

# 1890 LAND GRANT UNIVERSITIES

## Association of 1890 Research Directors, Inc.

### McKinley Mayes Mentoring Award

The McKinley Mayes Mentoring Award is named in honor of Dr. McKinley Mayes. Dr. Mayes served more than 30 years in various capacities in teaching and research and administration, including Associate Dean and Research Director at Southern University. Dr. Mayes was a founding member of the Association of Research Directors, Inc. (ARD) and was twice elected as Chair. From 1976 until retirement, Dr. Mayes served as the Director of the Office of 1890 University Programs for the Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS), now NIFA. Dr. Mayes was the first African American professional in a permanent managerial position with CSRS. In this position, Dr. Mayes were instrumental in getting permanent legislation for funding of agricultural research at the 1890 land grant universities.

The McKinley Mayes Mentoring Award recognizes a member of the Association of 1890 Research Directors or a research scientist who, as a mentor, has shown an outstanding commitment to mentoring early career faculty or students at one of the 19 1890 land grant universities. This award recognizes the value that early career faculty and student mentoring brings to the 1890 community and the positive impact of strong mentoring relationships on individual mentees and our land grant community. The nominee should have consistently demonstrated an exceptional level of support and guidance to the professional development and advancement to his or her mentee that far exceeds the expected responsibilities required of an administrator or research scientist. While mentorship occurs in many settings, this award focuses on mentorship in a research and scholarly setting. This award carries a cash sum of \$500.

#### Selection Criteria:

1. He/She must have participated or be currently participating in agriculturally related research at one of the ARD member institutions.
2. He/She must hold an academic, professional or staff appointment at one of the ARD member institutions.
3. He/She must have distinguished himself or herself as an outstanding service as a mentor by exceeding the expected roles as an administrator or research scientist/faculty advisor.
4. He/She must show evidence of providing mentee(s) with expert guidance in the development of specific skills and the chance to build relationship with other professionals.
5. He/She must have prepared the mentee(s) for greater leadership or research responsibilities.

6. He/She must have broadened the mentee(s)' exposure to other areas of the 1890 research community in the food and agricultural sciences and natural resources.
7. Support scientific growth and development of mentees, demonstrated by record of mentees' co-authorships, professional accomplishments, career advancement, etc.
8. Display evidence of mentees completing their defined projects (e.g., grants, publications, promotional goals).
9. Demonstrated commitment to support the intellectual, creative, scholarly, and professional growth of mentees, evident by their measurable success at university level, and beyond.
10. Evidence of sustained commitment to a professional mentoring relationship that results in career growth or personal development of mentees.

**Nomination Format:**

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Mentee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominations Due: January 19, 2024**

**Submission Materials:** Completed Nomination Form, a resume or curriculum vitae of the nominee (*three-page limit*); one letter of nomination specific examples of how the mentor has demonstrated the above-referenced criteria and documenting the nominee's qualifications for the McKinley Mayes Mentoring Award (*four-page limit*). In addition, supporting letters (no more than three) from other individuals (including mentees) must also be submitted. Self-nominations are accepted.

The ARD Executive Committee will review nominations and select one or more for which additional supporting materials may be requested. The nominator may be asked to provide additional material and to request materials from others familiar with the nominee's service and performance.

**Submit Nomination Form and supporting materials to:**

Dr. Alton Thompson, ARD Executive Director  
[athompson1@ncat.edu](mailto:athompson1@ncat.edu)