

## Theme Reporters

**Gerald R. Culen**, Assistant Professor  
Department of Family, Youth, and Community Sciences, UF/IFAS

Dr. Gerald R. Culen is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family, Youth, and Community Sciences. He is the design team leader for the Cooperative Extension Service's Environmental Education State Major Program (FL714) and directs the programs at the University's four residential camping centers. He received three degrees from Southern Illinois University, a Ph.D, and M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in environmental education and a B.A. in Zoology. His research emphasis focuses on curriculum evaluation and how instructional models in environmental education influence environmental behavior. This research emphasis is directly related to the "Extended Case Study" an instructional model for investigating and evaluating environmental issues and actions which he has co-developed. He has also authored or co-authored a number of publications including three case studies: Canada Geese: A Wildlife Management Case Study; Wetlands: A Major North American Issue, and his most recent publication, Coastal Marine Environmental Issues: An Extended Case Study for the Gulf Coast and Florida Peninsula.

**Victor J. Heller**, Assistant Executive Director  
Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (GFC)

Mr. Heller, current Assistant Executive Director of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (GFC), has spent 20 years with the GFC, plus 4 years with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Migratory Bird Research). His GFC service includes positions as Regional Wildlife Biologist - Everglades Region, Statewide Supervisor of Wildlife Management Area Program, Supervisor of Nongame Wildlife Section, and Assistant Director - Division of Wildlife. Mr. Heller received his B.S. and M.S. in Wildlife Ecology from Oklahoma State University.

**Ken Langeland**, Professor  
Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants

Ken Langeland is a Professor of Agronomy in the IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. His research program is aimed at solving practical problems in invasive plant management. His extension program focuses on public education on invasive aquatic and terrestrial plants. It also involves pesticide applicator training for applicators who apply pesticides for aquatic weed control and invasive plant management on conservation lands. He is the author of over 50 journal publications and extension publications.

**H. Franklin Percival**, Florida Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit  
US Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division, University of Florida

Dr. Percival, who currently works with the US Geological Survey Biological Resources Division of the Florida Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, has received multiple grants and written numerous publications on biological and environmental sciences in Florida. Dr. Percival received his B.S. in Biology from the University of South Carolina. He went on to earn a Masters and PhD in Zoology from Clemson University in 1968 and 1972 respectively.

Dr. Percival has been the principal investigator in projects on 1.) American alligator distribution, thermoregulation, and biotic potential relative to hydroperiod in the Everglades National Park - U.S. Geological Survey/BRD - completion 6/99 (with K. Rice); 2.) Assessing the impact of the Lake Kissimmee restoration on apple snails - Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, South Florida Water Management District and the St. Johns River Water Management District - completion 6/98; 3.) Demographics, genetic relationships, and impacts from red-imported fire ants on the Florida grasshopper sparrow - USAF, Avon Park Air Force Range - completion 12/98; 4.) Dry down tolerance of the Florida apple snail (*Pomaces paludosa*, Say) effects of age and season - U.S. Geological Survey/BRD - completion 4/99; 5.) Movements, spatial use patterns, and habitat utilization of radio-tagged West Indian manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) along the Atlantic coast of Florida and Georgia - Sirenia Project, U.S. Geological Survey/BRD, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - completion 7/2000.

**Ramesh Reddy**, Professor  
Soil and Water Science Department, UF/IFAS

Dr. K. R. Reddy, Graduate Research Professor, University of Florida Wetland Biogeochemistry Laboratory, Soil and Water Science Department. Dr. Reddy and his coworkers conduct research on biogeochemical cycling of nutrients in soil-water-plant components of wetland ecosystems. Author or co-author of over 200 scientific papers. Major research interests are: spatial and temporal variations in biogeochemical cycling of nutrients and other contaminants in wetlands and aquatic systems, as related to ecosystem functions and water quality. Dr. Reddy teaches one graduate course on *Biogeochemistry of Wetlands* and undergraduate course on *Wetlands and Water Quality*. Fellow - Soil Science Society of America; Fellow - American Society of Agronomy; Chairman 1992 - Div. A-5 (Environmental Quality), American Society of Agronomy; Chairman - 1994 - Div. S-10, Wetland Soils Soil Science Society of America; University of Florida Research Award 1990, 1991-92; Edward Deevey Jr. Award, 1998.

**Dr. William Seaman, Jr.**, Associate Director  
Florida Sea Grant College Program, UF/IFAS

Dr. William Seaman, Jr., Professor, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, University of Florida, Associate Director of the Florida Sea Grant College Program, Gainesville, Florida

Dr. Seaman is trained as an ichthyologist and has worked with fishes and habitats in freshwater and marine environments. His principal assignment is to work with statewide and national programs in sustainable development of coastal and ocean natural resources through research, technology transfer, public service and education sponsored by Sea Grant.

As a principal scientific effort, Dr. Seaman's involvement with artificial reefs began over a decade ago through various efforts to improve reef-building by diverse coastal fishery harvest and environmental restoration interests in Florida through information transfer. Due to the status of Florida's reef network as the largest in the U.S., he was invited to address national and regional conferences to describe it. Subsequently, he undertook research which includes (1) the first quantification of fish assemblages on re-deployed obsolete petroleum platforms (in the U.S. Atlantic); (2) experimentation with full-scale artificial reefs and the effects of their dispersion/clustering on food and game fish species (Gulf of Mexico); and (3) determination of the influence of reef size on fish biomass (U.S. Pacific).

In other professional areas, Dr. Seaman was President of the Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, and produced a book, *Florida Aquatic Habitat and Fishery Resources*, which was voted "book-of-the-year" by a statewide fishery organization. He organized and taught the first fishery science course at the University of Florida and is a life member of the American society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists and the American Fisheries Society, and was elected to the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists. He served as a member of the Florida Council on Environmental Education, collaborated in a long-term National Science Foundation global environmental education workshop program for teachers, and in 1996 he received the "Founder's Award" from the League of Environmental Educators of Florida.