

Southwest Regional Center at Florida Gulf Coast University Quarterly Report – April/May/June Matthew Schuld, Outreach Coordinator

Executive Summary

The Southwest Regional Center saw a number of changes and conducted many successful events during the fourth quarter of FY 2010-11. In April, Principle Investigator Michael McDonald convened a search committee to conduct a search for the Director of the SWRC. From an outstanding set of applicants, Dr. Annette Snapp was offered and accepted the position in early June. Dr. Snapp will join the SWRC in early July. Annette has had extensive experience working on public archaeology projects in an academic setting, at non-profits, and within local government. Another staff change was the resignation of Outreach Coordinator Matthew Schuld who is relocating to Indiana for another position.

While continuing our general outreach offerings of public presentations to civic groups, attending local festivals, and meeting with other cultural resource stakeholders to discuss future partnerships, we premiered a new exhibit space and our Boy Scout Merit Badge Program this quarter.

The first exhibit, *Cuban Fishing Ranchos: A General History* (developed by the West Central Region) was installed in the newly developed exhibit space outside the FPAN office. Our office expects to begin discussion with the Museum Studies faculty later this summer about developing the next exhibit.

We partnered with Michael Wylde of the Randell Research Center for our initial Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic. Attendees were provided the opportunity to witness an ongoing excavation, assist in lab work, and screen materials from a salvage pile.

Lastly, Matt Schuld attended several presentations on public archaeology and history at the 2011 National Council on Public History Conference and Florida Anthropological Society Annual Meeting.

Type of Activity/Event	# of Events/Presentations/Activities	Attendees #
Public Events	3	550
Public Presentations	3	120
Meetings attended – Government, Schools, Administration, Local Organizations	7	160
Professional Events attended	2	
Printed Articles – Magazine, Newspaper	1	
Printed Media produced	Exhibit installed	
Electronic Media produced– Blog, Podcasts, Mass Emails	Facebook, Blog, Twitter	85
TOTAL		915

Public Outreach

Info Booths

- Earth Day Festival at Koreshan State Park 450 attendees Public Lectures/Presentations/Tours
 - Kissimmee Valley Historical and Archaeological Society 15 attendees
 - Downtown Walking Tour of Fort Myers with Lee Hutchinson, developed in partnership with FAS Chapter – 30 attendees
 - Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic 15 attendees
 - Estero Rotary Club 20 attendees
 - FGCU Colloquium faculty, "Fostering a Sense of Place with Archaeology,"
 10 attendees
 - Assisted in organizing Monthly FAS Chapter meetings (3), Lee County 110 attendees
 - Brought FGCU Faculty and Staff to FGCU/THPO Field School 8 attendees

Publications

Blog, Facebook, Twitter

- Marco Eagle: http://www.marconews.com/news/2011/jun/16/volunteers-sought-historic-cemetery-research/
- Naples Daily News: http://m.naplesnews.com/photos/galleries/2011/apr/23/earth-day-celebration-koreshan-estero-2011/169393

Advising/Meetings

- Lover's Key State Park met to discuss future partnerships
- Rookery Bay Reserve met to discuss upcoming GPR project
- Seminole Tribal Historic Preservation Office Toured facilities, saw collections, discussed upcoming PastPerfect Workshop

Aiding/Advising Local Governments

Charlotte County
Collier County

• Sent letter to Collier County Board of Commissioners regarding ongoing disturbance to the Chokoloskee Island Archaeological Site.

Glades County Hendry County Lee County

> Wrote grant letter of support for the Bonita Springs Historic Preservation Commission/Bonita Springs Historical Society

Assisting DHR

- Discussed DHR grant opportunities with local heritage organizations
- Distributed DHR information at festivals and public events

Other

- Attended National Council on Public History Annual Meeting
- Attending Florida Anthropological Society Annual Meeting