

Partnership Agreement on Regional Coordination between the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Compact and the Florida Climate Institute

Purpose

The following agreement establishes a partnership between the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact) and the Florida Climate Institute (FCI) to increase the effectiveness of current collaborations among Florida's institutions of higher learning and the local governments and regional agencies of Southeast Florida. The purpose of this Partnership Agreement is to seek better alignment between public sector information and management needs and ongoing research objectives, to improve coordination among the parties in pursuing competitive research funding opportunities, and to assure that the best and brightest ideas emerging from Florida's world-class institutions are well positioned for implementation in supporting Southeast Florida's efforts to transition to a resilient and low-carbon economy.

Background

Since its creation in 2009 by forward-thinking elected officials, the Compact has emerged as one of the preeminent regional metropolitan climate change governance models nationally and globally. The collaboration and coordination across cities and counties and among federal, state and local agencies has advanced the region rather quickly toward increased shared aspirations for greater climate resilience and reductions in regional emissions. Likewise, the Florida Climate Institute is a path breaking collaboration among eight of Florida's world class universities that serves as a multidisciplinary network for research and education aimed at helping Florida meet the many challenges of global climate change. Together, the Compact and FCI recognize that responsible action on global climate change will require the talents and insights of nearly every academic discipline from primary climate science to architecture and engineering, from the arts and humanities to ecology and finance. And the parties to this agreement further recognize that knowledge, to be effective, must be well integrated into the public policy of Southeast Florida.

Partnership Agenda

The Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and the Florida Climate Institute agree to the following partnership actions:

- I. We will improve communication and coordination between our respective networked organizations.
 - a. By mutual consent, we will each appoint representatives to serve as liaisons to the other's primary governance and coordination teams;
 - b. We will each promote and participate in the activities and events of our respective entities, recognizing the constraints sometimes provided by limited budgets and resources;
 - c. We will work together to ensure that research conferences and symposia focusing on our mutual interests will be located such that Compact participants are able to participate without incurring significant travel costs; and
 - d. We will establish a joint Southeast Florida Hub that will allow us to more specifically address regional issues in Southeast Florida, while maintaining communication and collaboration with the broader statewide FCI partners.

- II. We will engage in an annual process of identifying the highest priority research objectives based on the needs of Compact managers and the academic pursuits of FCI faculty affiliates.
 - a. We will work together to develop proposals from this annual process and assure transparency in the preparation of all presentations, grants, awards, abstracts or letters of support that formally reference our collective work together as a basis of award or recognition;
 - b. Each party will actively consider opportunities to include members and affiliates of the other in responses to unforeseen calls for proposals and/or notices of funding opportunities.

- III. We will work together to perfect this agreement for ratification by our respective Compact and University Principals at a later date.

Agreed, this day, October 1, 2014, in Miami Beach, Florida.

For the Compact

For the Florida Climate Institute



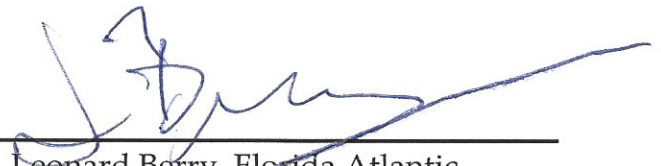
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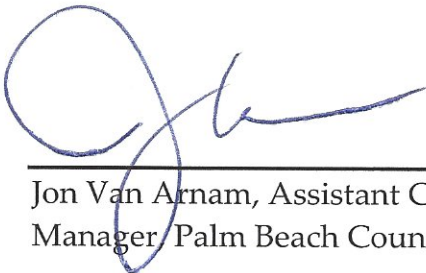
Dr. Leonard Berry, Florida Atlantic
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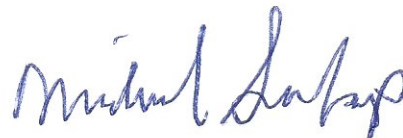
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