



LAND  
GRANT

UF

FLORIDA'S

LAND GRANT  
UNIVERSITY

*Results Beyond Education*

[LandGrant.ufl.edu](http://LandGrant.ufl.edu)



# Celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Morrill Act

UF Faculty Senate  
August 30, 2012

# Morrill Act

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Signed into law by Abraham Lincoln on July 2, 1862:

“An Act Donating public lands to the several States and [Territories] which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the Mechanic arts”

- First example of federal aid to higher education
- Provided access to education for thousands of farmers and working people
- Was a launching point for American Public Education

# First of three major acts

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Three acts from 1862-1914, each introducing a new part of the mission

- Morrill Act, 1862: provide quality education (followed by 1890 and 1994 Acts)
- Hatch Act, 1887: conduct research and experimentation in the public interest
- Smith-Lever Act, 1914: disseminate results of research and support lifelong learning

# Land Grant Idea

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**A social contract embodying the beliefs that**

- Education should not belong to the elite
- Created knowledge should be used for societal good
- People should have the opportunity to learn throughout their lives

**Revolutionary – emulated worldwide.**

# The land grant ideal is something to be proud of

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The “land grant” is the entire campus...

- We are one of only a handful of comprehensive land grant schools nationwide
- IFAS is the heart and soul, but we have unprecedented collaborative opportunities
- Whereas others have marginalized the event, we have taken on the celebration as a whole campus

# Land grant is all of us

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Task force convened to plan a year of celebration that encompasses our entirety

- 45 task force members
- Encompasses nearly all colleges and schools, Athletics, ROTC, Libraries, Student Affairs, Gator Clubs (Alumni Association), UFF, among others!
- New connections and collaborations

# The celebration

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Exhibit as part of Smithsonian Folklife Festival

- One million viewers
- Highlighting Florida water issues



# WATER: CONNECTIONS FOR LIFE



Water is essential for life. It is the foundation of our communities and the source of our energy. We must protect our water resources and ensure that we have enough clean water for everyone.

**WATER**

Water is essential for life. It is the foundation of our communities and the source of our energy. We must protect our water resources and ensure that we have enough clean water for everyone.

**YOU can HELP**

Water is essential for life. It is the foundation of our communities and the source of our energy. We must protect our water resources and ensure that we have enough clean water for everyone.

- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Take shorter showers.
- Fix leaks in your home.





Obtain most of their drinking and irrigation water from the Floridan aquifer.

- An aquifer contains water in underground gaps between rock, sand or gravel.
- The Floridan aquifer system is one of the most productive aquifers in the world, making some northern Alabama, northeastern Georgia, northern South Carolina and all of Florida.
- Groundwater in the aquifer moves slowly and discharges to streams, springs or the ocean.
- Recharge that seeps slowly through soil and porous rock recharges the aquifer.
- Because the aquifer and surface water are connected, any chemicals in surface water may percolate into the aquifer.



### UF IN ACTION

UF addresses water issues through innovative research and education programs.



## WATER

Water quality, quantity and access are global issues. Water flows above and below ground, connecting power and spreading pollutants.

We depend on freshwater for:

- Supporting plant and animal life
- Household use and drinking water
- Agriculture and food production
- Landscaping and irrigation
- Power generation and industry
- Recreation



## YOU CAN HELP

What we do everyday matters to our sustainable water future.

- Reduce water use
- Protect water sources
- Learn about the water you use









# The celebration

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Exhibit as part of Smithsonian Folklife Festival

- See it at end of September at University of Florida Museum of Natural History!

# The celebration

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A year of other events:

- Speakers
- Awards
- Symposia
- Homecoming
- TV and radio spots



# Celebrating the *next* 150 years?

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**April 10-11 symposium on the future of land grant and public education:**

- What does it mean to be the state's land grant university?
- What future does/should the UF aim for?
- What is the future of the land grants, and indeed, public education in the U.S.?

# Interested?

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**VISIT OR CONTACT:**

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**Let us know how you want to participate!**



# LAND GRANT.

FLORIDA'S

## LAND GRANT UNIVERSITY

*Results Beyond Education*



HOME

VISION

OPPORTUNITY

ACCOMPLISHMENT

PRIDE

EMPOWERMENT

### The University of Florida. A Grand Example of the Land-Grant University.

One year, four months and 17 days before Abraham Lincoln addressed a war-weary crowd at the dedication of a cemetery in Gettysburg, the President signed legislation that made an immediate and everlasting impact on the way people experience their lives. The Morrill Act established the land-grant university system and essentially initiated what could be defined as "The Education Revolution" that thrives to this day.

Some of the most highly regarded universities in the nation are land-grant institutions. The **University of Florida** is proud to be one of them.

LAND-GRANT CELEBRATION VIDEO  
(YouTube)

#### THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION

1787

1853

1862

1884

1887

NEWS, EVENTS, & RESOURCES ^

Thank you!

