



Mike Spranger, PhD  
Associate Director for Extension and Education  
Florida Sea Grant Program  
Associate Dean for Environmental & Natural Resource Programs  
University of Florida IFAS Extension  
Professor, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences  
University of Florida  
POB 110405  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0405  
[spranger@ufl.edu](mailto:spranger@ufl.edu)  
<http://www.flseagrant.org>

Hello COSEE Educators!

I am the Associate Director for Extension and Education with Florida Sea Grant and Associate Dean for Environmental & Natural Resource Programs at the University of Florida. I also am Professor in the Department of Family, Youth, and Community Sciences. My administrative responsibilities are to link diverse extension programs ranging from aquaculture to water quality to forestry and fisheries and across different disciplines to solve problems that stretch from the uplands to the coast. I provide leadership to aquatic, coastal, marine, and natural resource programs and interact with our University of Florida Cooperative Extension county agents and campus-based specialists and with research faculty at all participating Sea Grant institutions within the state of Florida to incorporate research results into education and outreach programs.

I have 30+ years of professional experience in extension and education activities. I've worked in Wisconsin, Oregon, Washington and Florida working on a variety of environmental and natural resource issues. I also had the opportunity to teach courses in environmental science, environmental ethics and organizational behavior at the University of Phoenix-Washington State campus. Most recently I

have had the experience to be involved in working on marine-related extension programs in Korea, China and Indonesia.

I have served in a number of leadership positions regionally and nationally, including serving on the board of directors and chair of the National Assembly of Sea Grant Extension Program Leaders and on the board of directors and President of the National Marine Educators Association. I am a Co-P.I. for the CGOM-COSEE Project. I also have been involved in development of the education and outreach council for the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System (GCOOS). I currently serve on the GCOOS Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Throughout my career, I have developed and led a number of teacher workshops at local, state and national levels that focus on stewardship and environmental ethics.

I have BA, MPA and MS degrees from the University of Wisconsin and a PhD degree from Portland State University. I am married, and have two dogs that take care of me...most days! I enjoy the outdoors, especially kayaking and fishing, often at the same time. I also enjoy and relax by playing the piano and cooking, not at the same time.