



# Message from the Chair



Association of  
1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS



# ARD UPDATES

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)

Dear Colleagues:

When the President's budget for FY 2017 was released in February, we were pleased to see increases to the 1890 University budget lines. Immediately an Action Alert went out to the campuses because there will be compacted scheduling on The Hill due to the 2016 election. The House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee has notified members of the U.S. House of Representatives that March 15 is the deadline for them to submit programmatic funding requests for the FY 2017 appropriations cycle. The Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee's deadline is March 17. We need you to contact your House and Senate Members as soon as possible to make your requests. The instructions on how to do this were sent to you but contact us if you need to have them resent. The link to view the two-page fact sheet to assist you in making these Congressional requests can be found at:

[http://land-grant.org/appropriations\\_docs.html](http://land-grant.org/appropriations_docs.html)

Below is what was proposed in the President's budget for the 1890s:

Program	FY 2016	FY 2017	Change
Evans-Allen	\$54.185M	\$58.000M	+\$3.815M
1890 Extension	\$45.620M	\$48.350M	+\$2.730M
Cap. Bldg. Grants	\$19.336M	\$30.410M	+\$11.074M
1890 Facilities	\$19.730M	\$21.703M	+\$1.973M
AFRI	\$350.000M	\$375.000M	+\$25.000M

Please note that the proposed increase to the Capacity Building Grants Program is to include ~\$11M for initiatives in support of the 125th Anniversary Centers of Excellence. Descriptions of these Centers will be placed on the ARD website, [www.umes.edu/ard](http://www.umes.edu/ard) by mid-March. Please assist us in the advocacy we need to get Congress to provide these increases to the 1890 University NIFA lines.

Sincerely,

Govind Kannan, Chair



## *Update on the Funding for Support of the 125th Anniversary Center of Excellence for Innovative and Sustainable Small Farms, Ranches, and Forestlands (CISFRF)*

In response to an RFP sent to the 1890 Universities that would have them respond to the Plan of Work outlined in signed agreements between the 1890s and RD, FSA, FS, and NRCS, sixteen (16) proposals competing for a total of \$1,150,000 were submitted and evaluated by a technical advisory team and seven proposals were successful. A briefing report on progress to date of the 125th Anniversary Centers of Excellence can be found through a link in the top right hand corner of the ARD website homepage.

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## Updates from NIFA on the Capacity Building Grants Program

USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) will host the 1890 Institution, Teaching, Research, and Extension Capacity Building Grants (CBG) Program Webinar on **March 3, 2-3 p.m. EST** to provide information about the FY 2016 1890 CBG Program RFA. The webinar will be made available via Adobe Connect. Please see the link below to join the webinar.

As a reminder, **the deadline for applications to the 1890 CBG Program is March 31, 2016.** You can access the RFA at the NIFA website by clicking <http://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/1890-institution-teaching-research-and-extension-capacity-building-grants-cbg>

To join the meeting on March 3rd, please use the following link: <http://nifa-connect.nifa.usda.gov/cbg/>

## USDA 1890 National Scholars Program Application Deadline is Monday April 11, 2016.

For high school student applications use the following link:

<http://www.outreach.usda.gov/education/1890/2016%201890%20Scholars%20High%20School%20Application%20OMB%20approved%2011-24-15r.pdf>

For college student applications use the following link:

<http://www.outreach.usda.gov/education/1890/Revised%202016%201890%20Scholars%20College%20Application%20OMB%20Approved%20121515.pdf>

## Meeting Reminders:

USDA/1890 Task Force Meeting and Orientation—February 29, 2016 Whitten Building, Washington, DC

CARET/AHS Meeting—March 6-8, 2016, Westin Hotel, Alexandria, VA (ARD meeting March 7th from 6-8 PM)

NERAOC—April 24-27, 2016 Philadelphia, PA



## The 2017 ARD Research Symposium

will be held April 1—3, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. Please watch for notices about registration, abstract submission and the tentative programming.

### NERAOC—2016

The 2016 National Extension and Research Administrative Officers Conference (NERAOC) will take place on April 24-27, 2016 at the Philadelphia Sheraton Downtown. Linking lessons of the past with solutions for tomorrow will provide an opportunity for engaging presentations, hands-on sessions, round table discussions, and sharing of best management practices on topics in the areas of budget, finance, grants management, human resource management, civil rights, and diversity. The conference will provide professional development, guidance, and information sharing with presenters and participants from USDA NIFA, 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Universities, and 1994 Tribal Land-Grant Colleges and Universities.

<http://www.cvent.com/events/neraoc-2016/event-summary-c6c195044b964780b8f83ff6921cf4a8.aspx>