Implementation of Multi-Disciplinary Sustained Ocean Observations (IMSOO)

Logistics Document

Florida International University Kovens Conference Center, Miami, FL, USA

February 8-10, 2017

CONTACTS
Workshop Contact
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Local Contact

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VENUE

The meeting will take place at the Florida International University Kovens Conference Center in North Miami, Florida, USA.

The address is:
Kovens Conference Center
Biscayne Bay Campus
Florida International University
3000 NE 151st St.
KCC101 North Miami, FL 33181-3000
Phone: +1 305 919 4783

Office number for Conference Coordinator:
Tiffany Pendlebury, +1 305.919.5000

Conference Center meeting room floor plans are attached at the end of this document.

AIR TRAVEL

There are two major airports through which you can access the greater Miami area. The Miami International Airport (MIA) is located 17 miles away from the venue, and 21 miles from the workshop hotel (Marenas Beach Resort). The much smaller Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) is located 19 miles away from the venue, and 13 miles away from the workshop hotel.

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Below please find instructions on how to get to the hotel/venue with one of two recommended means of transportation:

(i) shuttle/taxi
(ii) rented car
We recommend taking a shared shuttle/taxi ride as the most convenient and fastest way of getting to and from both international airports. *For those being supported by the workshop for travel, please note that Rental Cars are not reimbursed without prior authorization.*

**Shuttles and taxi information**

**MIA airport**

Taxicabs and SuperShuttle (305-871-2000) vans are available only on the arrival (ground) level of the airport, outside of the baggage claim areas.

Below you can find an excerpt chart with rates for the SuperShuttle and taxis in the selected Miami area. To get to the hotel (Sunny Isles in Zone 1) with the shared-ride van offered by the SuperShuttle, you should expect to pay ca. $31.00 + $2.00 for toll-surcharge. The same trip by taxi is estimated to cost around $55. You can make an online reservation for the SuperShuttle at this website: [https://www.supershuttle.com/](https://www.supershuttle.com/)

For more information about shuttle and taxi rides and expected rates, see this site: [http://www.miami-airport.com/hotel_shuttles.asp](http://www.miami-airport.com/hotel_shuttles.asp)
For door-to-door, shared-ride transportation, consider GO Airport Shuttle. Check in at the Transportation Podium located outside the baggage area on the lower level curbside. For more information, contact GO Airport Shuttle at +1 954-561-8888 or +1 800-244-8252, or check their website: [http://www.floridalimo.com/](http://www.floridalimo.com/)

You can also take the SuperShuttle from the FLL airport. The approximate cost of getting from the airport to the hotel is also $30.

Information about taxis and alternative transport can be found at the airport website here: [http://www.broward.org/Airport/Transportation/Pages/Default.aspx](http://www.broward.org/Airport/Transportation/Pages/Default.aspx)

### Car rental

![Image of car rental options]

**Figure 3:** The SupperShuttlem Premium Van Service and taxi zone rates from MIA airport to selected locations in the Miami area.

### FLL airport

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MIA airport

15 major car rental companies have their pick-up and drop-off locations at the Miami Rental Car Center (RCC), close to the MIA airport. MIA Mover, a 1.25-mile-long automated people mover system between MIA airport and the Miami RCC, travels frequently transporting people free of charge. The MIA Mover is open 24/7, however between 12AM - 5AM, passengers must press the "call" button at the station to summon the train. The train leaves from the MIA Mover station located on Level 3, accessible from the Central Terminal. Image below (Fig 3) shows the MIA-RCC connection on the map, and provides names and contact information for all car rental companies located at the RCC.

Transportation safety tip: Passengers at MIA are advised to ignore offers of transportation from solicitors inside the terminal. Go to the designated Taxi and Shuttle stands that are located at the lower-level curb, outside of the baggage claim area, where uniformed Miami-Dade Aviation Department staff members will be happy to assist you.

Passengers arriving at Terminal 1 should follow Rental Car Center signage to the Concourse B pedestrian bridge. The bridge is located near the Concourse B security checkpoint.

Passengers arriving at Terminals 2, 3, or 4 should follow Rental Car Center signs to the passenger pick-up area for free shuttle bus service. The pick-up areas are located outside of the baggage claim level, by the curb. The shuttle buses will take you to the RCC.
**Fig 5**: Shows the map with driving directions from MIA airport to Marenas Beach Resort. You can also view these directions online.

**Fig 4**: The MIA Mover connection map, and a directory of car rental companies at Miami Rental Car Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Address (location map)</th>
<th>Toll Free</th>
<th>Local</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advantage Rent A Car</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-777-5500</td>
<td>305-874-2135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamo</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-327-9633</td>
<td>305-633-6076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avis</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-331-1212</td>
<td>305-341-0936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-527-0700</td>
<td>305-871-2722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollar</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-800-4000</td>
<td>1866-434-2226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-325-8007</td>
<td>305-633-0377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Z Rent A Car</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-277-5171</td>
<td>305-635-3230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firefly Car Rental</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-888-296-9135</td>
<td>305-526-1733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hertz</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-654-3131</td>
<td>305-871-0300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-227-7368</td>
<td>305-638-1026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payless</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-729-5377</td>
<td>305-870-0397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P &amp; P Family Auto Rental</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-531-1177</td>
<td>305-638-9400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-314-8616</td>
<td>305-871-3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixt Rent A Car</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-888-749-8227</td>
<td>305-503-9849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrifty</td>
<td>Rental Car Center</td>
<td>1-800-367-2277</td>
<td>1-800-367-2277</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig 5 shows the map with driving directions from MIA airport to Marenas Beach Resort. You can also view these directions online.
FLL airport

The Rental Car Center (RCC) offers 12 rental car companies in one building next to Terminal 1. Rental car customers no longer need to travel off-site to pick up or drop off their cars.

For your convenience, an ATM is located on the second level of the RCC, east of the Concourse B pedestrian bridge.

Inside the RCC you'll find:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advantage Rent A Car</td>
<td>800-777-5500</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamo</td>
<td>800-462-5266</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avis</td>
<td>800-331-1212</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>800-527-0700</td>
<td>Level 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dollar</td>
<td>800-800-4000</td>
<td>Level 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise</td>
<td>800-325-8007</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Z Rent A Car</td>
<td>800-277-5171</td>
<td>Level 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hertz</td>
<td>800-654-3131</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>800-227-7368</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payless</td>
<td>800-729-5377</td>
<td>Level 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal</td>
<td>800-314-8616</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrifty</td>
<td>800-847-4389</td>
<td>Level 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig 5: Driving directions from MIA airport to the Marenas Beach Resort.
The FLL Rental Car Center address is: 600 Terminal Drive, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315.

Fig 6 below shows the map with driving directions from FLL airport to Marenas Beach Resort. You can also view these directions online [HERE](http://www.marenasresortmiami.com/).

**Driver’s license**

To rent a car you must have your driving license, passport and a credit card. National driver’s licence from any country should be accepted. An international license may be helpful in convincing the car rental agent that you really have a valid license when they cannot recognize or understand your license.

**HOTEL**

The workshop hotel is the Marenas Beach Resort ([http://www.marenasresortmiami.com/](http://www.marenasresortmiami.com/)) located in the Sunny Isles Beach area, 6 miles (ca. 15 minute drive) from the workshop venue. There is a room block available on a first-come, first-served basis for the workshop participants. **The Marenas’ rate is**
$219 plus tax and a mandatory fee which includes complimentary WiFi and services. This rate is only guaranteed available until January 6 2016.

Please use the following IMSOO workshop block reservation link:


Rooms not used by January 6 2017 will be released back to the hotel. There are a limited number of rooms, so please make all of your arrangements as soon as possible. You will need to follow instructions in the attached guidance document.

You can contact the hotel directly.

Hotel contact:
Marenas Beach Resort
18683 Collins Avenue
Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160
Phone: +1 305 503 6000
Email: marreservations@Marenasresort.com

GETTING TO THE VENUE FROM THE HOTEL

Marenas Beach Resort is a 6.5 mile drive away from the Kovens Conference Center. It’s roughly a 15-20 minute car ride.

Travel by bus between the Marinas Hotel and the Conference Center will be provided to participants. The bus will leave the hotel for the Conference Center at 7:15 AM on Wednesday through Friday. Return transportation will be provided when the meeting ends on these days.

For those who will travel with their own car, please see the driving directions and map below:
WEATHER

Average temperature in February in Miami is 20°C (68°F), with a high average of 24°C (75°F) and a low average of 16°C (61°F). On average there is 6 hours of sunshine per day. Typically during February, there are 6 days of rainfall with a total of 53 mm of rainfall. Water temperature in the sea is on average 24°C (75°F).

SPORTS & RECREATION

Conveniently located in Sunny Isles Beach between Fort Lauderdale and Miami, Marenas Beach Resort offers guests easy access to many of the city’s most popular attractions. Please consult the Marenas website for detailed information about available recreational opportunities and facilities.
CURRENCY

Below you can find the current official exchange rates for US Dollar (USD) with selected foreign currencies according to the xe.com portal.

(Table of 2016-12-16)
1 EUR 1.04 USD
1 CHF 0.97 USD
1 GBP 1.24 USD
100 JPY 0.85 USD

Please check HERE for updates.

CREDIT CARDS

Credit cards from any country work throughout Miami (at hotels, shops, restaurants, car-rental agencies, tour companies and so on); Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are the most widely accepted.

If you rent a car, toll roads accept cash only. Many parking lots only accept cash. Although most taxis accept credit cards, cash is still the preferred method of payment. Beach chair rentals, farmer’s markets, and public transportation is cash only. Tips are also appreciated in cash.

GASTRONOMY

Here’s a list of most recommended restaurants on Sunny Isles Beach according to TripAdvisor:

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurants-g552080-Sunny_Isles_Beach_Florida.html

and a map with locations of many dining places on Sunny Isles Beach:

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurants-g552080-Sunny_Isles_Beach_Florida.html#MAPVIEW

Below is a list of some recommended dining places available in the vicinity of the hotel. Please note that not all are in walking distance from Marenas.

**Il Mulino** – at the Aqualina Resort and Spa (Italian/Mediterranean)

17875 Collins Ave. - Sunny Isles

Phone: +1 305-466-9191

Distance: 0.6 miles (13 min. walk)

Upmarket restaurant serving classic, regional Mediterranean cuisine in sleek surroundings. Good for larger groups, business dinners.
**Caracol Restaurant** - at the Marenas Beach Resort  
18683 Collins Ave. - Sunny Isles  
Phone: +1 305 503 6000  
Distance: on the spot  
Local hotel restaurant at Marenas. Serves selection of American and Latin fused dishes overlooking the ocean.

**El Tropico Cuban Cuisine**  
17020 Collins Ave. - Sunny Isles Beach  
Phone: +1 305-947-0094  
Distance: 1.1 miles (21 min. walk)  
Classic, Cuban restaurant serving brunch and dinner.

**Rice Asian House and Sushi Bar**  
17100 Collins Ave. - Sunny Isles Beach  
Phone: +1 305-944-1185  
Distance: 1.1 miles (21 min. walk)  
Offers fresh sushi, sashimi, noodles, curry, traditional Thai dishes and much more.

**Il Ponte Vecchio Pizzeria**  
18660 Collins Ave. - Sunny Isles Beach  
Phone: +1 305-974-0026  
Distance: across the street from Marenas

**Kitchen 305**  
16701 Collins Ave. Sunny Isles  
Phone: +1 305-749-2110  
Distance: 1.3 miles (26 min. walk)  
Neon-lit hotel lounge drawing crowds for cocktails and refined pub grub including lobster specials.

**Baires Grill** (Argentinian)  
18090 Collins Ave. - Sunny Isles Beach  
Phone: +1 305-947-0037  
Distance: 0.5 miles (10 min. walk)
Exceptional variety of meats prepared with a touch of spices and those passionate characteristics unique to South America.

**Bourbon Steak**
199 W Country Club Dr. - Aventura
Phone: +1 786-279-6600
Distance: 2 miles by car/bus (15 min. bus ride, bus 105, 119 and 120)
All-natural, organic and hormone free cuts of beef. Enjoy a great selection of over 850 wines.

**Novecento** (Argentinian)
18831 Biscayne Blvd 220 - Aventura
Phone: +1 305-466-0900
Distance: 3 miles by car (10 min. ride)
Bistro chain serving a menu of Argentinian dishes & Italian pastas, plus wine & cocktails.

**Sea Grill** (Greek)
3913 NE. 163rd St. - North Miami
Phone: +1 305-945-7555
Distance: 1.9 miles (38 min. walk)
Refined, fish-centric restaurant serving a wide menu of Greek favorites, plus waterside dining.

**Morton** (Steak House)
17399 Biscayne Blvd. - North Miami Beach
Phone: +1 305-945-3131
Distance: 4 miles by car (15 min. ride)
Upscale chain for aged prime beef, seafood & other, traditional steakhouse fare in a clubby space.

**Makoto** (Japanese)
9700 Collins Ave. - Bal Harbour Shops
Phone: +1 305-864-8600
Distance: 4.5 miles by car/bus (20 min. ride by bus 119, 120)

**Bella Luna** (Italian)
19575 Biscayne Blvd #1097 - Aventura
Phone: +1 305-792-9330
Distance: 2.5 miles by car/bus (15/20 min. by bus 119, 120)
Straightforward Italian cooking served up in a modern, airy backdrop at the Aventura Mall.

**VISAS**
Most visitors will require a visa to enter the US. Please double check your national visa requirements at this link: [https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/visit/visitor.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/visit/visitor.html)

Don’t hesitate to get in touch with your local contacts should you require assistance with the visa application process.
OTHER PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Electricity

Electrical sockets (outlets) in the US usually supply electricity at between 110 and 120 volts AC. If you're plugging in an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter for the socket configuration is all you need.

Take a look at this illustration to check which plug you can use to connect your device:

![Photo 9: Plugs that work and don't work in the US.](image)

Tax

There is a 6% sales tax rate in the state of Florida for most purchases. The tax for the hotel room may be different.

Tipping

While tipping is not mandatory in most of the United States, it is customary in many circumstances for service, especially at almost all sit-down restaurants which offer table service and many food servers depend on tips as an essential part of their wage. Generally, the average tip is 15% to 20% of the total meal cost. Customers are REQUIRED to pay 'mandatory gratuities (tips)' if these are disclosed (on the menu or elsewhere) prior to being served.

Emergency

In case of emergencies, please dial 911 for police, ambulance and fire assistance.