

# ARD Updates

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

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DR. VERNON JONES

## Message from the Chair

As we celebrate Black History Month, I am reminded of the second verse of "Lift Every Voice and Sing," a poem written in 1900 by the African American poet James Weldon Johnson. *Stony the road we trod. Bitter the chast'ning rod. Felt in the day that hope unborn had died.*

*Yet with a steady beat, Have not our weary feet. Come to the place on which our fathers sighed.*

This poem was written to celebrate Abraham Lincoln's Birthday—Lincoln, was the president who helped African Americans achieve freedom from slavery. Johnson's brother set the poem to music.

In 1919, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) dubbed it "the Negro National Hymn" for its power in voicing a cry for liberation and affirmation for African American people.

This second verse also speaks to the discriminatory practices, inhibiting barriers and obstacles, implicit taxes and the difficult days faced by African Americans. "Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet." ARD will continue to march forward toward achieving greater equity, including, but not limited to, increased funding for food and agriculture programs for the 1890 programs; sustainability of limited resource farms, ranches and businesses; increased quality of life for people in the 1890 region, particularly those with limited resources; diversity and inclusion in the food systems workforce, and social and environmental justice. We also need to be mindful of the important roles and contributions

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## SU launches CBD product line

The Southern University and A&M College has launched its own hemp-derived CBD product line: ALAFIA. SU becomes the first HBCU to enter the CBD industry, made possible in the 2018 Farm Bill.

The brand is the result of a partnership between the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Baton Rouge and Ilera Holistic Healthcare. The lab-tested and pesticide-free products, ranging in price from \$40 to \$80, will be available for over-the-counter purchase across the U.S. soon. So far, however, the line is only available at select locations across Louisiana. The line features two products: Isolate CBD and Full Spectrum CBD. Additional CBD products will be released soon.

Ilera Holistic Healthcare's Chairman, Osagie Imasogie, explained the name ALAFIA (not to be confused with Canadian company Aleafia Health) comes from a Yoruba language word that means "inner peace." It was with this in mind that the product line was formulated, he said.

"Our team of experts created a superior hemp-derived product with patients in mind. We are proud of this partnership with Southern (University) and pleased to know our product will be available to the people of Louisiana and beyond," he said.



(From left) Orlando McMeans, chancellor-dean of the Southern University Ag Center, Janana Snowden, director of the Center's Southern Institute of Medicinal Plants, and Ray Belton, president of the Southern University System at the unveiling of the school's CBD product it is producing and marketing with a corporate partner. (Photo: Southern University Ag Center/Instagram)



## Jones ... from page 1

of the 1890 land grant universities. The food and agricultural sciences in the research, academic and Cooperative Extension programs at the 1890 universities have made significant contributions to the local, regional, national and global food systems. The 1890s are proud of our history, but we cannot afford to lay anchor in the harbor of our history. We recognize and honor the hard work, dedication and incredible talents of many people who have positioned the 1890 universities to take the next “giant leap.”

Last month, members of the Association of Research Directors (ARD), the Association of Extension Administrators (AEA), and the Council of 1890 Deans of Agriculture held a third

annual joint business meeting at the Westin Georgetown Hotel in Washington, D.C. Again, that gathering of 1890 administrators was very engaging and productive and, by design, engaged in critical discussions about pressing issues confronting the 1890 universities.

Our meeting focused specifically on the centers of excellence, the 1890 scholarship program, FY 2020/2021 appropriations and advocacy, the NIFA reimagining process, entrepreneurship, successful collaborations between research and Extension

and communications and marketing. Kudos to my colleagues, Dr. Carolyn J. Williams, AEA chair; Dr. Lloyd Walker, Deans' Council chair; Dr. Albert Essel, AEA executive administrator, and Dr. Alton Thompson, ARD executive director, for planning and executing a very impactful series of sessions that was both content-rich and allowed sufficient time for discussion of other concerns crucial not only to the 1890s but to the land-grant system.

The 2020 Joint CARET/AHS meeting will be held on March 1-4 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. The theme for the meeting is “Land - Grant Universities: Impacting International Trade and Local Markets.” As we focus on our advocacy efforts, I am asking each of the research directors,

deans/administrative heads of agriculture and CARET delegates to participate actively in the meeting and the visits to Capitol Hill. Our voices need to be lifted and heard.

Finally, we are proud of our colleague, Vonda Richardson, Florida A&M University, as she now assumes the role of AEA chair.

I look forward to seeing you in the nation's capital as we continue our education and advocacy efforts.

“... we cannot afford to lay anchor in the harbor of our history.”

## Grant and funding opportunities available

### FOUNDATION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

The [Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research](#) (FFAR) is now accepting nominations for the [2020 New Innovator in Food and Agriculture Research Award](#). FFAR intends to grant up to 10 awards to early-career scientists pursuing research that supports the Foundation's [Challenge Areas](#) and promotes global, sustainable food production. Each applicant is eligible to receive up to \$150,000 per year for a maximum of three years totaling \$450,000 from FFAR. **For the first time, FFAR is not requiring awardees to secure matching funds, opening this opportunity to a wider pool of applicants.**

The New Innovator in Food and Agriculture Research Award provides early-career scientists the investment needed to bolster successful careers in food and agriculture. FFAR grants this unique award to highly creative, promising scientists whose research has the potential to address major challenges facing food and agriculture. Often, early-career scientists struggle to secure grant funding at the onset of their careers. This large award gives them the opportunity to focus exclusively on research without the pressure to secure additional funding for these particular ideas.

Institutions of higher education, nonprofit research institutions and the U.S. Department of Agriculture are encouraged to nominate one applicant who holds tenure-track or equivalent position and meets the eligibility criteria specified

in the [Call for Nominations](#).

Applications from eligible nominees will be evaluated on their research program proposals and demonstrated commitment to mentoring future generations of agricultural and food scientists. The deadline for submitting nominations is March 4 at 5 p.m. ET. Complete submission guidelines and program deadlines are available on the [FFAR website](#).

### AFRI FAS GRANTS

The AFRI Foundational and Applied Science (FAS) Request for Applications (RFA) supports grants in six AFRI priority areas to advance knowledge in both fundamental and applied sciences important to agriculture. The six priority areas are:

- plant health and production and plant products
- animal health and production and animal products
- food safety, nutrition and health
- bioenergy, natural resources and environment
- agriculture systems and technology
- agriculture economics and rural communities

Research, Extension and Integrated Research, Education and/or Extension projects are solicited in this FY 2020 RFA. Project types and deadlines vary by program area priority. The RFA also includes eight specific priorities for co-funding with the American Pulse Association, Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, The Cotton Board, Kansas Wheat Commission, The National Honey Board, and USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council. [Read the full FAS request for applications.](#)

# How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond



## What to Expect in the Mail

When it's time to respond, most households will receive an invitation in the mail.

Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Depending on how likely your area is to respond online, you'll receive either an invitation encouraging you to respond online or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire.

### Letter Invitation

- Most areas of the country are likely to respond online, so most households will receive a letter asking you to go online to complete the census questionnaire (or to respond by phone).
- We plan on working with the U.S. Postal Service to stagger the delivery of these invitations over several days. This way we can spread out the number of users responding online, and we'll be able to serve you better if you need help over the phone.

### Letter Invitation and Paper Questionnaire

- Areas that are less likely to respond online will receive a paper questionnaire along with their invitation. The invitation will also include information about how to respond online or by phone.

WHAT WE WILL SEND IN THE MAIL	
On or between	You'll receive:
March 12-20	An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)
March 16-24	A reminder letter.
	<b>If you haven't responded yet:</b>
March 26-April 3	A reminder postcard.
April 8-16	A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.
April 20-27	A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.

### We understand you might miss our initial letter in the mail.

- Every household that hasn't already responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- It doesn't matter which initial invitation you get or how you get it—we will follow up in person with all households that don't respond.



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### 1890 Land Grant Universities

[Alabama A&M University](#)  
[Alcorn State University](#)  
[Central State University](#)  
[Delaware State University](#)  
[Florida A&M University](#)  
[Fort Valley State University](#)  
[Kentucky State University](#)  
[Langston University](#)  
[Lincoln University](#)  
[North Carolina A&T State University](#)  
[Prairie View A&M University](#)  
[South Carolina State University](#)  
[Southern University and A&M College](#)  
[Tennessee State University](#)  
[Tuskegee University](#)  
[University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff](#)  
[University of Maryland Eastern Shore](#)  
[Virginia State University](#)  
[West Virginia State University](#)

ARD Updates is published monthly by the Association of Research Directors. To suggest articles, contact Dr. Alton Thompson at [athompson1@ncat.edu](mailto:athompson1@ncat.edu)

## ESS issues call for diversity and inclusion

The Experiment Station Section (ESS) seeks nominations of individuals, teams or programs for the National Experiment Station Diversity and Inclusion Award. This award recognizes research team efforts that supported the creation of diverse and pluralistic teams at the local, state, regional or national level. Such efforts could impact one or more of the following areas: administration, advisory and decision-making groups, audiences, coalitions, educational materials and delivery methods, funding, initiatives, policies, programs, staff and stakeholders.

The nominee can be an individual or a team or organization composed of Experiment Station faculty and scientists, staff, students or post-docs. An Experiment Station faculty or scientist is defined as having at least 25% FTE university AES or ARD

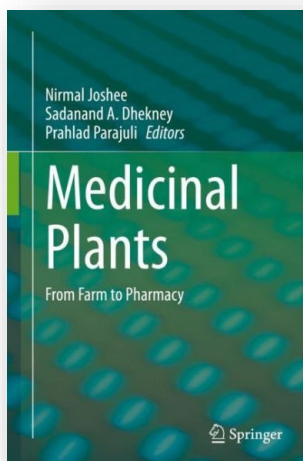
appointment as of May 1st of the year of the nomination and responsibility for AES programming for a minimum of four consecutive years.

Nominations can be submitted from any area of the Experiment Station Section. Nominations can be made by anyone, including self-nominations. When writing nominations, special attention should be given to efforts that have the potential to be sustained over time or can be replicated in other comparable situations.

The due date for nominations is April 1. To be considered, nominations must be submitted as a single pdf file to [Dr. Rick Rhodes](#), executive vice chair, Diversity Catalyst Committee.

Click to view the [call for nominations](#).

### Two 1980 faculty co-author new book



This book offers a fresh look on a variety of issues concerning herbal medicine - the methods of growing and harvesting various medicinal plants; their phychemical content; medicinal usage; regulatory issues; and mechanism of action against myriad of human and animal ailments. "[Medicinal Plants: From Farm to Pharmacy](#)" comprises chapters authored by renowned experts from academics and industry including Sadanand A. Dhekney from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and Nirmal Joshee, Fort Valley State University.

## ARD CALENDAR

### 2020 AEA SYSTEMWIDE CONFERENCE

**June 21-25, 2020, Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld, Orlando, FL**

The conference's goal is to provide a forum for Extension educators, specialists, administrators, research professionals, public and private partners to learn, share innovative ideas, best practices and explore collaboration opportunities for advancing impact-driven extension programs in the 1890 Extension System. Professional development workshops, exhibits and presentations on innovations and best practices will dominate the three-day conference.

### 2020 JOINT CARET/AHS MEETING

**March 1-4, Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009**

"[Land-Grant Universities: Impacting International Trade and Local Markets](#)." Mark your calendars and official registration materials will be sent out shortly. The hotel room block is now open, so [book your room now](#)

### 2ND NAPA BIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE 2020

**May 22-24, 2020 (Memorial Weekend), Crown Plaza Atlanta Airport**

[Call for abstracts \(professionals and students\)](#)

[Call for Essays – Student writing contest](#)

You may [click for details about the NAPA conference](#).

### SAVE-THE-DATES

**2020 JOINT COPS MEETING – July 20 – 23 in Kansas City**

**2020 ESS-SAES-ARD FALL MEETING - Sept. 28-30 at the Baltimore Waterfront Marriott**

