

ARD Updates

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

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Message from the Chair

Dr. Govind Kannan

I'm happy to share this edition of ARD Updates. You might call this our Recognitions Edition because you will see that our work clearly illustrates our value and our contributions to strengthening the partnership between USDA and the member institutions. The talented and dedicated ARD members have provided exemplary leadership and trusted advocacy, and have made a number

of significant contributions to knowledge creation relative to finding practical and meaningful solutions to the compelling economic, social and environmental challenges confronting the food and agriculture sector. The articles in this edition recognize the extraordinary efforts of a select group of ARD researchers and educators, including **Dr. Walter Hill**, **Dr. Carolyn B. Brooks** and **Dr. Moses Kairo**. I would also like to recognize and thank **Dr. Juliette B. Bell**, UMES president, for the mature and visionary leadership provided to the USDA Task Force and to the Council of 1890 Universities. I congratulate these outstanding scientists and extend ARD's appreciation for their unwavering commitment to excellence.

Don't forget the upcoming 2017 ARD Research Symposium which will be held April 1-4, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta. Please visit the website for important information and deadlines and to make sure you are registered <https://www.umes.edu/ard/1890Symposium/>.

The November edition of ARD Updates will provide additional Symposium details. The Symposium Steering Committee has been working hard to plan an exciting, educational event and I want to share their work with you.

Please enjoy this issue and pass along notes of congratulations to those mentioned. Happy reading.

ARD Members Inducted into NIFA Hall of Fame

Two ARD members were among the five new inductees into the USDA's NIFA Hall of Fame. The induction was part of NIFA's annual Day of Appreciation.

NIFA's Hall of Fame, which was established in 2011, recognizes individuals whose exceptional contributions to the NIFA's mission at the local, regional, national, or international level have made a positive impact on the lives of citizens.

"The hard work and dedication of our grantees and leaders across the field of food and agriculture are unmatched," said Sonny Ramaswamy, NIFA director. "We are proud to honor their commitment and impact."

ARD members inducted were **Dr. Carolyn Brooks** and **Dr. Walker Hill**.

Brooks is the former executive director of the Association of 1890 Research Directors, dean of the School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, and 1890 Research Director at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Hill is the vice provost of Land-Grant University Affairs at Tuskegee University. He also serves as the dean of the College of Agriculture, Environment, and Nutrition Sciences, director of the George Washington Carver Agricultural Experiment Station, and Administrator of 1890 Extension.

Also inducted was **Dr. Roger N. Beach**, chief scientific officer at Indigo Agriculture; **Dr. Daniel Rossi**, former executive director of the Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, and **Dr. Rajiv Shah**, founder and managing partner of Latitude Capital Management who also serves as a fellow on the faculty of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

The 2016 NIFA Partnership Awards were presented to those institutions that created exceptional impacts. Those awards were presented to the University of Florida, Iowa State, and Auburn University.

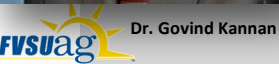


Dr. Carolyn Brooks



Dr. Walter Hill

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Dr. Govind Kannan



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Non-Elected

Alton Thompson
(Exec. Director)

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](#)
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ARD Updates is published monthly by the Association of Research Directors. To suggest articles, contact Dr. Alton Thompson at athompson1@ncat.edu



USDA Lincoln Awards Include Two 1890 Groups

The USDA's **Office of the Secretary 1890 Task Force and Rural Development HBCU Partnership** were recognized during the 2016 Abraham Lincoln Honor Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C. The awards, presented by Secretary **Tom Vilsack** during the 66th Annual Ceremony, provides departmental recognition for distinguished employees and other individuals who have made outstanding contributions that support USDA's mission and goals.

The Abraham Lincoln Honor Awards, formerly known as the Secretary's Honor Awards, are the most prestigious awards presented by the USDA. This year's theme was "USDA – Strong Service and Superior Results." Awards are presented in 12 categories.

The 1890 Task Force group is led by **Thomas L. Tidwell**, chief USDA Forest Service, 1890 Task Force Co-Chair; **Dr. Juliette Bell**, president UMES, and 1890 Task Force Co-Chair; **Beatra Wilson**, USDA/1890 Executive Committee Co-Chair, and **Dr. Moses Kairo**, UMES/1890 Executive Committee Co-Chair. The award was received for advancing the partnership and creating meaningful initiatives promoting the importance of 1890 student education investments and the critical role of 1890 Land Grants in outreach and USDA mission delivery to minority and underserved farmers, ranchers and landowners.

The RD-RCCA-HBCU-partnership, led by **Dr. Randy Smith**, president of the Rural Community College Alliance, and **Dr. Walter Hill**, vice provost of Land Grant University Affairs at Tuskegee University, were recognized for the achievements of the Rural Community College Association and 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Colleges and Universities to enhance rural prosperity through education.



ARD CALENDAR



ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC &
LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES

APLU Planning Meeting—Nov. 13-15, Austin, TX,
JW Marriott, Austin, www.aplu.org

ARD Research Symposium, April 1-4, 2017, Hyatt Regency, Atlanta,
<https://www.umes.edu/ard/1890Symposium/>

ARD MEMBERS ON THE MOVE



Dr. Larry Robinson, Interim President, Florida A&M University
Dr. Bobby R. Phill, the Chancellor/Dean of Southern University
Ag Center and College of Agriculture
Dr. Alton B. Johnson, Director of Land Grant Programs and Dean of
the College of Science and Engineering