



## Message from the Chair



ARD UPDATES


### Dear Colleagues:

I hope you have been keeping up with the NIFA REEport Implementation progress. If not please visit the web page at: [http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/reeport\\_imp.Html](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/reeport_imp.Html). Below are dates to be attuned to:

- April 11 – NIFA Reporting Web Conference, 2:00 pm
- April 15 – CRIS Webforms Blackout Begins
- April 26 – NIFA Portal Blackout Begins
- May 6 – REEport Deploys and is Open for Business
- May 6 – REEport and POW Session at NERAOC

As you can see the REEport process will be thoroughly discussed at the upcoming Administrative Officers Conferences in New Orleans to be held May 5—9, 2013. Registration and online comprehensive information about the conference can be found at [www.2013neroac.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.2013neroac.lsuagcenter.com). Hotel reservations may prove challenging if you have not made them as yet.

Finally, everything is falling into place for the symposium. Thank you all for the wonderful support you have been providing. See you there!

Sincerely,  
Shirley Hyman-Parker, Chair 



### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

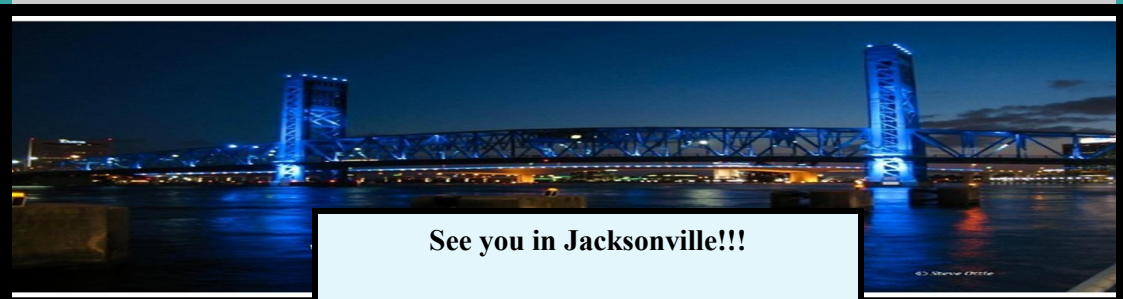
The Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program has released the [Call for Proposal for Graduate Student Grants](#) for FY2013. Graduate Student Grants are one of the few sustainable agriculture research funding opportunities open to Masters and PhD students at accredited institutions in the Southern region. Proposal deadline is 11:59 p.m. EST on June 3, 2013. Download the [Call for Proposal](#) on the Southern SARE website and carefully read the application instructions. All of the guidelines, program goals, review criteria, and the submission process to apply for a Southern SARE Graduate Student Grant can be found within the Call for Proposal. Failure to follow the submission guidelines may result in the rejection of your proposal.

Research projects that address issues of sustainable agriculture of current and potential importance to the Southern region are eligible for submission also. Maximum funds awarded for projects are \$11,000 for up to three years work on the student's project.

Please visit the ARD website-

[www.umes.edu/ard](http://www.umes.edu/ard)

or contact us using [cbbrooks@umes.edu](mailto:cbbrooks@umes.edu)



See you in Jacksonville!!!

# ARD UPDATES



## *A Cherished ARD Member Retires*



Dr. Steve Meredith, Dean of the College of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, and 1890 Administrator, retired on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 as Emeritus Professor of Agriculture after serving Lincoln University for twenty-eight years. Dr. Meredith was appointed as Dean in 2006. He was a professor in the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Science and conducted research within the Cooperative Research unit most of his tenure at LU. As a researcher he studied the effect of primordial follicle number and quality on reproductive aging, examined the impact of the timing of fetal development of oogonia on age, and investigated the causes for the lowered fertility that occurs in sheep when they are bred 30 days following births of lambs.

The ARD is extremely grateful for the excellent service Steve provided as one of its members, contributing most recently as secretary of the association and as its representative on the land-grant system's Committee on Legislation and Policy and on the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee. Not only is the ARD grateful for Steve's dedication and outstanding service, but the members are proud and honored to have worked with him and will always include him as one of the most beloved of the ARD Family. The ARD sends Steve the warmest of congratulations and best wishes on his new journeys.

## **New Dean and Director Appointed at Lincoln University**



Dr. Frieda Eivazi, was appointed to the position of interim Dean of the College of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, 1890 Administrator, and Research Director effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. She most recently served as Associate Director of Cooperative Research Programs and Head of the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences. Dr. Eivazi is a professor of Soil and Environmental Sciences. She has an adjunct appointment at University of Missouri –Columbia. Dr. Eivazi has been the PD and Co-PD for numerous research projects through which she has secured several million dollars in federal funding for Cooperative Research. She has numerous peer reviewed publications, including book chapters. She has served on national review boards or panels for NSF, EPA, and USDA. She is the member of the editorial review board for several journals. Dr. Eivazi earned a B.S. degree in Agricultural

Engineering from University of Tabriz, Iran; Masters in Soil Biochemistry and Ph.D. in Soil Fertility from Iowa State University.

## **Call for faculty to serve on NIFA grant review panels**

USDA NIFA is working to strengthen its partnership with 1890 universities. One of the partnership priorities is to include more faculty members from 1890s on NIFA grant peer review panels. Service not only brings a unique perspective about the agency, it also provides faculty members with an understanding of how a peer review panel evaluates grant applications. This knowledge can help to strengthen future grant applications from the 1890s. For further information on the peer review process, please visit [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/competitive\\_peer\\_review.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/competitive_peer_review.html). If you are interested in being considered as a reviewer, please send an e-mail message noting your name, title, organization name, and area(s) of expertise (limit to 4 or 5 keywords) to [newreviewer@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:newreviewer@nifa.usda.gov).