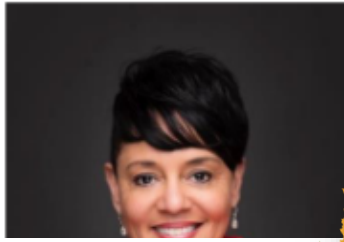
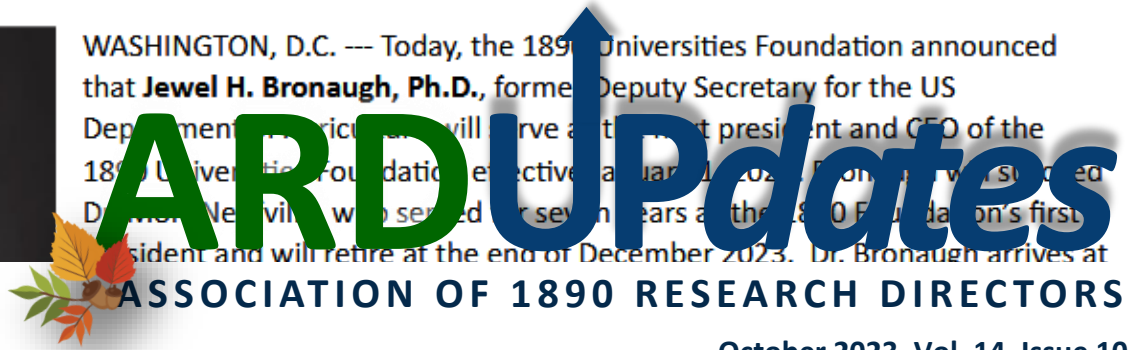


1890 Universities Foundation Names Jewel Bronaugh as Its Next President & CEO

[1890 Foundation names Dr. Bronaugh as next president and CEO](#)



WASHINGTON, D.C. --- Today, the 1890 Universities Foundation announced that **Jewel H. Bronaugh, Ph.D.**, former Deputy Secretary for the US Department of Agriculture, will serve as the next president and CEO of the 1890 Universities Foundation effective January 1, 2024. Bronaugh previously served Dr. John Nevill, who served for seven years as the 1890 Foundation's first president and will retire at the end of December 2023. Dr. Bronaugh arrives at the Association of 1890 Research Directors



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Message from the Chair DR. LOUIS WHITESIDES



Now that we are well into the fall 2023 semester, we've settled into the cadence of teaching, research and engagement while avoiding a government shutdown. In the words of Dr. W. E. B DuBois, "Now is the accepted time, not tomorrow, not some more convenient season. It is today that our best work can be done and not some future day or future year."

As often stated, time is filled with swift, strong and often unseen transitions, and so, therefore, we must continue to operate with vigor and tenacity, not looking for tomorrow, but focusing on the present, while giving our best effort. The Association of Research Directors (ARD) continue to put our best effort forward this season to improve the quality of life for the people we serve and for our stakeholders.

Let me begin by expressing sincere appreciation to Dr. George Smith, 2023 ESS-agInnovation annual meeting program chair, and the planning committee for an outstanding fall conference. The meeting's theme, "Catalyzing Solutions to Climate Change Impacts on Food Security through Partnerships," was relevant, and the keynote presentation by Ian Olson, senior director of global supply chain sustainability for the McDonald's Corporation, together with the three panel sessions, were engaging and delivered by recognized experts. The 1890 participants benefited tremendously from these highly interactive panel sessions that were closely allied with the 1890 strategic research agenda. Overall, the desired outcomes of the joint meeting were achieved with commendation; the bar is definitely set high for the 2024 Experiment Station Section-agInnovation meeting, which will be held Sept. 22 - 25 in Raleigh, NC.

The 1890 research directors will work in tandem with Dr. Smith to achieve the following:

2023-2024 agInnovation/ESCOP Priorities:

- Support increased appropriations for USDA -NIFA to enhance capacity and competitive

See Whitesides on Page 4

ESS/ESCOP rebrands as agInnovation

Excerpts of a letter from Bret W. Hess, Executive Director, agInnovation, West, Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

For the better part of a year, our national organization - ESS/ESCOP - has been working on rebranding. The Experiment Station Section name and the message our name and logo communicate to friends, partners and the general public has remained unchanged since beginning our work nearly 120 years ago. And yet, you know well that the kind of research and results coming out of land-grant universities is powerful and transformative to our industry's agriculture communities. Our team wants to do our part in shining a brighter light on that work, and we believe a rebrand is a critical next step to that end.

I know your time is limited. Here's the bottom line: The linked article unpacks why ESS/ESCOP has rebranded to **agInnovation**. Our rollout

team has also prepared assets that can be customized and disseminated within your system as we all work together to highlight the importance of the work conducted at land-grant universities. I encourage you to read through to the end. I hoped you and your Cooperative Extension teams and other land-grant family members watched our [recorded Sept. 7 webinar](#) to learn more about the process, goals and next steps for the rebranding effort.

Lastly, we have shared and socialized this effort with the entire ESS/ESCOP (now agInnovation) community - regional directors, experiment station directors, their units, faculty, and researchers. You are our next focus as a Cooperative Extension partner. Soon, we will reach out to our college of agriculture dean or leadership colleagues and our APLU and NIFA partners. We will then broaden our outreach to other key



See Rebranding on Page 4





Congress approved the Evans-Allen Act of 1977 to provide capacity funding for food and agricultural research at the 1890 land-grant universities and Tuskegee University (the 1890 Institutions) similar to that provided to the 1862 universities under the Hatch Act of 1887. Research conducted under the Evans-Allen Program has led to hundreds of scientific breakthroughs of benefit to both the unique stakeholders of the 1890 institutions and the nation as a whole. The Evans-Allen Program has been extremely important in allowing the 1890 institutions to attract top-notch scientists to their campuses, conduct high-quality and innovative research and become more fully integrated within the land-grant system.

Below is an example of impacts from the 1890 research program submitted by scientists at Kentucky State University.

KSU partners with farmers to develop in-pond floating raceways

Funded by a USDA/National Institute of Agriculture (NIFA) grant, Kentucky State University researchers work with Kentucky producers as they assess the potential for in-pond floating raceways and develop a cost-effective design for limited-resource farms.

This project is based on the premise that the technology represents an opportunity for the small farm to produce fish in existing impoundments that cannot be drained. Floating raceways confine the fish in an aerated stream of water so they can be efficiently managed and easily harvested.

Unlike in a cage, relatively large quantities of fish can be grown in a single unit. Unlike in a pond with no drain, the fish can be protected from predators and some or all the fish can be recovered at any point in time by a crew of one or two people. This feature gives the farmer flexibility to take advantage of niche markets and their premium prices or to market the entire group of fish live.

In July 2017, Dr. Ken Semmens, director of the Center of Aquaculture and Aquatic Science, and other Kentucky State personnel helped James Ulrich, a farmer in London, KY, install a floating raceway in his 0.75-acre pond. A second raceway with an improved design was installed in the summer of 2023, to grow out fingerlings to stock the larger floating raceway growing food fish. Ulrich is also using a new control box assembled as part of the project to turn an aerator on and off automatically. This device was useful during a severe oxygen depletion this summer.

Working with Ulrich has given researchers a chance “to find out what does and what doesn’t work,” Semmens said.

“James has been a partner,” Semmens said. “Through him, we’ve learned things, and through us, he’s learned things.”

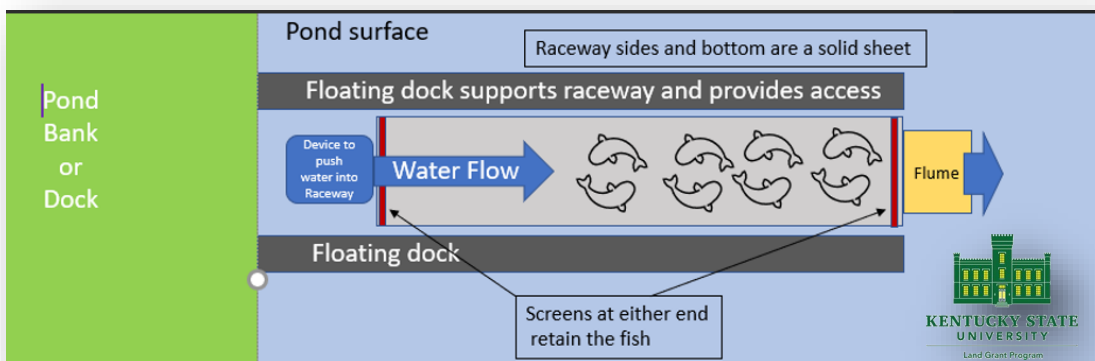
The floating raceway greatly simplifies the process of

harvesting fish. In addition to the fish stocked in the raceway, Ulrich also uses it to trap and hold fish that freely roam the pond. In one year, he harvested and sold about 4,000 pounds of catfish.

“I would have never had any idea about this raceway if not for Dr. Semmens. It’s been the greatest thing ever,” Ulrich said. “The raceway works so well.”



Above, Kentucky State University research staff working to install in-pond floating raceway. Below, diagram of how the floating raceway works.



Kentucky State researchers are continuing to partner with producers to further develop the in-pond floating raceways.

For more information, contact aquaculture@kysu.edu.



ARD RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM 2024

Symposium Theme: *“Climate, Health and Cultivating the Next Generation of Agriculture Leaders: Creating Solutions in Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources”*

April 6-9, 2023 | Atlanta, GA

DATE	DEADLINE/EVENT
	<i>Note: The links are forthcoming. Please check back.</i>
Friday, Oct. 18, 2023 – Friday, Feb. 23, 2024	Regular registration deadline (\$700)
COB on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023 (EST)	Abstracts deadline
Monday, Nov. 13, 2023	Exhibitor space reservation (1890s) deadline
Friday, Jan. 19, 2024	Awards nominations deadline
Friday, Feb. 9, 2024	Exhibitor space reservation (non-1890s) deadline
Saturday, Feb. 24 – Friday, April 5, 2024	Late registration begins (\$725)
Thursday, March 7, 2024	Hotel reservation deadline
Saturday, April 6, 2024	Onsite registration begins (\$750)
Saturday, April 6, 2024	Meetings for Symposium Committee, judges/moderators and etc., posters and exhibits setup.
Sunday, April 7, 2022	ARD 2024 Symposium begins with registration, student competitive papers and posters, ribbon cutting, reception
Monday, April 8, 2024	Registration, general opening session, oral paper presentations by faculty; posters and exhibits review (with authors); student awards luncheon; student workshop
Tuesday, April 9, 2024	Registration, plenary session, sessions and workshops, poster and exhibit breakdown, Morrison-Evans and B.D. Mayberry Awards Banquet

Registration Notes:

- *Spouse/Significant Other Registration: — \$200 per participant*
- *Registration can be paid by purchase order, check, or credit card. **No refunds.***

DATES TO REMEMBER

Registration: Regular: \$700 | Oct. 18, 2023 – Feb. 23, 2024 | **Late: \$725** | Feb. 24, 2024 – April 5, 2024

On-Site Registration: \$750 | Begins April 6, 2024

Spouse/Significant Other Registration – \$200 per participant

Submit Abstracts | Deadline: COB on Nov. 13, 2023

Exhibit Registration (\$3,000.00) | Deadline Nov. 13, 2023 – for the 1890s | Deadline Feb. 9, 2024 – for the non-1890s

Nomination for ARD Awards – Deadline is Jan. 17, 2024

Rebranding . . . From page 1

stakeholders.

We presented this information to the college of agriculture communicators at the summer ACE conference and will reach out to communicators directly in the coming weeks and hold a focused webinar specifically for communicators so they can better understand not only the rebrand but, more importantly, how to work with it and use it to ensure success.

Know our rebranding does not mean your entity changes name or identity. The umbrella over which ESS/ESCOP has been perceived previously is getting a new identity. Please leverage the items below when it makes sense and share some (or all) of the verbiage with your teams, as it may be helpful in the future.

As excited as we are about our updated brand, we are more excited about the juncture at which we find ourselves. No matter your college's cache, it's a true statement that donors or foundations don't always see agriculture colleges as the first pick for funding initiatives. But you and I know their research has serious, global ramifications. We're confident this rebrand will be crucial in routing more attention and resources to agricultural pursuits via land-grant universities. In short, **we are embracing an opportunity to future-proof agriculture** more than we are embracing a new name and logo.

I appreciate your consideration of the agInnovation rebrand. We are very proud of this effort as it truly has been collaborative across all regions.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Notify your team the rebrand is taking place. You can view the rationale behind "[Our Why](#)" [here](#).
- Watch - or delegate someone to watch - the [agInnovation Rebrand Webinar now found on YouTube here](#) and/or [view the webinar presentation slides here](#).
- **Our Why:** This document spells out the purpose behind the agInnovation rebrand and what's at stake in the agriculture industry.
- **Executive Summary:** The executive summary of the agInnovation rebrand will further unpack the story behind the rebrand's initiation and the factors that went into the changes.
- **FAQ:** Simple answers for questions your communications team(s) will have regarding when and where they may need to take action.
- **Key Talking Points:** You have many conversations in your role, and we'd like you to feel as informed as possible should you wish to discuss with contacts and colleagues.

Our end goal is to further elevate the research at these critical land-grant universities while reminding the general public of their important role in our everyday lives. Please share this email and resources with your teams. If you feel you need more support or clarification, please reach out.

Whitesides . . . From page 1

funding for research.

- Identify opportunities and develop short- and long-term funding strategies to address critical infrastructure needs at colleges of agriculture at land-grant universities.
- Fully integrate diversity, equity and inclusion as an essential component of all agInnovation activities and programs.
- Continued emphasis and activities supporting agInnovation's leading role in addressing climate-change challenges as they impact agriculture and natural resources.
- Strengthen partnership and engagement efforts with USDA, including the OCS, NIFA, ARS and NRCS.
- Engage agInnovation directors through effective and regular communication.

2023-2024 Chair's Initiatives

- Develop and implement an agInnovation "Research Funding Framework" and implementation plan that includes well-articulated goals, data-driven and other effective advocacy strategies, and clear one-, five- and 10-year science deliverables and funding benchmarks for achieving identified goals.
- Strengthen current and build new strategic partnerships with traditional and non-traditional entities to: 1) broaden network to industry, non-governmental organizations, other federal agencies, professional organizations, and others; 2) build and strengthen awareness of our land-grant system's research capabilities and coordination; 3) generate and reinforce appreciation of our national and global impact on lives

and livelihoods and 4) catalyze advocacy for federal and other funding to support agInnovation's food security, environmental stewardship, nutrition and health, agricultural systems, energy, bioproducts, and community health and resilience priorities.

Plans are well underway to host the 21st Biennial Research Symposium to be held in Nashville, TN, at the Gaylord Opryland on **April 8 – 9, 2024**. The theme of next year's symposium is "Climate, Health and Cultivating the Next Generation of Agriculture Leaders: Creating Solutions in Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources."

The 1890 symposia's goal is to provide a forum for interactions, share knowledge, expand partnerships through networks and showcase the talents and achievements of the 1890 community. As such, ARD's 21st Biennial Research Symposium will provide opportunities for scientists and students to present research papers and posters that highlight 1890 contributions in solving today's challenges in food, agriculture and natural resources in the 1890 region and beyond. See page 3 for the "Dates and Deadlines" for the 2024 Research Symposium. The symposium website with more specific information and the links to registration, hotel registration, abstract submissions sponsorship, etc. will go live later this month.

Finally, on behalf of ARD, we would like to recognize and congratulate Dr. Matt Wilson, West Virginia University, for a very successful year serving as agInnovation chair.

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1890 Land Grant Universities

[Alabama A&M University](#)
[Alcorn State University](#)
[Central State University](#)
[Delaware State University](#)
[Florida A&M University](#)
[Fort Valley State University](#)
[Kentucky State University](#)
[Langston University](#)
[Lincoln University](#)
[North Carolina A&T State University](#)
[Prairie View A&M University](#)
[South Carolina State University](#)
[Southern University and A&M College](#)
[Tennessee State University](#)
[Tuskegee University](#)
[University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff](#)
[University of Maryland Eastern Shore](#)
[Virginia State University](#)
[West Virginia State University](#)

ARD Updates is published monthly by the Association of Research Directors. To suggest articles, contact Dr. Alton Thompson at athompson1@ncat.edu



UMES schedules small farm conference

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore will be celebrating its 20th annual Small Farm Conference set for Nov. 2-4, 2-23.

This three-day program includes interactive pre-conference workshops, off-site farm bus tours, seminars, networking opportunities, souvenir giveaways, special guest appearances and more. For a preview of our [conference program](#).

For additional information, please contact Berran Rogers, Jr., Coordinator-Small Farms Program at blrogers@umes.edu or (410.621-5450).



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE, School of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

[Assistant or Associate Professor: Bioinformatics and/or Biostatistics](#)

[Assistant or Associate Professor: Precision Agriculture](#)

[Assistant Professor of Biology: Cell Biology/Immunotoxicology/ Metabolism](#)

[Assistant or Associate Professor: Fashion Merchandising and Textiles Program](#)

[Assistant or Associate Professor: Nutrition and Dietetics](#)

[Assistant Professor and Agribusiness /Resource Economist Specialist](#)

[Chair, Department of Agriculture Food Resources Science](#)

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, College of Agriculture and Human Sciences

[Research Associate Professor \(Ruminant Nutritional Physiology\) \(myworkdayjobs.com\)](#)

[Business Operations](#)

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF, School of Agriculture, Fisheries and Human

[Dean/Director](#)

[Assistant Professor – Ag Economics](#)

[Assistant Professor – Ag Engineering](#)

[Assistant Professor – Animal Science](#)

[Extension Specialist III – Horticulturist](#)

[Extension Specialist II – Project/Program Manager/Communications Director – School of Agriculture, Fisheries and Human Sciences](#)

WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY, WV SU Research & Development Corporation, [Associate](#)

[Dean/Associate Director for Research](#)

CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY, John W. Garland College of Engineering, Science, Technology and Agriculture, [Dean and Director of 1890 Land Grant Programs](#)

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, College of Agricultural Sciences, [Senior Associate Dean](#)

FOUNDATION FOR FOOD & AGRICULTURE RESEARCH (FFAR), [Scientific Program Director](#), Next Generation Crops

USDA FOREST SERVICE, SOUTHERN RESEARCH STATION, [Research Economist](#) or [Research Forester](#) to conduct research in in economics and policy focused on wildfire and other forest-based disturbances. This is a permanent, full time position at the GS-12 level or the GS-13 level.

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SCIENCES, [Executive Director](#), Brooksville Agricultural and Environmental Research Station (BAERS) in Brooksville, Florida.

CALENDAR

The **MOLECULAR OBSERVATION NETWORK (MONET)** is hosting a two-hour HBCU-focused town hall to promote awareness of research and training opportunities within the MONet Open Science soil analysis program. Wednesday, Nov. 8, 8-9:50 a.m. [View agenda and register.](#)

[81ST ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS CONFERENCE](#) | Oct, 29-31, 2023, Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa

[APLU ANNUAL MEETING](#) | “Innovation for Impact” | Nov. 12-14, Seattle, WA

SAVE THE DATE

2024 AEA-ARD Joint Winter Meeting, The Inn at Opryland, Nashville, TN, Jan. 24-26, 2024.

2024 CARET/AHS Joint Meeting, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC, Feb. 25-28, 2024

ARD UPDATES/OCTOBER 2023