

Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment Intensive Seminar for Environmental Journalists

[Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment](#) sponsors an intensive week-long program of continuing education for working reporters who cover the environment. The program operates out of FAU's Jupiter campus while leading participants on exploratory forays across the region, a landscape that ranges from water-logged to parched, that absorbs spiraling population growth amid initiatives to preserve dwindling green space, that supports the state's signature Everglades ecosystem. Now in its third year, the 2008 program runs May 12-17 (2010).

Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment and Science The Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment and Science sponsors an intensive week-long program of continuing education for working reporters who cover the environment, medicine and other sciences. The program combines lectures from experts with panel discussions and a slate of field visits and studies. Participants will visit natural areas, environmental public works projects, laboratories and research stations along the east coast and interior of South Florida. Previous fellows have hiked through rare wildlife habitat, visited marine science labs on the Indian River Lagoon, snorkeled across shallow-water reefs off the Florida Keys and watched loggerhead turtles bury eggs on a moonlit beach. The institute is based at FAU's John D. MacArthur Campus in Jupiter, but travels may range from Fort Pierce to Miami and vicinity, and from the Atlantic coastline to Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades. The program has a strong environmental sciences agenda.

Participants could spend at least half the week examining topics such as new energy technologies, climate change, marine sciences, wetland and upland ecosystems, emerging contaminants and bio-prospecting. The rest of the time the program will turn in other scientific directions, to look at advances in areas such as stem cell research, genomics, biotechnology and neuroscience. Woven into the week are sessions designed to help participants sharpen their digital journalism and multi-media storytelling skills. These could include tutorials on video technique, blogging and social media. Some time may be devoted as well to examining emerging trends in new media.

As many as 25 journalists—from all types of media—are selected to attend each year thanks to a grant provided by the Scripps Howard Foundation in Ohio. Participants in the next session, scheduled for May 21-26, 2012, will explore developments in science, biotechnology and medicine in addition to the environmental subject matter the program has traditionally examined. The expanded agenda will connect the program to FAU's plan to launch a science journalism master's degree program in mid-2012. The 2012 agenda is under development: More details will be posted on the Institute website in the fall. Full-time journalists of all stripes, who specialize in science reporting or are further developing those skills, are encouraged to apply—staffer or freelancer, print, radio or television reporter, web writer or blogger, producer or editor.