

ARD Updates

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

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DR. VERNON JONES

Message from the Chair

Dr. Vernon Jones

During these first days of 2020, I have been reflecting on the essential role of family, friends, supporters and ARD members. Please know of my gratitude for the vital role that each of you play in ARD's performance and productivity. I am grateful to be ARD's servant leader as we begin our 41st year of providing vision-

ary leadership to member institutions that continue to use innovative concepts to address the issues impacting food and agricultural research challenges facing the state, nation and world-at-large. Let us continue to serve as a shining example of the leadership, commitment to task and legacy of our 17 founding directors.

2019 was an eventful year. We celebrated our 40th year as a regional association in conjunction with the 19th Biennial Research Symposium in April in Jacksonville, FL. The celebration featured the institutionalization of the Evans-Allen Memorial Lecture (*Representative Frank Evans of Colorado and Senator James Allen of Alabama originally sponsored the legislation (Evans-Allen) for funds for the food and agricultural programs at the 1890 institutions*). Representative Alma A. Adams, an 1890 champion, delivered the inaugural Evans-Allen Memorial Lecture.

At the 19th Biennial Research Symposium, ARD also unveiled its new strategic agenda for the next five years. 'Bold Transformations 2025' reflects the bold and cohesive vision for ARD's preferred future and outlines the priority areas, goals and thrust areas that it will collectively take as we begin our journey toward the next decade – a journey that ensures we

See Jones on Page 3

1890s see budget increases

Last month, Congress released the final text on the 12 FY 2020 appropriations bills, inclusive of the 1890 institutions.

The FY 2020 Agriculture Appropriation Bill included \$962,864,000 for Research and Education Activities (a 3.8% increase); \$526,557,000 for Extension Activities (a 4.1% increase); and \$38,000,000 for Integrated Activities (stable funding). The total NIFA funding increased by \$56.080 million over FY 2019.

As depicted in the table below, the 1890 institutions were funded quite favorably compared to past years. From FY 2019, the Evans-Allen Research Program received an increase of 15.5% while 1890 Extension received an increase of 17.3%. The Capacity Building program received a 19% increase while the 1890 Facilities Program received a 4% increase.

In addition, the 1890 Centers of Excellence received \$6 million for FY 2020. This appropriation is in addition to the \$5 million made available for FY 2019. While this amount is below the \$10 million authorized for each year in the 2018 Farm Bill, the movement is in the right direction. We must document impacts for continued funding.

The new 1890 Scholarship Program, championed by U.S. Rep. David Scott of Georgia, received an additional \$5 million in discretionary funding to supplement the \$10 million in mandatory funding. Thus, for FY 2020, each 1890 institution will receive \$750,000 in new scholarship funding.

The 1890 community would like to thank our congressional champions, including but not limited to, the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Bipartisan HBCU Caucus, for supporting equitable funding for the 1890 land grant universities.

1890 Research, Education and Extension Activities	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
(All \$Millions)	Final	Final	Final
1890 Research (Evans-Allen Program)	\$54.180	\$58.000	\$67.000
1890 Extension Services	45.620	48.620	57.000
1890 Education Grants	19.336	19.336	23.009
1890 Facilities Improvements	19.730	19.730	20.500
1890 Centers of Excellence			6.000
1890 Scholarships			5.000



ESS issues call for diversity and inclusion awards

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 scien-



tists, 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](#).

Nominations open for ESCOP/ESS awards

EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

This award recognizes those who have served the Regional Associations, ESCOP—ESS and/or the national land-grant system with exemplary distinction.

ELIGIBILITY

Individuals eligible for this award are former or current State Agricultural Experiment/Research Station (SAES or ARD) leaders who have provided service as assistant director, associate director, director, administrator or as chief operating officers with equivalent, but variant titles (e.g. vice chancellor, associate vice chancellor, associate vice president, dean for research) and/or as a regional executive director. This award is distinctive in its expectations and not necessarily coincident with retirement, election to a specific office or any other specific professional benchmark.

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

Nominations for the recognition in the 1890 region should be submitted to Dr. Alton Thompson by Feb. 1, 2020. The ARD Executive Committee will review the nominations and email to the ARD members in good standing to select the winner. The nominee with the most votes will be submitted to the ESS chair and the executive vice-chair and the executive vice-chair of the Science the Technology Committee.

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

EXCELLENCE IN MULTISTATE RESEARCH

The purpose of this award program is to annually recognize those station scientists who are conducting exem-

plary multistate activities and enhance the visibility of the multistate program. A recipient multistate project will be selected from the pool of nominees submitted by the five regional research associations and judged by the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee to exhibit sustained, meritorious and exceptional multistate research activities. The ESCOP Executive Committee will provide final approval.

ELIGIBILITY

Any current multistate project (research, ERA, CC) listed in NIMSS (www.nimss.org) is eligible for consideration.

The nomination is predominantly based upon the five-year project period. The multistate research authority allows other non-SAES partners to join in these project-based collaborations. Thus, many multistate projects include Extension specialists and ARS or Forest Service research scientists. Many projects have private sector and non-land-grant participants and a majority of multistate projects have participants from more

than a single region.

BASIS FOR NOMINATION

Each of the five regions may nominate one multistate project. An individual project should document collaborative activities. Nominations shall be made to the chair of the respective regional Multistate Research Committee (MRC) or Multistate Activities Committee (MAC) via the regional executive director's office. Nominations are due in the Office in the Executive Directors on or before Feb. 28, 2020. [Click here to view the call for nominations.](#)



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](#).



Jones ... from page 1

are a regional research association that prepares tomorrow's leaders, invests in our communities and meets global challenges in the food and agricultural sector.

In our *2019 ARD Updates*, we directed the spotlight on many of the ways ARD approaches issues that continue to impact our rural and urban communities and the broader food and agricultural landscape. From promoting membership accomplishments to highlighting selected 1890 research and contemporary issues to convening events of the 1890 community to competing collaboratively for USDA grants, ARD works to address the complexity of the food systems with creative, innovative and impactful solutions. This focus will continue in 2020.

With your support, in 2020, ARD will continue to build connections through hosting convening events and facilitated dialogue and training for administrators, faculty and staff. With the assistance of the 1890 Universities Foundation, we will continue promoting inclusive, market-based and sustainable strategies to meet the specific needs of our clientele.

By now, you should have completed your travel arrangements for the 2020 Joint Meeting of AEA and ARD that will be held on January 21-24, at the Westin Georgetown Hotel, 2350 M Street, NW, Washington, DC. 20037. The agenda will provide an opportunity for AEA, ARD and the 1890 Deans to meet joint-

ly, have separate business meetings and hold joint meetings with representatives from NIFA, other federal agencies and invited presenters to discuss funding and program opportunities, the federal budget, the 1890 centers of excellence and the scholarships for students at 1890 institutions.

As I conclude my first message of this new year and the new decade, I want to emphasize that ARD is poised to accomplish its strategic agenda, **'bold Transformations 2025.'** We are grateful for faculty and staff who care about the success of our students and life quality of the persons in the 1890 region. Take a moment to **reflect** upon your connection with ARD and the impact it has made upon the research and education enterprises. Continue to be committed to collaborating with and supporting ARD as we work together to solve the grand challenges in the food and agricultural sector. We need to partner strategically both within and outside the 1890 system to tackle the challenge areas vital to the sustainability of food and agriculture. Only together can we inspire current and future generations working to ensure national and global food security.

Thank you for supporting ARD this year as we continue to conduct innovative research to address food and agricultural challenges. We look forward to continuing this exciting work in 2020.

The 2020 Census at a Glance

Counting everyone once, only once, and in the right place.

The U.S. Census Bureau is the federal government's largest statistical agency. We are dedicated to providing current facts and figures about America's people, places, and economy. Federal law protects the confidentiality of all individual responses the Census Bureau collects.

The U.S. Constitution requires that each decade we take a count—a census—of America's population.



The census provides vital information for you and your community.

- It determines how many representatives each state gets in Congress and is used to redraw district boundaries. Redistricting counts are sent to the states by March 31, 2021.
- Communities rely on census statistics to plan for a variety of resident needs including new roads, schools, and emergency services.
- Businesses use census data to determine where to open places to shop.

Each year, the federal government distributes more than \$675 billion to states and communities based on Census Bureau data.

In 2020, we will implement new technology to make it easier than ever to respond to the census. For the first time, you will be able to respond online, by phone, as well as by mail. We will use data that the public has already provided to reduce followup visits. And, we are building an accurate address list and automating our field operations—all while keeping your information confidential and safe.



KEY MILESTONES

- 2018**
 - 2018 End-to-End Census Test
 - 2020 Census questions sent to Congress by March 31, 2018
 - Six regional 2020 Census offices and 40 area census offices open
- 2019**
 - Partnership activities launch
 - Complete Count Committees establish
 - Census takers update address list in person
 - Remaining 248 area census offices open
- 2020**
 - Advertising begins in January 2020
 - Public response (online, phone, or mail) begins
 - **Census Day**—April 1, 2020
 - Census takers visit households that haven't responded
 - Apportionment counts sent to the President by December 31, 2020
- 2021**
 - Redistricting counts sent to the states by March 31, 2021

Connect with us
[@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)

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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

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

NATIONAL DIRECTOR, FOOD SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The FSLI Commission seeks a person who can provide a vision for the Institute's future and be an effective leader for a complex organization with multiple strategic objectives and a diverse group of stakeholders. The FSLI director reports to the APLU/FSLI Commission and is responsible for compliance with N.C. State University, processes and policies relevant to the program. This is estimated to be a 25% full-time equivalent position. The compensation for this position is commensurate with qualifications, experience and approved by the FSLI Commission. The initial appointment is for a four-year term, subject to renewal. Start Date is July 1, or as negotiated. [Full announcement here.](#)

NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES - RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Research Development Manager is responsible for providing vision and leadership in planning and executing strategies to increase support for externally funded research and other sponsored projects in the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES), which currently has a research portfolio of over \$20M. The position will work with the office of the Associate Dean for Research to identify, expand and support new research initiatives; coordinate new multi-disciplinary, multi-investigator proposals and work with faculty teams to build research capacity in the food and agricultural sciences. [Click to see the full announcement](#) and to apply.

ARD CALENDAR



USDA's 96th Annual Agricultural Outlook Forum
The Innovation Imperative: *Shaping the Future of Agriculture*
February 20-21, 2020 • Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia

2020 AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FORUM

Feb. 20-21, 2020, Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, VA

Registration is now open for the 96th annual Agricultural Outlook Forum (AOF), the largest annual meeting and premiere event of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The 2020 Forum, themed "The Innovation Imperative: Shaping the Future of Agriculture," will feature more than 30 sessions covering topics such as innovations in agriculture, global trade trends, food loss and waste, frontiers in conservation and the science of food safety. In addition, USDA chief economist will unveil the department's outlook for U.S. commodity markets and trade in 2020 and discuss U.S. farm income situation.

An exhibit hall will showcase resources from USDA agencies and private organizations.

Click on [this link](#) to register, reserve discounted room rates, join the pre-forum field trip, or apply for the USDA Future Leaders in Agriculture Program.

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.](#)

Add Save-The-Date:

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

