



Message from the Chair



National Nutrition Month

ARD UPDATES

Dear Colleagues:

I look forward to seeing you all least twice this month, something that is quite rare. That is perfect timing as there is so much to share with one another as we approach our big events, “1890 Day” and the “1890s on the Hill.” The branding committee met in late February and so the traveling exhibit will be moved to several federal buildings periodically and the website is always evolving. You will note that the twitter and Facebook links on our site, <http://www.1890universities.org>, are also active and many of you sent university facts that will be placed on the Facebook link. All in all, there is much to be found about us on the 1890 website and in the future it is very likely that site will be populated by general information about us as well, as we have other great programs in addition to the food and agricultural sciences.

I want to take this opportunity to ask you to be sure to print out the information you will receive prior to our meetings on March 3rd and on March 11th-13th. These will be paperless meetings and we ask that you bring the handouts to be discussed with you to the meeting. Seeing them in advance prepares us for discussions that can be respectful of the limited time we have. So if there are additional topics you want discussed that were not listed on the agenda, we look forward to having this sent to us, as we will gladly add the topic and any handouts for the meeting package. We are fortunate that representatives from NIFA from the Office of Grants and Financial Management will come to give updates and respond to issues relating to the 1890s, and Mr. Bart Hewitt, Director of Planning, Accountability and Reporting will meet with us during the 11th—13th meeting.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

James O. Garner, ARD Chair



Call to Action (Instructions were sent to you by email requesting your help to get Congressional members to support the 1890 priorities as found in the President’s 2016 Budget. (Contact the ARD ED if you need the instructions resent.)

FY 2016 Programmatic Appropriations Requests Due by COB Monday, March 23. The House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee has notified members of the U.S. House of Representatives that they have until COB on Monday, March 23, to submit programmatic funding requests for the FY 2016 appropriations cycle. The Senate has yet to formally set a subcommittee deadline. Regardless, we need you to contact your House and Senate Members as soon as possible to make your requests.

All of the specific 1890 lines were increased in the President’s budget as seen below:

Evans-Allen \$60.500 M (from FY 2015 -\$52.485 M)

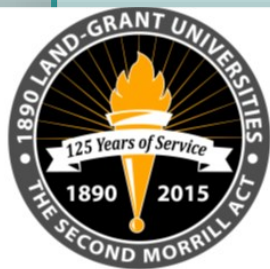
1890 Institutions Extension \$49.350 M (from FY 2015- \$43.920)

McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry \$35.500 M (same as FY15 so BAC is requesting an increase to this line)

Capacity Building Grants for 1890s \$20.410 M (from FY 2015- \$19.336)

1890 Facilities \$21.703 M (from FY 2015- \$19.730)

We oppose the FY 2016 budget proposal to change the law and make a portion of Evans-Allen and 1890 Extension funding competitive.



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www.umes.edu/ard

or contact us using cbbrooks@umes.edu

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Deadline for Capacity Building Grant Proposals for 1890 Universities is March 26, 2015

Please read the RFA carefully. There are a few new requirements/opportunities to note in the RFA, including:

Student Leadership Skills Development component required for Teaching awards (page 14)

New Extension Needs Area – “Other Extension Initiatives” (page 21)

New data requirement – “Expected Outcomes” (page 41)

Postponement

An Invitation to You:

1890 Food Safety Consortium Symposium

Location: USDA-ARS-Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Bldg. 005, Room 021, Beltsville, MD 20705

Because Capacity Building Grant proposals are due March 26th, the food safety consortium team decided it would be prudent to postpone the symposium, previously planned for March 24th-26th. Tentatively the new date is April 1-2, 2015 but further information and the final date are forthcoming.

Highlights from President Obama’s Budget for USDA and NIFA

There is opposition from the Agriculture community on the President’s proposal to create a new single food-safety agency at the Department of Health and Human Services that would consolidate the food-safety activities now handled by 15 different agencies. The proposal particularly focused on consolidating the food-safety activities of the FDA and USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). This year, the FDA was allocated an additional \$27.5 million for food safety activities, and under the president's budget proposal for fiscal year 2016, the agency would get another \$109.5 million.

IMPORTANT: RFAs are out for the following:

FY 2015 Foundational Program:

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE: **Varies by Program Area**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **Varies by Program Area**

http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/fy2015_afri_foundational.pdf

FY 2015 Agricultural and Natural Resources Science for Climate Variability and Change

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE: April 2, 2015 APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 4, 2015

http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/fy2015_afri_climate_change.pdf

FY 2015 Food Security

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE: April 02, 2015 APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 04,

2015 http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/fy2015_afri_food_secur_final_rev.pdf

FY 2015 Food Safety

APPLICATION DEADLINE for “Enhancing Food Safety through Improved Processing Technologies” (A4131): May 18, 2015. APPLICATION

DEADLINE for “Effective Mitigation Strategies for Antimicrobial Resistance” (A4171): May 13, 2015.

http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/FY15%20Food%20Safety%20RFA%20final_to%20post.pdf

FY 2015 Childhood Obesity Prevention

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 23, 2015 http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/fy2015_child_obes.pdf

FY2015 Water for Agriculture

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE: April 9, 2015 APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 16, 2015 <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/>



Tuskegee Professor Named among Top Social Influencers

A Tuskegee University professor has spread his influence through his travels across the country and abroad, and last month Dr. C.S. Prakash was listed among the Huffington Post’s Top 30 Social Influencers in BioTech and BioPharma. To determine influence, a range of metrics were used including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, searching specifically for BioPharma and BioTech users. Prakash oversees the genetic improvement research on food crops of importance to developing countries and has trained dozens of scientists and students. Prakash spoke about how he has used social media as a platform for his cause. “I was using the internet to bring in people to promote discussion on the subject of biotechnology and so it was quite natural for me to move into social media to help engage people, not necessarily all of them scientists, but also media students, scholars and the general public.” “I was at the Vatican last year. I had a great opportunity to meet with the Pope and brought him a sample of golden rice that is biotech rice.” Prakash has given lectures at the White House and United Nations, spoken on mainstream media like the BBC, ABC and all of the main television and public radio (networks). The U.S. Department of State engaged him as a science ambassador so that he could go to different countries and speak about biotechnology.