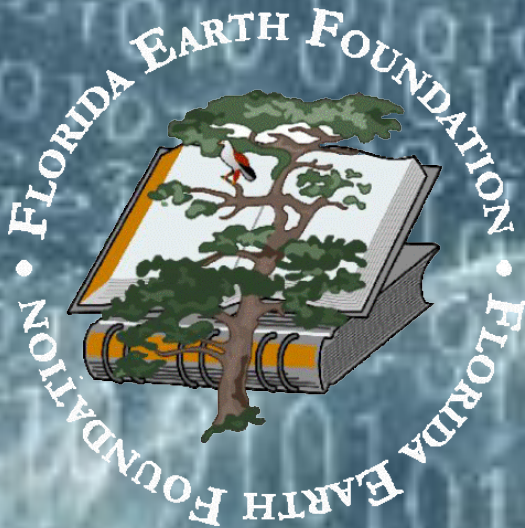


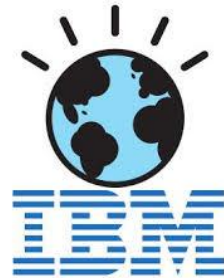
Big Data & Decision Making: The Future of the Water Space

December 8 & 9, 2105

Hilton UF Conference Center
Gainesville, Florida



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Agenda

- **Tuesday, December 8: Ecology and Big Data**
- 9:00 AM Welcome & Introductory Remarks - Jack Payne, VP, University of Florida IFAS
- 9:15 AM Keynote Address - Will Sarni, Deloitte Consulting. Live streamed at <https://youtu.be/ELz0Ss7FVyw>
- 9:45 AM Using Big Data for Ecology - Moderator, Tom Frazer, Director of UF's School for Natural Resources, Speaker, Hank Loescher, Director of Special Projects, National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON). Live streamed at <https://youtu.be/ELz0Ss7FVyw>
- 10:45 AM Break
- 11:00 AM Federal Perspectives on the Big Data Dilemma - Moderator, Ernie Cox, President, Family Lands Remembered LLC, Gretchen Ehlinger, Acting Chief for Restoration and Recovery, US Army Corps of Engineers

- 12:00 PM Lunch with Greg van der Vink, Princeton University and Novametrics - What's all this Noise?
- 1:00 PM The Florida Earth Young Scholars - Integrating Data and Research from a Comprehensive Approach - Kelly Heber Dunning, Woods Hole Institute at MIT and Ann Siders, Woods Institute at Stanford University
- 2:00 PM Data and US Higher Education, Jay Martin, Director, OSU Global Water Institute, Kirk Hatfield, UF Engineering School for Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment
- 3:00 PM Breakout Groups with the question of "What do we need?"

Jack Payne

Jack Payne has led IFAS since 2010. In the last five years, he's kept the organization strong despite lean state budgets and is now coming off a year in which IFAS brought in more than \$100 million in research grants and \$23 million in private donations and pledges. He is a champion for agricultural research and has lobbied to keep public funding and public attention focused on the need to come up with solutions to citrus greening. His idea to start a global food systems institute to make UF an international leader in food security issues is one of the UF Preeminence campaign's most prominent initiatives. He's currently involved in talks with both the medical center and the engineering school in Gainesville in attempt to expand the Extension model university-wide. He has also overseen the launch of Challenge 2050, a new undergraduate program in which students learn through developing their own solutions to the grand challenge of feeding a projected 9.6 billion people by mid-century. He has worked at Penn State, Texas A&M, Utah State and Iowa State. He also spent 10 years leading conservation efforts for Ducks Unlimited. Now at his fifth land-grant university, he is passionate about the research, teaching and extension missions and insists that land-grants will have to play a central role in meeting many of the grand challenges of our times.



Will Sarni, Deloitte

Director and Practice Leader: Water Strategy, Deloitte Consulting
Will is a hydrogeologist by education and early trade, which he turned into a fruitful environmental and sustainability consulting business for both the private and public sectors for more than three decades...and counting. He never lost his passion for the importance of water and has spent the last five years of his career focused on this important topic that is just now getting the attention it needs. Companies and organizations needing to look at their water strategy for the first time or through a new lens will benefit from Will's leadership in being both good water stewards and good businessmen and women. William's diverse client list includes Fortune 500 companies, multinational corporations and non-governmental organizations. He has managed complex projects throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, working with some of the world's most recognizable companies.



Deloitte.

Hank Loescher

Dr. Loescher's career has been at the nexus of science, engineering and project development. Formally educated as an Ecosystem Scientist, he is also known as an effective and organized science administrator and team leader. He received his PhD and MSc from the University of Florida and undergraduate degrees from SUNY and the University of Vermont. He was the second hire for the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), a first-of-its kind \$434 million continental-scale major research facility that integrates science, engineering and project management. Hank has lead multiple NEON Project Science Teams and engineering efforts, and he is currently pioneering international and domestic efforts to link large scale environmental observatories and their 'Big Data' to address current and future environmental problems facing society today. His active research projects include determining the biotic and abiotic controls on ecosystem-level carbon, water and energy balance across a range of spatial and temporal scales. Prior to his tenure at NEON, he was at Oregon State University administrating the DOE AmeriFlux Program.



Greg van der Vink

Princeton University and Novametrics

Greg is the Founder and CEO of Novametrics, a big data analytics firm that grew out of a series of advanced research seminars he taught at Princeton University and was launched with an Innovative Research Award from the Secretary of Defense. He was named Princeton's 250th Anniversary Professor for Distinguished Teaching in 2000/01 and was awarded the Engineering Council's Excellence in Teaching Award in 2004. Dr. van der Vink received his Ph.D. in Geosciences from Princeton University. He has been a National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow, a Congressional Science Fellow, and an International Affairs Fellow of the Council on Foreign Relations

