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FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT CORPORATION
THE MARINE RESEARCH HUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA, INC.

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
THE MARINE RESEARCH HUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA, INC.**

THE UNDERSIGNED, as incorporator and on behalf of a not-for-profit, non-stock corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, hereby adopts the following Articles of Incorporation:

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

Section 1.1. The name of the corporation is **THE MARINE RESEARCH HUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA, INC.**, (the "Corporation").

**ARTICLE II
DURATION**

Section 2.1. The Corporation shall have perpetual existence unless dissolved pursuant to law.

**ARTICLE III
NON-STOCK CORPORATION**

Section 3.1. The Corporation shall be organized on a non-stock basis under the Florida Not for Profit Corporation Act and may issue Certificates of Membership.

**ARTICLE IV
PURPOSE**

Section 4.1. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the purposes for which this organization is organized are exclusively religious, charitable, scientific, literary and educational within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law. The initial purpose of the Corporation is to establish the region as a global leader in oceanographic research that is making or may make a positive impact on the health of the oceans and bring substantial benefits to the global population, and increase the likelihood of the respective university research projects reaching completion in the form of commercialization and technology transfer to benefit the earth and positively impact the human condition.

Section 4.2. The Corporation shall have the power, either directly or indirectly, either alone or in conjunction or cooperation with others, to do any and all lawful acts and things and to engage in any and all lawful activities which may be necessary, useful, suitable, desirable or proper for the furtherance, accomplishment, fostering or attainment of any or all of the purposes for which a Corporation is organized, and to aid or assist other organizations whose activities are such as to further accomplish, foster or attain any of such purposes. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Corporation shall exercise only such powers as are in furtherance of the exempt purposes of organizations set forth in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code as the same now exist or as they may be hereinafter amended from time to time.

Section 4.3. No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, any Director or Officer of the Corporation or any other private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the

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Corporation affecting one or more of its purposes); and no Director or Officer of the Corporation, or any private individual, shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the Corporation.

Section 4.4 No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition of any candidate for public office.

Section 4.5 The Corporation shall distribute its income for each taxable year at such time and in such manner as not to become subject to tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942 of the Code or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

Section 4.6 The Corporation shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Code or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

Section 4.7 The Corporation shall not retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Code or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

Section 4.8 The Corporation shall not make any investments in such manner as to subject it to tax under Section 4944 of the Code or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

Section 4.9 The Corporation shall not make any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Code or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

Section 4.10 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Incorporation, the Corporation shall not conduct or carry on any activities not permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code or by an organization contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Code.

Section 4.11 Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation, exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes, as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the court having proper jurisdiction in the county where the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE V **MEMBERS**

Section 5.1 This Corporation shall have no capital stock and shall be comprised of members rather than shareholders. The categories, qualifications, rights and responsibilities of membership and the manner for admission of members shall be set forth in and governed by the Bylaws of this Corporation.

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ARTICLE VI
DIRECTORS

Section 6.1. The affairs of the Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the "Board").

Section 6.2. The initial Board of Directors shall consist of the following members elected in accordance with this Section and the Bylaws and shall serve until the first election of Directors as provided in the Bylaws:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
John Kelly	Florida Atlantic University 777 Glades Road Boca Raton, FL 33431
Mark B. Rosenberg	Florida International University 3000 NE 151 st Street North Miami, FL 33181
George Hanbury II	Nova Southeastern University 3301 College Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314
Julio Frenk	University of Miami Ashe Administration Building 1242 Memorial Drive, Room 230J Coral Gable, FL 33124
Kelly Smallridge	Business Development Board of Palm Beach County 310 Evernia Street West Palm Beach, FL 33401
Bob Swindell	Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance 110 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 1990 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Phil Purcell	Marine Industries Association of South Florida 221 SW 3 rd Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312
Michael Finney	Miami-Dade Beacon Council 80 SW 8 th Street, #2400 Miami, FL 33130
Howard Greenberg	c/o The Marine Industries Association of South Florida 221 SW Third Avenue Fort Lauderdale FL 33312

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The members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed according to the procedures set forth in the Bylaws. The number of members on the Board of Directors may be increased or decreased from time to time by a vote of the Board of Directors in accordance with the Bylaws of the Corporation, but in any event there shall never be less than three (3) members on the Board of Directors. These Articles of Incorporation do not need to be amended each time new Directors are appointed.

ARTICLE VII
ADDRESS

Section 7.1. The street address and mailing address of the principal office of this corporation in the State of Florida is:

c/o The Marine Industries Association of South Florida
221 SW 3rd Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

The Board may, from time to time, move its principal office in the State of Florida to another place in this state.

ARTICLE VIII
REGISTERED AGENT AND REGISTERED OFFICE

Section 8.1. The registered agent and registered office of the Corporation shall be:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Kelly Skidmore	c/o Marine Industries Association of South Florida 221 SW 3 rd Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENT

Section 9.1. These Articles of Incorporation may be amended in the manner and with the vote provided by law.

ARTICLE X
BYLAWS

Section 10.1. The Board of Directors of this Corporation shall adopt Bylaws for the government of this Corporation which shall be subordinate only to the Articles of Incorporation and the laws of the United States and the State of Florida. The Bylaws may be amended from time to time by the Board of Directors.

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**ARTICLE XI
INCORPORATOR**

Section 11.1. The name and address of the incorporator of this Corporation are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Kelly Skidmore	c/o Marine Industries Association of South Florida 221 SW 3 rd Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned incorporator has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 30th day of November, 2017.

INCORPORATOR:

Kelly Skidmore

 Kelly Skidmore

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**CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF BUSINESS OR DOMICILE
FOR THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN THIS STATE,
NAMING AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED**

In pursuance of Section 48.091 and Section 617.0501(3), Florida Statutes, the following is submitted in compliance with said Sections:

The Marine Research Hub of South Florida, Inc., desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida with its principal office as indicated in the Certificate of Incorporation, at c/o The Marine Industries Association of South Florida, 221 SW 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312, appoints Kelly Skidmore of The Marine Industries Association of South Florida, 221 SW 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312, as its agent to accept service of process within this State.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Having been named to accept service of process for the above-named corporation, at the place designated in this Certificate, I hereby accept to act in this capacity, and agree to comply with the provisions of said Sections relative to keeping open said office.

REGISTERED AGENT:

Date November 30th, 2017

Kelly Skidmore
Kelly Skidmore

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