Field Trip #1: Natural Communities Eco-Tour**

Enjoy a guided tram and boat ride through the natural communities of Silver Springs State Park. Consider bringing a pair of binoculars to view the wildlife in the woods and on the river.

*No extra fee but must register, 24 person limit*

#### **Field Trip #2: Guided Nature Hike**

Hike alongside experts to learn about the natural communities and history of Silver Springs State Park as you explore the River Trail. This 1.3 mile loop begins in the dry uplands and gradually shifts lower in elevation to our wetlands before reaching the Silver River.

*No extra fee*

### Crafts

#### **Heritage Craft Workshop #1: Pioneer Skills and Cooking**

Explore the Silver River Pioneer Village as you learn how the early settlers to Florida harnessed natural resources to survive. Try your hand at cooking over a fire in a log cabin from the 1830's. Participants will get to eat what they cook.

*\$6 per person, paid during registration or at registration table, 20 person limit.*

#### **Heritage Craft Workshop #2: Museum Tour and Stone Tool Making**

The Silver River Museum offers exhibits on Florida history, natural history, geology, archaeology, paleontology and ecology. Participants will stand face to face with a 12,000 year old Columbian Mammoth, peer into the jaws of a giant prehistoric shark, and glimpse into the lives of Paleo Indians. After a guided museum tour participants will learn the art of flint knapping, creating a stone tool to take home.

*\$6 per person, paid during registration or at registration table, 20 person limit.*

### Mingle Room

There are no concurrent sessions or other presentations during 8:30am-10:30am. There will be, however, a Mingle Room open in the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom for those who wish to spend this time catching up with old friends, making new friends, or just relaxing in this beautiful location!

## Keynote Panel

### NEXT GENERATION EE: MOVING EE INTO THE FUTURE

Martha C. Monroe, Professor, School of Forest Resources and Conservation

Dr. Monroe is a leader in environmental education, past President of NAAEE, and professor at University of Florida. Her work in program development, evaluation, and conservation behavior helps support Extension programs in natural resources and community development. Several of her graduate students will speak on the keynote panel, sharing their visions of how environmental education can help our communities move forward.

Panel:

Kirsten Hecht, PhD candidate, School of Natural Resources and Environment

Sadie Hundemer, PhD student, School of Forest Resources and Conservation

Kenneth C. Rainer, PhD student, School of Forest Resources and Conservation

Gabby Salazar, PhD student, School of Forest Resources and Conservation

Lauren A. Watkins, PhD candidate, School of Forest Resources and Conservation

### SESSION 1

1:00 pm-1:45 pm

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM

Title: ***In the Shoes of Others: Bringing Climate Change Closer Through Immersive Storytelling***

Presenter: Destiny Cardentey

Length: 20 minutes

Category: Research and Evaluation

Description: Communicating the long-term effects of climate change can be difficult, as psychological distance has a way of convincing most that it is not a pressing issue. The Media Effects and Technology Lab has found that the issue can be addressed using immersive media such as Virtual Reality and 360 video. Across a variety of experimental studies, work done in the lab has lent credence to the idea that immersive media can be an effective tool in encouraging pro environmental outcomes. To test this, we are currently leveraging this technology to introduce 7th grade students to the adverse effects climate change has on Antarctic ice cores. We will be studying their retention of the material and their views on climate change before and after they experience a virtual reality module based on key components of their curriculum.

Title: ***A Web of Expertise: Improving the links between classrooms and EE providers in Florida***

Presenter: Dr. Bryan Nichols

Length: 20 minutes

Category: Other

Description: This interactive presentation and discussion will describe how new programs at Florida Atlantic University are designed to strengthen the web of environmental education expertise in Florida and beyond. In addition to our long-running Masters in Environmental Education, we are adding a Graduate Certificate in Environmental Education and an honors program for preservice teachers: the Bachelor of Elementary Education



with Honors in Environmental Education. Working with our great local nature centers, parks, and wildlife rehabilitators, the goal is to improve and diversify the pipeline for both classroom and informal educators, so they can design curricula, assess programs, and work together more effectively. Input is welcome, so come join the web!

### 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM

Title: ***What's New with Project Learning Tree?***

Presenter: Jessica Ireland

Length: 40 minutes

Category: EE in Practice (activities, curricula, and success stories)

Description: In 2017, PLT launched two e-units: Treemendous Science!, for grades K-2, and Energy and Ecosystems, for grades 3-5. Treemendous Science! engages students in exploring, experiencing, observing, and collecting tree data to develop understandings about how trees grow, the roles trees play in ecosystems, and the ways in which trees and humans interact. With Energy and Ecosystems, students focus on forests and come to understand some of the interactions present in all ecosystems. In addition, in 2018, PLT released the Teaching with i-Tree Unit, designed for use with middle and high school students, and which includes three hands-on activities that engage students in discovering and analyzing the many ecosystem services that trees provide. This presentation will provide an overview of these new PLT resources, and attendees will participate in a hands-on activity demonstrating the use of i-Tree.

### LIBRARY

Title: ***The Lionfish Invasion***

Presenter: Mike Kennison

Length: 20 minutes

Category: EE in Practice (activities, curricula, and success stories)

Description: Mike Kennison, an educator from the Florida's Fish and Wildlife Commission's Lionfish Control Team will cover some basic information on lionfish and their invasion of the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Sea. Mike will give some information on FWC programs to combat the lionfish invasion and ways educators can help spread this information to the public.

Title: ***Green Actioneers***

Presenter: *Dave Finnigan*

Length: 20 minutes

Category: EE in Practice (activities, curricula, and success stories)

Description: Dave Finnigan will describe his climate change focused school program, called Green Actioneers. Dave will give an overview of the project, including PTA funding, logistics, and content. The program involves Dave visiting a school to give multiple presentations in a day, which includes working with each grade, a school-wide assembly, and an evening family event. At the Family Night, parents and students pledge to follow a Green Actioneers checklist of the things they promise to do to reduce their water and carbon footprints.

## **SESSION 2:**

1:45pm-2:30pm

### **4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM**

Title: ***Selecting a Tool to Assess Connection to Nature***

Presenter: Dr. Martha Monroe and Gabby Salazar

Length: 40 minutes

Category: Research and Evaluation (complete or ongoing)

Description: Most of us are engaged in efforts to connect people to nature. To measure our progress, we need tools that can assess our audience's connection with and commitment to nature. The challenge is that there are many different ways to define connection to nature, and even more tools to measure it. Join us to find out about a suite of potential tools and use our draft materials to identify a tool that might work for you. Sign up to review future drafts and give us feedback so that we can create a useful product for you!

### **5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM**

Title: ***Bird Banding Lab***

Presenter: Jessica Andreasen

Length: 40 minutes

Category: EE in Practice (activities, curricula, and success stories)

Description: Learn why scientists band birds and how they do it by taking part in a mock bird banding laboratory activity! This activity can be used in cooperation with several Project/Aquatic/Flying WILD activities. Please note, no live birds are used.

### **LIBRARY**

Title: ***Getting Little Feet WET***

Presenter: Vicki Crisp

Length: 20 minutes

Category: Early Childhood Education

Description: Getting Little Feet WET is Project WET's new guide focusing on water literacy for early childhood education. The guide includes 11 activities appropriate for children from PreK through 2nd grade. Additional resources include a book, WATER for YOU and ME!, and a companion web page. Learn more about LEEF's new association with Project WET that will enable educators to obtain this guide and more.

Title: Nature-Sophy

Presenter: Walter Cheatham

Length: 20 minutes

Category: EE in Practice (activities, curricula, and success stories)

Description: Nature-Sophy is a nature-mediated, philosophical examination of our relationship with Planet Earth. Employing nature connection activities combined with classical elements of philosophy and discourse, Nature-Sophy invites students to dust off their brain wrinkles and use their gray matter, as well as the outdoors, as an intellectual playground. This presentation provides an interactive introduction to the instructional design.

## **SESSION 3:**

3:15pm-4pm

### **4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM**

Title: ***Photography in Environmental Education: A Tool for Teaching and Learning***

Presenter: Gabby Salazar, Natalie Cooper

Length: 40 minutes

Category: EE in Practice

Description: Today, almost everyone has a camera in their pocket. How can we harness this technology to engage audiences in environmental learning? In this interactive session, we'll explore ways that photography can be used to teach environmental concepts, to spark creativity, and to facilitate dialogue. We will also cover 10 tips for teaching photography so that you are ready to implement these activities in your program. Please bring a camera or smartphone so that you can participate in activities.

### **5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM**

Title: ***Let's Talk Climate Change***

Presenter: Karen Wiley

Length: 40 minutes

Category: Other

Description: Discover the best way to frame your discussion on Climate Change. This is an introduction to NNOCCI Training, The National Network for Ocean and Climate Change Interpretation: a network of individuals and organizations in informal science education, science and social sciences who are committed to shaping public discourse around climate and ocean change to be positive, civic-minded and solutions-focused. Participants will be introduced to socially tested values and metaphors to be more effective in communicating the science of our changing climate.

### **LIBRARY**

Title: ***EE and Education for Sustainable Development Continuum: A Toolbox for Educators***

Presenter: Dr. John Pipoly

Length: 20 minutes

Category: Research and Evaluation

Description: Not long ago, experiential environmental education (EE) from empirical observation and understanding of nature in the field and laboratory was the norm in peri-urban or urban areas. Recently, a rather rapid shift in experiential pedagogical standards has been seen, designed to foment proactive resource management and achieve benchmarked resiliency measures in the face of an ever changing climate. Some communities have stopped teaching the classical EE and switched instead for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), which is related to, but at the other end of an important natural resource continuum. This talk is designed to give EE and ESD educators the perspective to re-evaluate programs, re-examine missions, visions and logical framework matrices to determine if a given program is optimal given these factors for the institution. Physical, infrastructural, technological and curricular tools are examined, Maslow's Hierarchy is revisited, SMART goals and objectives are reviewed and impacts from elements of the EE to ESD continuum are

explored. It is hoped that the work will better inform curriculum designers of options to have relevant, practical, yet integrated curricula, consistent with economic, social, political and cultural settings of the community.

Title: ***Help Your Volunteers S.H.I.N.E!***

Presenter: Lara Milligan

Length: 20 minutes

Category: EE in Practice

Description: Staff at Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center have been trained as Certified Interpretive Guides and Certified Interpretive Hosts. Staff utilized knowledge and skills from these trainings to create their own customized volunteer training workshops for their front desk and hike guide volunteers. This presentation will showcase the agendas from these trainings and showcase some of the activities staff conducted.

#### PAVILLION

Title: ***Props 'Til You Drop***

Presenter: Debbie Fritz-Quincy and Dawn Miller-Walker

Length: 40 minutes

Category: EE in Practice

Description: Interpreters and educators are always looking for new and innovative ways to excite our students and get an environmental message out. Whether your budget is small or grant-supported, there are numerous household items that you can utilize for nature games, costuming, gimmicks and demonstrations. Join us for this fast-paced and entertaining session.....get your creative juices flowing!

**Thank You** To our Host and Partner:

Silver River Museum and Nature Education Center

**LEEF Board 2018-2019**

President Andrea Leavitt Andersen  
President Elect Sarah Davis  
Past President Dustin Angell  
Secretary Robin Reccasina  
Treasurer Vicki Crisp  
Big Bend/Panhandle Vacant  
Crown Vacant  
North Leslie Straub  
West Central Lilian Norris  
East Central Jamie Craighead  
Southeast Megan Harris  
Southwest Jennifer Macbeth  
South Dawn Miller-Walker

**Conference Committee**

Dustin Angell  
Erin Benavides  
Martha Monroe  
Vicki Crisp  
Lilian Norris  
Dolly Cummings

*Save  
the  
Date*

**2020 LEEF Conference**  
March 20 - 22, 2020  
Eckerd College  
St. Petersburg, FL (tentative)

<b>Time</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom</b>	<b>Library</b>	<b>Pavilion</b>
7:30 -8:30	Registration Light Breakfast			
8:30-10:30	Field Trips Craft Workshops			
10:30-10:45	Opening Remarks			
10:45-11:45	Keynote Panel			
11-45-1:00	Lunch and General Member Meeting			
1:00-1:45	In the Shoes of Others <i>Destiny Cardentey</i>	What's New with Project Learning Tree? <i>Jessica Ireland</i>	The Lionfish Invasion <i>Mike Kennison</i>	
	A Web of Expertise <i>Dr. Bryan Nichols</i>		The Green New Deal for Families <i>Dave Finnigan</i>	
1:45-2:30	Assess Connection to Nature <i>Dr. Martha Monroe and Gabby Salazar</i>	Bird Banding Lab <i>Jessica Andreasen</i>	Getting Little Feet WET <i>Vicki Crisp</i>	
			Nature-Sophy <i>Walter Cheatham</i>	
2:30-2:45	Snack Break			
2:45-3:15	Open Session Breakouts	Open Session Breakouts	Open Session Breakouts	Open Session Breakouts
3:15-4:00	Photography in Environmental Education <i>Gabby Salazar and Natalie Cooper</i>	Let's Talk Climate Change <i>Karen Wiley</i>	EE and Education for Sustainable Development Continuum <i>Dr. John Pipoly</i>	Props 'Til You Drop. <i>Debbie Fritz-Quincy and Dawn Miller-Walker</i>
			Help Your Volunteers S.H.I.N.E! <i>Lara Milligan</i>	
4:00-4:15	Closing Remarks			

### **Schedule at a Glance**

## APPENDIX IV: NOTES FROM BREAKOUT GROUPS

### Open Session Breakouts

#### Early Childhood

- Science Profession Development K-12 Standards
- 9<sup>th</sup> grade E.S. Project WET, WILD, etc. correlating to standards we use to teach Environmental Science
- Nature Centers – free transportation
  - Pick activities that you are doing in classroom – collaboration
  - Market this
  - Instructions on website
  - Connect with teachers – marketing
  - Nature centers send out emails to schools
  - Lifeguard
  - NAI
  - CIG
- Skeleton Museum - Orlando
- Map of EE in FL
  - (Members) Miami, Orlando, Tampa, Jacksonville
  - Approach private schools – county
  - Homeschools
  - Each county Education Association – Teachers unions
  - Urban focused EE
  - Proximity to universities, colleges
  - Florida Native Plant Society
- Support for k-12 teachers by administrators
- Advocacy – good citizen, loyalty, afterschool programs, authority, sanctity, stewardship
- Science coordinators – standards
- Cornell – online classes EE
- Council for Exceptional Children
- LEEF members – classroom teachers
- Sign-up sheets for blog
- Connecting with other LEEF members in area

#### Higher Education

- Summary of newly published research
  - Newsletter
  - Blog
  - Fwd NAAEE

- EE research summary
- Brian – write blog
- What do others want to hear about?
  - Feedback from practitioners in the field
  - We would like to see what memberships want in terms of sessions
    - This tool I can apply
  - Quick blog survey on what we want to see
  - Make connection
  - I:I mentors @ conference
  - Pair new members with mentors
  - Form connections – here is my info, interests
  - Speed dating/present/network
  - Partnerships formal- non-formal educators
- Huge fan of panel discussion
  - Moderated
  - Included conversation
- Value –
  - Other universities pursuing EE certification
  - Certificates
  - Master degrees
  - What's happening in FL EE degrees?
  - EE degrees? Certificates? Programs?
  - Assess gaps
  - FL Higher Ed directory
- Organizations
  - Equity – Pace center for girls
  - Who should we invite?
    - Pre-service teachers
    - Student scholarships
    - Grad student poster sessions
    - Research symposium
  - Reach out to businesses – here is how we can help you
  - Partnerships – build relationships – how can we partner
  - Diversity equity inclusion – avenues to higher ed recruiting HS students
  - Important recruitment tool
- Conference threads
  - STEAM – tricks in classroom
  - STEAM lab – present
  - Educate other disciplines about EE
- Administer/ Develop tools educate leaders about Env. Ed.

## Nature Centers

What would you like to see LEEF do for you?



- LEEF Certification similar to NAI or N.C. Certification
- Friends groups like a resource network

What would you like to see in a Blog post?

- Resources like curriculum.
- Fundraising ideas that work
- Grantwriting workshop
- Increased partnerships with state organizations like FPRA, Homeschool, American Canoe Assn.

Possible members that are interested in serving on Committees Randi Cameon, Friends of Little Orange Creek, rcameon@cox.net, 352-359-2603 Annie Even, annie.even@ormondbeach.org Mary Crider, mcrider@wpb.org Jenna Biggs, jbiggs@flaquarium.org

## **Parks and Government**

- Must have more obvious benefits to members who are already under pressure to join National Recreation and Parks Association, Florida Recreation and Parks Association, Florida Association of Environmental Professionals, and National Association for Interpretation.
- Suggest members only section with basic powerpoints covering important subjects
- Links to important research papers published on uses of new technology
- Teach techniques for virtual distance learning
- Should re-establish mini-grants of \$500 to defray attendance at Mini-conference, or for small projects.
- Should try to set up emails to members announcing webinars that come from NAAEE or SEEA, or others.
- For New Members, joint meetings with us, we should reach out to:
- Southeastern Association for Science Teacher Education
  - Florida Association of Science Teachers
  - Florida Recreation and Parks Association
  - Society of American Foresters--
  - Southeastern Society of American Foresters
  - National Association of State Foresters,
  - Florida Forestry Association
  - National Association for Interpretation
  - Florida Region of the Association of Nature Center Administrators
  - Florida After School Network STEM Collaborative program
  - Kiwanis International
  - Circle K
  - Aktion
  - Key Club

**APPENDIX V: CONFERENCE BINGO**

# LEEF Conference BINGO

Is attending LEEF conference for the first time	Has a unique hobby	2 or more siblings	Is an artist	Knows FL state wildflower
Speaks more than one language	Plays instrument	Born in Florida	Has an electric vehicle	Likes to kayak
Allergic to pollen	Knows where the original Tarzan movie was originally filmed	Is a LEEF founding member	Has a pet other than dog or cat	Has solar panels on their home roof
Has visited at least 4 countries	Someone who is on at least 3 social media platforms	Has butterfly garden	Has visited at least 5 FL state parks	Is a vegetarian
Knows FL state mammal scientific name	Likes to climb trees	Is scuba certified	Has a tattoo	Knows how many species of snakes can be found in FL



\$10 Off Certificate

Towards the conference fees of  
the LEEF 2020 Conference

Expires after Spring 2020

## APPENDIX VI: ONSITE REGISTRATION FORM



### SPRING 2019 LEEF MINI-CONFERENCE MARCH 16, 2019 - OCALA, FLORIDA

#### Registration

- Regular Registration for Members - \$60
- Regular Registration for Non-Members - \$80
- Regular Registration for Student Members - \$40
- Regular Registration for Student Non-Members - \$60

#### Field Trips/Workshops:

- Field Trip #1: Natural Communities Eco-Tour – Free
- Field Trip #2: Guided Nature Hike
- Heritage Craft Workshop #1: Pioneer Skills and Cooking - \$6
- Heritage Craft Workshop #2: Museum Tour and Stone Tool Making - \$6

#### Membership

- Student - \$10
- Family - \$55
- Organization \$90
- Lifetime \$350

Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Name	
Address	
County	Email
Phone	