

Happy Holidays

ARD Updates

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

December 2016, Vol. 7, Issue 8



Dr. Moses Kairo



Message from the Chair

Dr. Moses Kairo

I want to wish each of you a joyous Holiday Season and a New Year filled with peace, joy, hope and happiness. During this Holiday Season, more than ever, our thoughts turn to those who have made our progress possible. And in this spirit, I say, simply but sincerely, thank you to ARD members, researchers, supporters, and friends who have worked tirelessly to advance the ARD vision, mission, goals, and values. In 2016, ARD, under the leadership of **Dr. Govind Kannan**, dean and research director at Fort Valley State University, continued to develop and implement research programs and initiatives to improve the quality of life of the citizens in the 1890 region and beyond.

At our November 2016 meeting in Austin, TX, I accepted the gavel from Dr. Kannan, who did an awesome job as ARD Chair. Govind's leadership has been exceptional and he continues to be an outstanding visionary and servant-leader. His broad knowledge base, commitment, enthusiasm and dedication to the food and agricultural sciences as well as his keen insight to the problems, issues and trends facing both students, educators and administrators easily positions him as a highly valued colleague in the land-grant system.

I am both humbled and excited to have been elected by you to serve as your next ARD Chair and I thank you for the confidence and trust that you have placed in me. I am committed to serving you with a great deal of enthusiasm and commitment. I will strive to follow those before me in maintaining the strong sense of collaboration and open communication that makes ARD a solid, viable and forward-looking association.

As your chair, I will be guided primarily by listening actively to what you want our institutions and ARD to accomplish. As will be discussed at our winter meeting, the ARD Strategic Plan will be revisited and updated and in that process, we can challenge ourselves to not only accomplish our long-standing goals but to begin to address the new and grand challenges in the food and agricultural system.

Among other things, we need to continue to (1) develop and sustain the Centers of Excellence; (2) be aggressive in the reauthorization of the 2018 Farm Bill; (3) be persistent in seeking funding increases for our capacity, capacity-building and facilities programs and support our faculty as they compete for funding in other programs; and (4) expand our integrated activities that maximize on our

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Hill receives Leadership Award

Dr. Walter A. Hill received the ESS National Excellence in Leadership Award from the ARD Region at the 2017 APLU Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. This is the third year this national award has been given for each of the five regions. Hill follows **Dr. Carolyn Brooks**, the 2014 winner, and **Dr. Alton Thompson**, the 2015 winner.

Hill currently serves as the dean of the College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Sciences and the director of the George Washington Carver Agricultural Experiment Station and the 1890 Research and Extension Programs at Tuskegee University. Hill has held several administrative positions at Tuskegee, including provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, and interim dean of the Taylor School of Architecture and Construction Services.

Hill has served the land-grant community and CREEES (now NIFA) in a number of important ways including being a panelist for NIFA proposal and program reviews, provided leadership for several state and national conferences, including PAWC, and has been a sought-after speaker. Hill has very instrumental in developing the proposal and securing funding for one of the 1890 Centers of Excellence, *Center for Innovative and Sustainable Small Farms, Ranches and Forest Lands*. Earlier this year, the USDA's Office of the Secretary 1890 Task Force and Rural Development – Rural Community College Alliance –HBCU Partnership recognized Hill for his work to enhance rural prosperity through education during the Abraham Lincoln Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Again, we congratulate our colleague and friend, Dr. Walter A. Hill



Dr. Walter Hill



Visit us online at www.umes.edu/ard

2017 ARD SYMPOSIUM

April 1-4, 2017, Hyatt Regency, Atlanta

REGISTRATION

Regular Registration—\$525, ends Feb. 24, 2017

Late Registration—\$575, Feb. 25 – March 24, 2017

On-site Registration—\$600

Registration can be paid by purchase order or check. **No refunds.**

To register:

<https://www.umes.edu/ARD/1890symposium/RegistrationForm.pdf>

For hotel information and registration:

<https://aws.passkey.com/event/14466006/owner/323/home>



EXHIBITORS

Each 1890 campus is invited to display one university exhibit for FREE. Additional exhibits and non-1890 exhibitors must pay the fee of \$2,000 by Feb. 17, 2017. All exhibitors, including the 1890s, must submit the Exhibit Registration Form by the deadline.

To become an Exhibitor: <https://www.umes.edu/ARD/1890symposium/Exhibitor.aspx>.

To become a Sponsor: <https://www.umes.edu/ARD/1890symposium/SponsorshipsARDSymposium2017web.pdf>

The application deadline for the **Morrison-Evans Outstanding Scientist Award** and the **B.D. Mayberry Young Scientist Award** is Jan. 20, 2017. To submit a nominee, click here <https://www.umes.edu/ARD/1890symposium/AwardNominations.aspx>

SPECIAL SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS

A number of slots have been reserved on Tuesday afternoon for special sessions and workshops on selected topics deemed important to the 1890 community, including academic, research and Extension. Please submit a one-page abstract to **Dr. Alton Thompson**, ARD executive director, at athompson1@ncat.edu on or before Jan. 13, 2017. These abstracts must be sufficiently detailed to allow the Symposium Steering Committee to judge the merits of the proposed session. A decision will be communicated to you by Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2017.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Dyremple Marsh, Ph.D., Symposium Steering Committee Co-Chair
Delaware State University / (302) 851-6400 or dmarsh@desu.edu

Orlando McMeans, Ph.D., Symposium Steering Committee Co-Chair
West Virginia State University / (304) 204-4300 or mcmeanso@wvstateu.edu

Alton Thompson, Ph.D., ARD Executive Director
North Carolina A&T State University / (336) 285-2995 or athompson1@ncat.edu
or visit <https://www.umes.edu/ARD/1890symposium/>

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Non-Elected

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](#)
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[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
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To suggest articles, contact
Dr. Alton Thompson at
athompson1@ncat.edu

Update on FY 2017 NIFA Appropriations

NIFA is currently operating under a fiscal year (FY) 2017 temporary Continuing Resolution (CR) that provides funds for our discretionary programs through April 28, 2017.

Late on Friday, Dec. 9, the Senate passed the FY 2017 CR, providing appropriations to fund the federal government through April 28, 2017. The House had previously passed the bill on Dec. 8. The Agriculture Appropriations bill for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies including the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is included in the CR.

The CR provides funding for NIFA at the FY 2016 level, less 0.1901 percent, or about \$2.5 million. Note that the CR does not impact the funding amounts for mandatory programs.



ARD MEMBER UPDATES/OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. Kenrett Jefferson-Moore, professor of Agricultural Economics at North Carolina A&T State University, was appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics Advisory Board to represent the 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities. **Kovind Kannan**, dean and director of Agriculture, Family Sciences and Technology at Fort Valley State University, was reappointed to represent the National Food Animal Science Society.

Dr. Andra Johnson, was appointed the vice chancellor for Research and Technology Development, Southern University Ag Center and College of Agriculture.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT - Dean and Director of Land-Grant Programs - Prairie View A&M University. To view this announcement, click here:
<https://jobs.pvamu.edu/postings/10124>

Message from the Chair ... (Cont. from Page 1)

tripartite mission elements.

I look forward to working with each of you as we endeavor to move ARD forward in very positive, strategic and intentional ways. And as our past Chair Kannan penned in the November newsletter, "thank you for allowing me to serve you and to learn from you as ARD took [takes] a more prominent and impactful position in the land-grant community."

This edition of *ARD Updates* contains a lot of important information about the 2017 ARD Research Symposium. Please visit the website for additional information about registration, deadlines, etc. An exciting symposium is being planned and I want to encourage all of you to participate in this biannual event.



2017 JOINT CARET/AHS MEETING—35TH ANNIVERSARY

March 4-8, 2017

The Westin Alexandria Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA
Theme: "Connecting the Dots by helping others tell our Food and Ag Story"

The meeting will prepare the delegates to the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET) and the Administrative Heads Section (AHS) to take to Capitol Hill the Fiscal Year 2018 budget recommendations of the Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA).