

# HARBOR BRANCH OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE

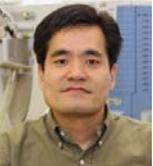
## FOUNDATION

Supporting Meaningful Oceanographic Research at FAU Harbor Branch  
 YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW

### New Faculty Hires Grant \$5,481,051

In 2013, the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation made a major seven year commitment of almost \$5.5 million toward support for the recruitment and hire of eight new faculty members. Hired over the course of seven years, funding included initial salary support and start-up packages of \$500,000 for state-of-the-art instrumentation, computer infrastructure, and initial technical support for each hire.

These outstanding scientists were hired by FAU Harbor Branch through this major grant support:

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|    | <b>Matt Ajemian, Ph.D.</b><br>Assistant Research Professor<br>Fisheries Ecology & Conservation  | Studies the ecology and conservation of targeted fisheries and vulnerable species and experience with a variety of marine and estuarine organisms from shellfish up to sharks and rays and spanning a continuum of marine and estuarine ecosystems, ranging from confined inshore lagoons to offshore artificial and natural reefs. |
|   | <b>Laurent Chérubin, Ph.D.</b><br>Associate Research Professor<br>Ocean Dynamics & Modeling     | Studies water movement in marine environments, including the forces that influence it and the ways it affects the proliferation of sea life (e.g., spawning) and planetary processes  |
|  | <b>Nick Dickens, Ph.D.</b><br>Associate Research Professor<br>Bioinformatics                    | Uses machine-learning techniques to understand the mechanisms of diversity in kinetoplastid parasites. Interested in the application of bioinformatics and – omics to useful biological questions.  |
|  | <b>Mingshun Jiang, Ph.D.</b><br>Associate Research Professor<br>Ocean Dynamics & Modeling       | Studies water movement in marine environments and the associated transport of nutrient, (e.g., nitrogen) elemental (i.e., iron), and biological (e.g., plankton) components, as well as the interactions of these things; these processes are central to the health and functioning of marine ecosystems                            |
|  | <b>Marty Riche, Ph.D.</b><br>Research Professor<br>Aquaculture & Stock Enhancement              | Researches fish aquaculture, especially fish nutrition and the development of feeds from non-fish protein sources, and the design and operation of aquaculture systems that re-use water, all of which is aimed at making fish farming more sustainable   |
|  | <b>Jim Sullivan, Ph.D.</b><br>Research Professor<br>Marine Ecosystem Health                     | Studies oceanic phytoplankton, which are microscopic marine plants that feed a variety of animals from snails to whales, and can create harmful algal blooms. Develops instruments for oceanographic research that measure the interaction between light and particles in the water to extract information about the particles      |
|  | <b>Michael Twardowski, Ph.D.</b><br>Research Professor<br>Ocean Engineering & Technology        | Uses in-water and remote optical sensing techniques to investigate oceanic, coastal, and inland ecosystems, sediment dynamics, water quality, imaging and visibility, and oil spill detection and response. Sensor development and measurement/monitoring from autonomous vehicles and moored platforms are of special interest.    |
|  | <b>Guojun Wang, Ph.D.</b><br>Assistant Research Professor<br>Marine Biomedicine & Biotechnology | Uses genetic and biochemical methods to recreate molecules isolated from marine natural products that have promise as medicines and to create new drug candidates   |

#### OUR COMMITMENTS: YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW

HBOIF looks forward to continuing to serve FAU Harbor Branch by realizing the founder's vision of fostering meaningful oceanographic research and ensuring FAU Harbor Branch remains the premier leader for

*Ocean Science for a Better World*®