

## **Dr. LaDon Swann's Biography Sketch**

Dr. LaDon Swann is the Director of the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (MASGC), and the Director of Auburn University's Marine Programs. He received a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree from Tennessee Technological University and a Ph.D. from Purdue University. Dr. Swann is responsible for implementing practical solutions to coastal issues through competitive research, graduate student training, and extension and outreach and K-12 education in Alabama and Mississippi. Dr. Swann also has over 26 years of experience designing, delivering and evaluating engagement programs addressing local, regional and national needs. In addition, he is actively involved in regional engagement through the NOAA Gulf of Mexico Regional Collaboration Team, multiple Gulf of Mexico Alliance priority issues teams. During 2010 and 2011 Dr. Swann served on the Oil Spill Recovery Commissions for Alabama and Mississippi, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force, and also served as a primary point of contact for NOAA's engagement efforts. In 2012 LaDon served on the Mississippi *GoCoast 2020* oil spill recovery planning effort. Dr. Swann is currently serving as the President of the National Sea Grant Association, a member of the Ocean Research Advisory Panel and a co-chair of Sea Grant's Hazard Resilient Coastal Communities Focus Team. Dr. Swann is also a past-president of the U.S. Aquaculture Association. LaDon and his wife, Roberta, were Peace Corps Volunteers in Togo, Africa. They currently live near Dauphin Island, AL with their two sons, William and Gage.