



## Message from the Chair



# ARD UPDATES

### *Dear Colleagues:*

We will soon be meeting in New Orleans for our 2013 summer meeting with a very lengthy agenda. In the past we have always looked forward to hearing from our USDA partners. During severe cutbacks to federal travel funds we knew travel to our meeting by our federal colleagues would be very unlikely. Therefore, the executive committees of ARD and AEA will go to visit NIFA leadership on June 13th and while we are anxious to receive updates from them, we also want to represent you well. Please send to us (through our Executive Director, Carolyn Brooks) any concerns you want responses to or any clarifications you need or questions you want asked ASAP. Additionally, Carolyn has already sent you the agenda. Please come prepared to participate, give reports and best of all...to enjoy the camaraderie of one another. I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Sincerely,

Shirley Hymon-Parker, Chair



*Members of the Association of 1890 Research Directors, Inc.*

**Important Notices: No-Cost Extensions (NCE) for 2010 Capacity Building Grants**  
In 2010, NIFA funded 117 projects under the 1890 Capacity Building Grants Program. The majority of those awards will expire in August 2013. The process for the first no-cost extension (NCE) is to be approved at the 1890 campus. However, NIFA must receive an approval letter that is signed by the AOR before the expiration date. The letter must explain the reason for the NCE and provide the new expiration date (up to 12 months). An SF-425 financial report must be included as well. These documents can be sent as email attachments to [awards@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:awards@nifa.usda.gov) with a CC to Dr. Edwin Lewis at [elewis@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:elewis@nifa.usda.gov).

**June 14<sup>th</sup> is the due date for Supplemental and Alternative Crops Competitive (SACC) Grants Program.** It will support the development of canola as a viable supplemental and alternative crop in the United States (developing and testing of superior germplasm, improving methods of planting, cultivation, and harvesting, and transferring new knowledge to producers (via Extension) as soon as practicable.) Funding #USDA-NIFA-OP-004269.

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)

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## Summary on Writing Better Outcomes

As we begin to document 1890 Excellence for the upcoming 125th Anniversary of the Second Morrill Act, the following are very pertinent instructions: Make sure your outcomes and impacts are results that are measured by data that show change(s) in knowledge, action, and/or condition. Remember that outputs are “products” that are sometimes good to include in your outcome statement but are not necessarily changes themselves. Outputs are merely data that support the change(s) you are describing. Show progression between the issue, what was done about it, and what your results were. Write for the audiences that make decisions on your funding (Congress, USDA headquarters, constituents who influence legislators). Use plain language and be brief. Show the public value!



### *Dr. C. S. Prakash wins the Morrison-Evans Outstanding Scientist Award*

Dr. Channaptna S. Prakash of Tuskegee University was the recipient of the 2013 Morrison-Evans Outstanding Scientist Award which is the oldest and highest honor given to an 1890 scientist by the ARD and comes with a cash sum of \$1000. The recipient’s research interests include studies on transgenic plants, gene expression, tissue culture and plant genomics. Among many of his impressive accomplishments, Dr. Prakash and his colleagues have deposited thousands of nucleotide data in the GenBank, developed hundreds of SSR markers, and constructed a very detailed and informative peanut genetic map. He is also pursuing genomic and DNA markers studies on *Miscanthus* and similar work also on date palm trees. He is well published and is an editor-in-chief of the *Journal of GM Crops and Food* and co-edited a Special Issue on Biosafety Regulation. He is renown internationally as an expert on societal understanding of agricultural biotechnology. Dr. Prakash also teaches courses in plant biotechnology, genetics, plant biology and in international agriculture. He received his B.S. and M.S. in agriculture from the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, India and a PhD in forestry genetics from the Australian National University in Canberra and was a post-doc at the University of Kentucky.

### *Dr. Erika Knight Styles wins the B.D. Mayberry Young Scientist Award*



The 2013 B. D. Mayberry Young Scientist Award and \$500 were presented to Dr. Erika Knight Styles from Fort Valley State University at the 2013 symposium. Dr. Styles focuses on developing and understanding structural elements and consumer preferences for organic fruits and vegetables and nontraditional agricultural products. Her scholarship has begun in earnest, but what is so impressive is that this young scientist is making a broad and sustaining impact as well, by mentoring students – many of these students, guided by the recipients’ scholarship and passion to help them be successful, have won competitions for their outstanding presentations at national conferences. Dr. Styles received her B.S. in Ag. Economics from Fort Valley State University and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Florida in Food and Resource Economics.

## Congratulations to First, Second and Third Place Student Award Recipients for Poster and Oral Paper Competitions at the 2013 Biennial Research Symposium!

