



Message from the Chair



Association of
1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

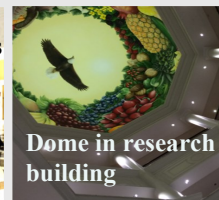
Dear Colleagues:

Thank you all for participating in the recent ESS/SAES/ARD meeting in Charlotte, NC and special thanks to N.C. A&T State University for serving as the 1890s' host institution. I think it was an excellent meeting and we all took pride in having the outstanding research program being done in Kannapolis by A&T faculty displayed (with Dr. Leonard Williams as their program director) during the tour, and the passing of the gavel to our very able colleague, Shirley Hymon-Parker as the 2015-2016 ESS/ESCOP Chair. Hopefully our campuses can become more intimately involved in public-private partnerships and can certainly model our aspirations after the NC Research Campus in Kannapolis which had as its visionary and benefactor Dole Executive, David H. Murdock.

All of you are aware that our Executive Director, Carolyn Brooks, has notified us of her pending retirement. Carolyn asks that we please get the search going! Please see the announcement at www.umes.edu/ard.

Sincerely,

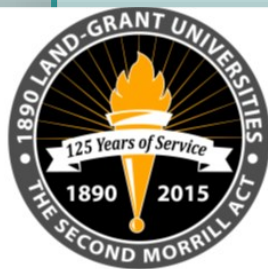
Govind Kannan, ARD Chair



ARD UPDATES

New Opportunity from ARS for the 1890s

Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, ARS Administrator, has announced a new development opportunity for 1890 University early-career faculty called the **Research Capacity Sabbatical Fellowships for Early-Career Faculty at 1890 Land-Grant Universities program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS)**. This new program offers research and training opportunities to early-career, tenure-track faculty at 1890 Land-Grant Universities through the award of sabbatical fellowships. Each Research Capacity Sabbatical Fellowship (RCSF) award will provide up to \$100,000 to support expenses (e.g., salary, living expenses, and research costs) for a Fellow to conduct cooperative research with ARS during a **6-to-12-month residence at an ARS laboratory**. ARS will invest a total of \$500,000 each year for these fellowships, with no more than one fellowship granted per institution per year. ARS will accept applications from faculty at any of the 1890 Land-Grant Universities. A maximum of three applications may be submitted by a given 1890 Land-Grant University per competition. The 2016 Program Information document can be found at [www.ars.usda.gov/ Research/ 1890Sabbatical](http://www.ars.usda.gov/Research/1890Sabbatical). You may contact Robert C. MacDonald, ARS Coordinator for Partnerships and Grants, for additional information at (301) 504-1184 or robert.macdonald@ars.usda.gov.



125 Years of Providing Access and Enhancing Opportunities

Please visit the ARD website-

www.umes.edu/ard

or contact us using cbbrooks@umes.edu



Dr. Elizabeth Noel passed on October 11, 2015. She had served in numerous administrative capacities at Prairie View A&M University (her *Alma Mater*) for many years and had just retired August 31, 2015.

Recently you have been receiving vacancy announcements from the ARD Executive Director. She accepted the request of the ARS to assist with their Best Hiring Practice "Distribution Database" for the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. As an ongoing initiative to increase workforce diversity ARS has established a centralized notification process of available administrative and scientific vacancy announcements in ARS. See also <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/418045600>

ARD UPDATES

DOW AgroSciences (DAS) Leadership Workshops held for Four 1890 Universities

For several months DAS has been planning pilot leadership development workshops for 1890 Students. The four campuses selected for the first offerings were the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and Delaware State University together, North Carolina A&T State University and Tuskegee University. All workshops were held on campuses in September, 2015. This initiative provides Leadership Training and culminates with a Certification Exam. Dow will be scheduling webinars throughout the rest of this year and the beginning of next year for the students as well. The Leadership Exam, which is a proctored exam, will take about 1 hour to complete and it will cost \$15 per person to register for the exam. As summarized by one of the faculty members who organized the workshop for her campus, "Students had the opportunity to learn about careers and opportunities within Dow AgroSciences and were able to ask questions about internship opportunities, the application process, and what things they could do to improve their applications so that he/she could stand out from the thousands of applications that they receive each year." Many of the students are intending to apply for an internship with Dow.

The campus mentors indicated that students actively participated in all of the activities and said that they really learned a lot from the information that was presented. In spite of having the leadership training for either two consecutive days or by sitting at least 10 hours straight for training, they remained energized and attentive to the presenters the entire time. The core of the training was entitled '7 Habits of Highly Effective College Students,' and campuses that did not complete all seven habits will have the opportunity to do through their campus mentors who have an instructor's manual and a DVD containing all of the training videos. The students who had a few more 'habits' to go have agreed to complete the training to receive the certificate and will meet to do so over the next two months... even volunteering to use their Saturdays to do so. Without a doubt, this is a wonderful new initiative provided to the 1890s by DAS and we look forward to expanding the number of campuses participating.

**Participants from the
University of Maryland Eastern Shore**



**Participants from North Carolina A&T State
University**



Participants from Delaware State University



Participants from Tuskegee University

