



## Adam Watson

**Adam Watson** is the 2023 recipient of the Gale A. Holloway Professional Development award for his ASABE membership and leadership activities, service, and for stimulating professional development, intellectual curiosity, and student achievement.

Watson is an assistant professor and the undergraduate coordinator of Agricultural Operations Management (AOM) in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE) Department at the University of Florida (UF). Watson teaches and coordinates courses in technical management, food systems, controlled environment plant production, professional practices, and applied methods for smart agricultural systems. He also conducts research in the areas of food systems, technology adoption, food marketing, and farm management. He is currently leading projects on the feasibility of local and regional food hubs to support small and medium-sized specialty crop producers as well as the acceptance of smart technology to identify and select alternative water sources for irrigation.

Watson has a successful teaching program where he has developed five courses for undergraduate and graduate students and a graduate certificate in Applications in AI-based SmartAg Systems. He serves on several teaching-related committees in ABE and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs) including the UF CALs Curriculum committee, UF ABE Curriculum committee, the UF CALs Scholarship of Teaching and Learning committee, and was previously chair of the ABE Distance Learning committee. He also serves as

advisor to the AOM Club and was the advisor for the Agricultural and Life Sciences College Council ALSCC at the University of Florida from 2019-2021. Watson also leads a strong interdisciplinary research program and submitted several collaborative grants with colleges and departments across UF and other institutions across the country.

A seven-year member of ASABE and the Florida Section of ASABE, Watson has made important contributions through his service on various committees. He is currently chair of the Florida Section of ASABE. He is also a member of the ASABE Engineering Technology and Management Education and Agricultural Technology and Management Curriculum Review and Program Recognition committees.

Watson is author or coauthor of 31 peer-reviewed articles, extensions, and other publications. Watson has received several teaching and service awards including the 2022 ASABE A.W. Farrall Young Educator award, 2022 UF CALs Early Career Excellence in Teaching, 2020 UF CALs Innovation in Teaching award, the 2019 FL Section ASABE Teacher of the Year award, and the 2020 Outstanding Service award. He has also received twelve teaching improvement, enhancement, and travel awards.