



ARD UPDATEs

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

September 2017, Vol. 8, Issue 9



Message from the Chair

Dr. Moses Kairo

In two weeks, ARD will play an active role in the annual ESS/SAES/ARD meeting at the historic Hyatt at the Bellevue in Philadelphia, PA. Pennsylvania State University is serving as the host. By now, you should have received the draft agenda and materials needed for the discussions.

If you have not registered for our meeting and booked lodging, below are the meeting's relevant links.

- [Conference website](#)
- [Lodging website](#)

The theme of our meeting 'A Question of Balance' is timely and appropriate as ARD, along with the other four regions, examines current and potential areas where we can balance multiple priorities and funding sources to achieve success. We will learn about best practices for research and application efforts, and engage with one another on national agendas.

As reflected in the draft agenda, there are five plenary sessions: (1) Tour of Civil Rights Reviews and Discovery of State Best Practices; (2) Alternative Sources of Funding: Balancing the Tab for Science Research; (3) The Balance of University Research and Teaching; (4) BIG DATA: Balancing Impacts, Investments and Education; and (5) The Balance Between a Compliance Mentality and an Inclusive Mindset. All of these sessions have been well planned and will provide very useful information as we strive to improve, advance and sustain our research programs by providing the mature and contemporary leadership needed for the 21st century. ARD's emphasis on excellence, quality and access also makes this meeting important to attend.

Because Govind Kannan and Alton Thompson were on the planning committee

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FVSU's SAFE Center shelters animals evacuated during Hurricane Irma

Hurricanes have recently devastated parts of the southeastern United States. As the state of Texas is recuperating from the damages of hurricane Harvey, Florida and Georgia are still dealing with the aftermath of hurricane Irma. Hurricane Irma caused millions of Floridians to evacuate the state and move to safer places in Georgia. During such times, finding a safe place to house pets, horses and livestock is also a big challenge. Fortunately, Fort Valley State University (FVSU) activated its SAFE (State Animal Facility for Emergency) Center and agreed to accommodate 70 horses and several dogs and cats from Florida, and wild animals from the Oatland Island Wildlife Center of Savannah, Georgia. The Center has made similar accommodations during previous hurricane seasons.

The SAFE Center is Georgia's only animal facility for disasters. The 7,800-square-foot facility has cages for up to 80 cats and 105 dogs, and it can hold up to 30 horses in times of natural disasters, terrorist attack or an animal control situation that requires temporary housing of many animals. In addition, there are also fenced



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1890s celebrate 127 years of service, science and education

The author of the Act that created land-grant colleges, Congressman Justin Smith Morrill of Strafford, Vermont, had been disappointed that such educational institutions were out of reach for African-Americans. Almost 30 years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act of 1862, the Second Morrill Act, creating our nation's historically black land-grant colleges, was successfully shepherded through Congress by then Senator Morrill and signed into law Aug. 30, 1890.

After 127 years of experience and diversity in agricultural research, education, and Extension, our 1890 LGUs are poised to develop leadership and human capital for our nation's preeminence in the 21st century. That is not a bad legacy for the seminal ideas Justin Smith Morrill articulated in the 19th century.

Click to read the [full article](#) celebrating the 1890 land-grant universities written by Sonny Ramaswamy, NIFA director.

FVSU Center ... (Continued from Page 1)

pasture areas. The Center is also being used to teach undergraduate classes, and homeland security, agrosecurity and biodefense training sessions for animal control and emergency management workers, volunteers and veterinarians. FVSU is an ideal location for this Center since it is in Middle Georgia near multiple interstates and has a Department of Veterinary Science and Public Health with a team of experts and state-of-the-art infrastructure to provide excellent care for animals.

The SAFE Center is a perfect example of how FVSU is giving back and providing for the community. Annually, millions of cats and dogs are euthanized in United States animal shelters for lack of adequate number of responsible pet owners to adopt them.

In the past, FVSU SAFE Center,

in collaboration with animal shelters and animal welfare non-profit organizations in Middle Georgia, has taken in numerous batches of pets on several occasions to house, feed, vaccinate, and otherwise care for their health, and has found responsible owners to adopt them, both within and out of state. In addition, the Department of Veterinary Science and Public Health faculty, staff, and students occasionally visit animal shelters in Middle Georgia to conduct vaccinations and heartworm tests on dogs.

The SAFE Center is also the place where the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) conducts statewide hurricane simulation exercises to ensure smooth evacuation processes during real emergencies.

For more information about the FVSU SAFE Center, contact Dr. George McCommon at (478) 825-6424 or mccommog@fvsu.edu.

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that organized the latter two sessions, I want to briefly describe their content.

Big data is the next revolution in agriculture and natural resources. Emerging technologies for accelerating plant breeding, monitoring crop growth, fertilization, soil conditions, water availability, pests and other management aspects are creating enormous amounts of heterogeneous data at increasingly granular scales. Data analytics are optimizing supply chains, reducing waste within the system, correlating consumer food choices with health outcomes, and allowing researchers to integrate the broad array of geospatial and -omics data in creative ways. This workshop will shed light on approaching big data as powerful research and educational tools to address fundamental challenges facing our food supply and natural resources.

To strategically accomplish the long-term change in the diversity of our students, faculty, administrators and staff and to create an inclusive environment, we must move from a compliance mentality (we have to do it) to an inclusive mindset (we embrace these opportunities to change). This session will be dedicated to the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) which each director should have taken (*ARD had the second highest completion among the region at 84.2 percent*). Results from the IDI will form the basis for a group discussion focusing on cultural differences and commonality from the ESS leadership group. A homework assignment is forthcoming.

Finally, ARD's business meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 26 from 8-10 a.m.

See you in Philly.

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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

BAA to host new deans/directors' meeting

The Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) is planning to host a New Deans and Directors' Workshop for members who have entered an administrative position since 2013 and any others who would like to learn more about the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), BAA, NIFA, and the land-grant university system. If you are interested in attending this event, please take the brief [survey](#) to help better prepare for this meeting.

- Learn how the APLU, BAA, USDA-Research, Education, and Economics, and NIFA work together to advance research, education, and Extension.
- Learn how to become involved at the national level to influence federal legislation and decisions made by NIFA and other agencies.
- Understand the diverse roles of various institutional types within the land-grant university system and the BAA.
- Establish strategic networks with colleagues.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

MARVIN BURNS, retired as dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Langston University.

WESLEY WHITTAKER, appointed as dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Langston University.

EDMUND BUCKNER, appointed as dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences at Alcorn State University.

MUTHUSAMY MANOCHARAN, appointed interim dean of Agriculture, Fisheries and Human Sciences at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

ARD CALENDAR

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. 25. You can register or learn more about the full agenda and other activities at the meeting registration site, <http://www.cvent.com/d/75qccv>.

Philadelphia Airport is close and convenient to downtown. The meeting will be held at the historic Hyatt at the Bellevue. The hotel is in the heart of center city, close to all attractions, and your stay includes access to an excellent sports facility. The hotel has extended our group rate to begin on Sept. 21 until Sept. 30, so that you can extend your stay if you would like to have more time to visit the city.

APLU 2017 ANNUAL MEETING



ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC &
LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES

[The Age of Disruption: Navigating, Innovating, and Excelling](#)

Nov. 12-14, 2017, Washington, DC.

[Register here.](#)

Important deadlines:

Sept. 8 - Final description for Institutional Strategies Sessions and Collaborative Sessions entered in the

annual meeting database.

Sept. 30 - Registration fee increases from \$550 to \$625

Oct. 4 - Final information (titles, speakers, meal event and meeting room requests) for all program sessions entered in the annual meeting database.

Please contact Jean R. Middleton, APLU chief of staff, at jmiddleton@aplu.edu or 202-478-6060 if you have any questions.