

ARD UPdates

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

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Dr. Moses Kairo

Message from the Chair

Dr. Moses Kairo

The Communications and Marketing Committee of the Board on Agriculture Assembly launched the [Redefining American Agriculture for the 21st Century](#) video last week to market the land-grant university system and boost support for increased federal support for agriculture. The video directs viewers to [AgAction.org](#), a portal that makes it extremely easy for you and other supporters to write the members of their Congressional delegation urging support for APLU's budget request for a \$200-million increase in the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's (NIFA) Capacity programs and the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.

The FY 2018 President's Request and the FY 2018 APLU request were provided in the June issue of *ARD Updates*. In addition, in the June issue of *ARD Updates*, I asked each of you to meet with your state's representatives and senators to ask for their support of APLU's appropriations priorities. Because of the very dismal response to this call for support (only 51 responses as of late June), Dr. Alan L. Grant, chair of the BAA Budget and Advocacy Committee, has asked me to share with you what you need to do now. It's time to act:

View the video at [Redefining American Agriculture for the 21st Century](#)

- Go to [AgAction.org](#) and take two minutes to fill in the simple form with your e-mail address and zip code and then press send (this will send your message to your member(s) of Congress to let them know the importance of our budget request)
- Promote the video and action on Facebook and Twitter—a sample message has been crafted.

(See Kairo on Page 2)

Hill testifies before Ag Committee

Dr. Walter Hill, vice-provost, dean of the College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Sciences (CAENS) at Tuskegee University, and former ARD chair, testified before the House Agriculture Committee on June 22. His presentation, titled "The Next Farm Bill: University Research," supported the need for food and agriculture research at the 1890 land-grant universities and shared with the congressional members selected impact statements of the research and Cooperative Extension programs. He voiced his confidence in the unique and pivotal role of the 1890s and the path forward. Hill also focused on the critical need for increased investment in both capacity and competitive funds; the 1890 Capacity Building Program; the 1890 Facilities Grant Program; the carry-over provision for 1890 Extension; McIntire-Stennis Forestry Program; the Nutrition Education Program; the 1890 Centers of Excellence and student scholarships for the 1890s. Hill also asked for Committee's continued support for the 1890s, and for agricultural research and extension across the board. [Click here for Hill's testimony.](#)

Other witnesses on the panel included Dr. Robert Duncan, chancellor, Texas Tech University System; Dr. Jacqueline Burns, dean for Research and director, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences; Dr. Glenda Humiston, vice president, Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of California; Dr. Steven H. Tallant, president, Texas A&M University-Kingsville; and Dr. Carrie L. Billie, president and CEO, American Indian Higher Education Consortium.



Dr. Walter Hill testifies before House Ag. Committee



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NIFA Calls to Conversation schedules August meeting in Georgia

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is undertaking a series of stakeholder Calls to Conversation meetings allowing us the opportunity to seek a shared vision for the future of many of the agency's programming areas. These sessions gather a cross section of extramurally-funded partners, third-party stakeholders, and representatives of the ultimate program beneficiaries to discuss opportunities for program enhancement. The invited groups are provided a data intensive analysis of the current situation and engage in a facilitated conversation through a series of questions about the program. These high-level conversations will help drive future stakeholder input, make that input more focused and productive, and in some cases, will improve program effectiveness.

Fort Valley State University, the University of Georgia, and NIFA will undertake a Call to Conversation regarding [Positive Youth Development \(PYD\)](#) in August. 4-H as a model of PYD translates the sciences of engagement, learning, and change with youth and

adults who collaborate to create sustainable community change. The 10-year longitudinal [Tufts University Positive Youth Development Study](#) demonstrates that compared with their peers, youth in 4-H programs are:

- Nearly four times more likely to make contributions to their commu-

nities;

- Are about two times more likely to be civically active;
- Are nearly two times more likely to participate in science, engineering, and computer technology programs and 4-H girls are two to three times more likely to take part in science programs compared with girls in other out-of-school time activities;
- 4-H'ers are nearly two times more likely to make healthier choices.

The Georgia meeting will examine how to build on the historical successes of 4-H, as we look to scale up to meet the future demands while ensuring both equity and a high rate of return, i.e., impact. Roughly one in 12 youths in the United States participates in 4-H. While other

PYD organizations serve some other children, there is still approximately 14 million youth who are under-served or unserved for PYD programming.

As soon as the exact date is determined, an electronic communication will be sent to all the research and associate research directors.

NIFA- AFRI develops funded-projects web site

NIFA has created an Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) funded projects web page, which will be updated daily. The AFRI awards are organized by state and by the three most recent fiscal years awarded (2015 – 2017). In addition, you have the option of viewing a brief or full award overview.

The [AFRI web page](#) can be accessed here.

Incidentally, another tool NIFA offers is its [Data Gateway](#), which offers excellent ability to search by keywords and other filters of projects on particular topics across America; It also includes heat maps by state, congressional district, and knowledge areas. These web pages should be helpful to you and your faculty.

Kairo ... (continued for Page 1)

- **Facebook:** We research today, to impact your tomorrow. Watch this video showing the importance of #LGUimpact: bit.ly/agisamerica
- **Twitter:** We research today, to impact your tomorrow. Check out this video highlighting our #LGUimpact: bit.ly/agisamerica #AgAction
- Share through other communication channels such as your website or blog. The YouTube video is [available here](#) for you to embed
- Share with your university's social media channels outside of your colleges of agriculture
- Share in your alumni newsletter.

Please be sure to indicate how you use these funds and the impacts that your programs have in your state. Please also encourage faculty/staff to participate and request that your communication departments get the word out as well. Every letter of support counts!

Thank you in advance for responding to this urgent request to support the capacity and competitive programs at NIFA in the fiscal year 2018.

Finally, I look forward to an engaged dialogue with each of you at our summer business meeting in Dayton, Ohio, July 24-25, 2017. We will continue to chart a path forward to advance ARD's compelling mission and vision that incorporates the diverse expertise, innovative approaches and technological advances being used at our member institutions.

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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

NIFA Partnership Awards deadlines announced

The Partnership Awards Program was established by NIFA in 2007 to recognize the many outstanding contributions that its partners in the land-grant universities and other cooperating institutions and organizations have achieved. Specific instructions and other information regarding this awards program are in the [2017 NIFA Partnership Awards Criteria](#). Nominations must be submitted via the [NIFA Partnership Awards Nomination Form](#). Consider

nominating yourself or your colleagues and let us help celebrate your achievement. All awardees will be recognized at the annual NIFA Day of Appreciation tentatively scheduled for Oct. 2017 in Washington, D.C.

All signed nomination forms must be submitted by July 31, 2017, via email using scanned files that have been saved as .pdf or .jpg files to performance@ars.usda.gov.



ARD CALENDAR



2017 S-CARET/S-AHS JOINT MEETING

Hosted by North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University August 4 – 6, 2017, Embassy Suites by Hilton – Raleigh Durham Research Triangle, Cary, NC Please go to the link below for hotel, registration, and meeting schedule information.

[CARET-AHS Joint Meeting Registration](#)

ESS/AES/ARD MEETING AND WORKSHOP

“A Question of Balance,” hosted by Pennsylvania State University Philadelphia, PA, Sept. 25 -28, 2017. Welcoming reception to open the meeting on the evening of Sept. 25th.

ARD 2017 SUMMER MEETING

July 24 - 26, 2017, Courtyard Dayton Beaver Creek, 2777 Fairfield Commons Blvd., Beaver Creek, OH 45431

The meeting begins on Monday, July 24th at Noon and concludes on Tuesday, July 25th at 5 p.m. For those persons who need to arrive on Sunday and/or leave on Wednesday, there are rooms available on July 23rd and July 25th. [Book your group rate for ARD Summer Business Mtg](#)

