4:00-6:00. An Overview of Breeding, Genetics and Technology for Specialty Crop Seed Production

Speakers:

1. **Kevin Folta,**  
   Associate Professor and Department Chair,  
   Horticultural Sciences, University of Florida

   Kevin Folta is Professor and Chair at the UF Hort. Sciences Dept. His research program examines strawberry genomics with an emphasis on defining genes controlling flavor and fruit quality. His work also tests how light can be used to improve fruit and vegetable traits. He has been recognized with the NSF CAREER and numerous other research and teaching awards. Kevin is editor of two books and over 70 research articles. He engages in public forums on biotechnology, GMOs, evolution and climate, as well as in his blog, Illumination. Ph.D. Univ. of Illinois at Chicago, Postdoc at Univ. of WI.

2. **Sam Hutton,**  
   Assistant Professor,  
   Horticultural Sciences, Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL

   Hutton is a Tomato Breeder at the Gulf Coast REC in Balm, FL. His program focuses on development of improved parents and hybrids that are adapted to production in Florida's subtropical climate; general goals of his program include improvements in yield; fruit flavor and quality; and disease and pest resistance. Hutton received his Ph.D. in Tomato Breeding at UF in 2008 and joined UF as an Assistant Professor in 2010.