Florida State University
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FAMU-FSU College of Engineering

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Division of Food Safety

FDACS
Divisions & Offices

- Food Safety
- Consumer Services
- Animal Industry
- Agricultural Environmental Services
- Licensing
- Plant Industry
- Administration
- Agricultural Law Enforcement
- Agricultural Water Policy

- Aquaculture
- Food, Nutrition & Wellness
- Fruit & Vegetables
- General Counsel
- Inspector General
- Marketing & Development
- Cabinet Affairs
- Communications
- Energy
- Florida Forest Service
Research in Government

• Many government agencies are regulatory in nature
  – Opportunities still exist to conduct research
• Necessary for determining best management practices (BMP)
• Assist respective industries
• Intangible benefits

Personal Journey

• Joined the public sector in the Fall of 1998 just prior to graduating from Florida State University
• Florida Department of Environmental Protection
  – Gravimetric analysis lab under clean room conditions
  – Nutrients
  – Metals
  – Perceived threat materials
• Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
  – Petroleum Testing Laboratories
  – Metrology Laboratory
  – Vehicular Fluids Testing Laboratory
  – Weights and Measures
  – Consumer Protection
  – Food Safety
Personal Perspective

• Hire for Attitude
  – Critical to forming a positive team nucleus
  – A well-meshed team of "B Students" can signifi- cantly outperform and outproduce a group of "A Students" pretending to be a team

• Sell the Real You
  – The "perfect person" does not exist so don’t try to sell yourself as one
  – You are interviewing them as much as they are interviewing you

• Don’t get caught up in the "interview game"
  – You need to like where you work as much or more than you like the paycheck
  – Make sure you want to go through the door you’re trying to get through

• Common career crossroad: "The move to management"
  – Management is not for everyone
  – Requires different set of skills
  – Very challenging and rewarding

Chemical Residue Laboratory
Food Safety

• Antibiotics in Seafood
• Antibiotics to Fight Against Citrus Greening
• Contaminants in Honey
• Pesticides in Botanicals
• Toxins in Food Products
Ag Water Policy

• Evaluation of alternative bed geometries for vegetable production
• Calibration of new soil test procedures
• Use of soil moisture sensors for irrigation and fertilization management
• Use of controlled release fertilizers
• Effects of rotational production on water quality and water conservation

Animal Industry

• FDA Vet-LIRN project on Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring
  – Several bacterial organisms used for monitoring
    ✓ Staphylococcus pseudintermedius
    ✓ E. coli
    ✓ Salmonella
• Potential Zika Infection in Animals
• Tritrichomonas fetus Prevalence Study
  – Bovine Trichomoniasis is a reproductive disease of cattle caused by protozoan T. fetus
• Calf Loss Project
  – To investigate and determine most common causes of abortions, stillbirths and neonatal mortalities in Florida cattle (focused on the Beef Industry).
• Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM)
Questions?

Go Noles!

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