



FAMU president recognizes members of the FVSU Green Coalition with the Gold Shovel Award.

ARD Updates

THE ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

September 2018, Vol. 9, Issue 9



Dr. Moses Kairo

Message from the Chair

The students are back. Our campuses are bursting with a youthful exuberance, optimism and anticipation of a rewarding academic year. I trust that your summer has been productive and rewarding, or relaxing and rejuvenating as the case may be. I want to personally wish all of you, your faculties, administrators and students a very successful and productive year.

I see this coming year as a critical season of choices, challenges and change. This is a season where the choices we make now

will define the caliber of our future, particularly in reference to the research enterprise. One such issue on the land grant horizon is the request by the Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, to relocate NIFA and USDA's Economic Research Service outside of the north capital region to save money, improve recruitment and place the agencies closer to USDA's constituents. The public request for "Expressions of Interest for Potential Sites for Headquarters Office Locations" has raised concerns, in some cases, creating discord and competition. On the one hand, there are many obvious reasons why NIFA should remain located in the DC area. On the other hand, there are state officials and others who see economic development opportunities if NIFA were to relocate. These factors have created potential conflict among the land grant universities. Additionally, conflicts between land grant universities and their states or other entities are making it difficult to express support for NIFA remaining in the D.C. area.

I do understand that some states and/or institutions may have already taken positions on this important issue; however, it would be prudent to support the AFRI Coalition's efforts to allow for the proposal's full vetting.

On another note, in three weeks, ARD will play an active role in the annual ESS/SAES/ARD meeting in Lincoln, NE. The University of Nebraska is serving as the host and by now, you should have received the draft agenda and materials needed for the discussions. If you have not registered for the meeting nor

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NIFA holds listening sessions

NIFA is seeking stakeholder input on the emerging needs and opportunities in the food and agricultural sciences through the **NIFA Listens: Investing in Science to Transform Lives** initiative.

"We invite our stakeholders, scientists, and organizations from across the U.S. agriculture system and beyond to provide their input," said NIFA then-Acting Director Tom Shanower. "These sessions provide a

chance for any interested party to help ensure NIFA's research, education, and extension investments effectively and efficiently support the long-term prosperity and global preeminence of U.S. Agriculture."

You can find the complete NIFA press release [here](#).

These listening sessions will provide an opportunity to provide feedback on these questions:

- In your field, what is the most-needed breakthrough in science/technology that would advance your agricultural enterprise?
- When considering all of agriculture, what is the greatest challenge that should be addressed through NIFA's research, education, and extension?
- What is your top priority in food and agricultural research, extension, or education that NIFA should address?

Listening sessions are scheduled for:

- **Thursday, Oct. 11, Hartford, CT** (RSVP by : Thursday, Oct. 4).
- **Thursday, Oct. 18, New Orleans, LA** (RSVP by Thursday, Oct. 11).
- **Thursday, Oct. 25, Minneapolis, MN** (RSVP by Thursday, Oct. 18).
- **Thursday, Nov. 1, Albuquerque, NM** (RSVP by Wednesday, Oct. 25).

Each session is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. and end no later than 5 p.m. A live webcast will be available for each session, transcribed and made available for playback.

Session attendees must register via [NIFA Listens web-sites](#). In addition, written comments may be provided electronically through the stakeholder input form on the website or emailed by NIFAlistens@nifa.usda.gov until **Friday, Nov. 30**.



Visit us online at www.umes.edu/ard

Angle appointed NIFA Director

On Aug. 31, President Donald Trump announced the appointment of J. Scott Angle, a soil scientist, to serve as director of USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Angle is currently president and CEO of the International Fertilizer Development Center, a research organization that promotes fertilizer and agricultural practices in developing nations to combat world hunger. He has held that position since 2015.

Prior to that, Angle was dean and director of the University of



Georgia's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences for a decade. A former Fulbright scholar, Angle also served as a professor of soil science and administrator at the University of Maryland's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources for 24 years. Angle received his B.S.

in agronomy and M.S. in soil science at the University of Maryland. He obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri with an emphasis on soil microbiology.

An internationally known soil scientist, Angle combines knowledge with philanthropic passion to tackle issues like hunger, poverty and environmental protection. His solutions include teaching sound agricultural practices with efficient use of fertilizer at the smallholder level. Advocating informed, meaningful policy change and strengthening agricultural sectors are also critical components.

As a researcher, Angle authored or co-authored more than 300 scientific papers, reports, book chapters and abstracts. He is a leading authority on phytoremediation and risks/benefits of recycled waste products to improve soil and boost crop growth.

2018 Farm Bill Update

As you are aware, the House and Senate versions of the 2018 Farm Bill have been passed. The House has selected 47 and the Senate nine conferees. These members have been in discussion for several weeks to reconcile differences in the two bills. Their first formal meeting was held on Sept. 5.

At this point, it is unclear if there is a path to floor action because of competing interests and hesitance to address agricultural appropriations while the Farm Bill is underway.

Nine of the 10 1890 priorities are in both versions of the Farm Bill (see July issue of *ARD Updates*).

The stated goal is to get a bill passed by Sept. 30. It's not clear if this will happen given other needs related to the federal fiscal year ending, the ag appropriations bill, etc.



Students and staff participating in mock oral and poster presentation.

PVA&M stresses developing soft skills

It is no longer enough for students to be knowledgeable on the subject matter of a particular major, they must also be empowered with the soft skills necessary to enhance their employability.

Prairie View A&M University's Cooperative Agricultural Research Center teaches students effective oral communication by hosting mock oral and poster research symposiums. With globalization having a profound effect on education, the active and reflective application of knowledge that innovates and better prepares students to compete in their future careers is necessary.

Because the exercise focuses on practicing public oral presentation, the symposiums expose students to opportunities that promote the productive exchange of ideas and findings in research specific forums as well as non-scientific communities.

[Read the full PVAMU article.](#)

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booked lodging, the links are provided on page 4 of this newsletter.

The theme of our meeting, 'Pursuing Partnerships,' is timely and appropriate as ARD, along with the other four regions, examine public/private partnerships in support of agricultural research and seek opportunities for collaboration for a diversified funding portfolio. In addition, in support of ESCOP's Diversity and Inclusion Initiative, a session has been organized and is entitled "Inclusive Leadership Development: The Implications of Implicit Bias for Decisions in Higher Education." All of these sessions have been well planned and will provide very useful information as we strive to improve, advance and sustain our research programs to meet national challenges and needs. ARD's emphasis on excellence, quality and access also makes this meeting an important one to attend.

Finally, ARD's business meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 2 from 10 a.m. – Noon.

See you in Lincoln.

2019 ARD Research Symposium

The 1890 Research Agenda: Making Critical Contributions to Rural Prosperity and Challenges in Food and Agriculture

March 31- April 3, 2019 | Hyatt Regency, Jacksonville, FL

Registration:

Early registration begins soon and is **\$500** per participant. Early

Regular registration—Nov. 10, 2018-Feb. 24, 2019, **\$525**.

Late registration—Feb. 25-March 24, 2019, **\$575**.

On-site registration—**\$600**.

[Registration](#) can be paid by purchase order, check or credit card. (an additional fee to cover the bank charges.)

Hotel Registration—**Hotel Guest Room Rates:**

Single and Double Occupancy: \$159 |

Triple Occupancy: \$184 | Quadruple Occupancy: \$209

Tax and Surcharges: 7% State of Florida Sales Tax; 6% Transient Sales, and 1% City Surcharge (subject to change). Cut off March 8, 2019.

Abstracts and Posters:

Deadline for abstracts for posters and oral presentations will be Nov. 21. Instructions for formatting and electronic submission will be on the symposium website. Also on the website is the evaluation instrument that will be used to judge the competitive poster and oral presentations. The information is helpful in developing the presentation content and should be used to prepare students for their presentations. Abstracts guidelines must be strictly followed and if not followed, the submission will be rejected. For each campus, abstract guideline adherence is the responsibility of the research director or his/her designee.

Judges for posters and oral competitions and session moderators will be needed and each director is asked to submit names and contact information electronically for those willing to serve in these capacities. [Access the form here.](#)

Morrison-Evans and Mayberry Awards

The application deadline for the Morrison-Evans Outstanding Scientist Award and the B.D. Mayberry Young Scientist Award is Jan. 18, 2019. External reviewers, i.e., NIFA national program leaders will evaluate the applications. Access the [application here.](#)

Special Sessions and Workshop Deadline

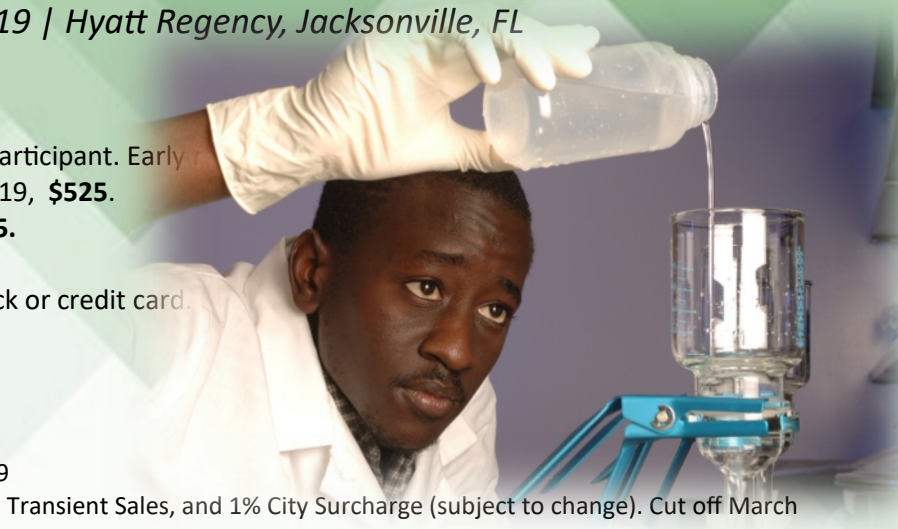
The application deadline for the Special Sessions and Workshops on selected topics deemed appropriate to the 1890 community is Dec. 7. Please submit a one-page abstract to Dr. Alton Thompson, ARD executive director, at athompson1@ncat.edu. These abstracts must be sufficiently detailed to allow the Symposium Steering Committee to judge the merits of the proposed sessions. A decision will be communicated to you by Dec. 17.

Displays| Exhibitors

Each 1890 campus is invited to display a university display at no cost. Additional exhibits and non-1890 exhibits must pay the **fee of \$2,000 by Feb. 8, 2019.** All exhibitors, including the 1890s, must submit the Exhibit Registration Form by the deadline of Feb. 8. To become an exhibitor, [click here.](#)

To become a sponsor, [click here.](#)

For additional information contact: [Dr. Alton Thompson](#), (336) 285-2955, [Dr. Orlando McMeans](#), (304) 204-4300 or [Dr. Dyremple Marsh](#), (302) 851-6400.



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1890 Land Grant Universities

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[Alcorn State University](#)
[Central State University](#)
[Delaware State University](#)
[Florida A&M University](#)
[Fort Valley State University](#)
[Kentucky State University](#)
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ARD Updates is published monthly by the Association of Research Directors. To suggest articles, contact Dr. Alton Thompson at athompson1@ncat.edu

ARD CALENDAR



2018 ESS/AES/ARD Meeting & Workshop



ARD



NCRA



NERA



SAAESD



WAAESD

ESS-AES-ARD FALL MEETING

Oct. 1-3, Lincoln, NE

Registration is still open but is now \$550. Click for the meeting [registration site and preliminary agenda](#) and here for hotel [information and reservations](#).

A block of rooms has been reserved for Oct. 1-3. The special room rate of \$129/night will be available until Sept. 11 or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first.

Group Name: Experiment Station Section 2018 | Group Code: EXP

Check in Oct. 1 and check out Oct. 3.

Embassy Suites by Hilton Lincoln, 1040 P St. Lincoln, NE, 68508

Phone Number: 402 473 1111

APLU 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

New Orleans, LA, Nov. 11-13.

Register today for APLU's 2018 Annual Meeting, the premier gathering of senior leaders from public research universities, land-grant institutions and state university systems. No other meeting in higher education brings together such a diverse array of public university presidents, chancellors and other senior leaders. Join us as we tackle the challenges facing public universities. The theme of this year's Annual Meeting is *Resilience*. The meeting sessions will explore the capacity of universities, their communities and partners to adapt and thrive no matter what stresses or acute shocks they experience. [Click for more information](#).



ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC &
LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES

76TH PROFESSIONAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS CONFERENCE (PAWC)

December 2-4, 2018

Auburn Marriott Opelika Hotel & Conference Center at Grand National

[Click for additional information](#), agenda and [call for papers](#). Registration to open soon.



2019 JOINT AEA/ARD WINTER MEETING.

Jan. 22- 25, 2019

Westin Georgetown Hotel, 2350 M St., NW, Washington, DC.

2019 SOUTHERN REGION MINI LAND-GRANT MEETING

March 18-21, 2019 | Coral Springs, FL
Fort Lauderdale Marriott Coral Spring Hotel

Theme: "Working Together for Impact"

The 2019 Southern Region Mini Land-Grant Meeting brings together leaders from seven groups from both 1862 and 1890 land-grant universities to explore avenues for improving the roles of each group and the land-grant functions as a whole.

[Click for more information](#).