Univ of Florida's Kevin Folta's former students shocked at distorting attacks on him

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

The year 2015 witnessed an unprecedented number of opinions being pedaled as expert advice and these opinions catered to a primal emotion – Fear. Thankfully the illumination provided by time tested knowledge can help dispel the darkness of fear. Look no further than the consequences of the antivaccination farce.

One such beacon of light is Kevin Folta. . . . He continues to teach the students and the public about science. While there has been much mudslinging to stop him, anyone who knows Kevin knows of his commitment to teaching and lighting the proverbial bulb in everyone irrespective of what that person's personal belief is. Dr. Kevin Folta, in his role as Professor and Chair of the Department of Horticulture at the University of Florida continues to take all the flak in his stride.

While several major scientific organizations and colleagues have chosen to remain muted, there are some well- established scientists all around the country who have stood by Kevin. The personal slander against him has deeply hurt a group of us who are current and past undergraduate students, graduate students and postdoctoral and visiting scientists affiliated with his program. Several of us now have our own programs in academia or industry, carrying on in part Kevin's passion for teaching science and utilizing science to solve real and shared issues faced by everyone on this planet. As you will read the individual notes from the members of the Folta family, you will find . . . the qualities of a person who sincerely cares for his students and teaching the facts in his classroom and, yes, also on the internet without putting any dough in his pocket.

Read full, original post: Kevin Folta- Illuminating the World