



# ARD Updates

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

March 2024, Vol. 15, Issue 3

## Message from the Chair DR. LOUIS WHITESIDES



Dear Friends and Colleagues,  
We will convene in Nashville, Tennessee for the 21st Association of Research Directors' Biennial Research Symposium in less than one month. The theme of this year's meeting is "Climate, Health and Cultivating the Next Generation of Agriculture Leaders: Creating Solutions Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources."

The first ARD symposium occurred in 1976 to commemorate the U.S. Bicentennial and showcase the plethora of accomplishments research scientists and students achieved at the nation's 1890 land-grant institutions. The goal of all 1890 symposia is to provide a forum for interactions, share knowledge, expand partnerships through networks, and showcase the 1890 talents and achievements.

As such, ARD's 21st Biennial Research Symposium will provide opportunities for scientists and students to present research papers and posters and will focus on contributions that 1890 scientists and students are making to help solve pressing challenges in food, agriculture and the environment in the 1890 region and beyond.

Chavonda Jacobs-Young, USDA's Undersecretary of Agriculture for Research, Education and Economics and Chief Scientist, will give the third Evans-Allen Memorial Lecture at this year's symposium. The First Morrill Act (1862) established a land-grant university in every state and the Second Morrill Act (1890) extended land-grant status to historically Black public universities in southern and border states where, due to segregation, African American students were barred from attending the 1862 land-grant universities. The Evans-Allen Act of 1977 (Public Law 95-113) provided capacity funds for food and agricultural research at the 1890 land-grant institutions and Tuskegee University in a manner similar to that provided to the 1862 universities under the Hatch Act of 1887. Representative Frank Evans of Colorado and Senator James Allen of Alabama originally sponsored the legislation (Evans-Allen) to provide funds for food and agri-

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## USDA Updates

### URBAN AG GRANTS

The USDA Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production announced the FY24 [Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Competitive Grants Program](#) Notice of Funding Opportunity. Applications are now being accepted via [Grants.gov](#).

These competitive grants initiate or expand efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools and other stakeholders in urban areas and suburbs. Projects may target areas of food access, education, business and start-up costs for new farmers and development of policies related to zoning and other needs of urban production.

This funding announcement will close on **April 9**. The funding floor is \$75,000, the ceiling is \$350,000, and most types of applicants, except individuals and for-profit businesses, are eligible to apply.

Have question, or looking for more information? Check out the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Program Fact Sheet](#).



### AG CENSUS DATA READY

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) recently released data from the 2022 ag census. It is [available online](#). Census of Agriculture data provides valuable insights into demographics, economics, land use and activities on U.S. farms and ranches such as farms and farmland, value of agricultural products, use of renewable energy producing systems and more. In addition to the full report, NASS published [two new data highlights on Farm Economics and Farm Producers](#). Data are also available in NASS's searchable database [Quick Stats](#).

NASS will release several more 2022 Census of Agri-



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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 Tennessee State University.

## TSU helps to manage flathead borers

The flathead borer is a beetle that attacks nursery, nut, and orchard trees/shrubs from coast to coast – crops that account for millions of jobs and billions of dollars in economic impact. Managing these destructive pests has been a long-time challenge for producers. But thanks to a multi-state, multidisciplinary research and outreach initiative led by Tennessee State University (TSU), there's hope on the horizon.

With Drs. Karla Adesso and Jason Oliver of TSU's Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center are at the helm, and the initiative includes 24 researchers from across the nation. They are focused on flat-headed borers in the genus *Chrysobothris*, a native complex of species found across the U.S. that lays its eggs in the trunks of trees. The larvae feed on vascular tissue, disrupting the movement of water and nutrients, causing trunk scars, bark shedding and splits, suckering, sap leakage, crown dieback – and, for smaller trees, ultimately, the tree's death. In the southeastern U.S. alone, *Chrysobothris* is responsible for more than 40% of losses in some nursery tree species.

Producers need better tools for managing flat-headed borers, and the TSU-led initiative aims to deliver. Funded by a \$6 million grant from the USDA-NIFA Specialty Crop Research Initiative, its results will fill key knowledge gaps and develop best-practice management tools. The work's targets are a better understanding of *Chrysobothris*, more reliable ways to identify the species and trap it, more effective practices to reduce attacks and more effective chemical/biological management strate-

gies that meet cost-benefit and social acceptability standards important to producers and consumers.

Some of the notable progress achieved thus far includes the following:

- In efforts to develop genomic resources for more than 64 species of *Chrysobothris*, researchers have built phylogenies using more than 1,630 nuclear genes and 12 mitochondrial genes.



Flathead borer (top and bottom).



In 2023, the new COX1 primer was used to diagnose a novel pest relationship of Pacific Flat-headed Borer larvae (*C. mali*) found to be infesting pear fruit in California orchards – the first time a *Chrysobothris* species has been observed infesting fruit instead of wood.

The work to create better traps has resulted in the development of a “trunk mimic” design that has increased the trap capture of *Chrysobothris* while reducing the by-catch of other wood-boring beetles.

Optimizing a system to apply pesticides to only the tree trunks, researchers have been able to reduce overspray between trees and canopies and off-target effects. By reducing spray volume by 30%, they also delivered savings to growers.

Trials showed that using in-row winter cover crops of crimson clover

and triticale protected red maple trees to the same level as systemic drenches of imidacloprid.

- Preliminary results suggest irrigating first-year transplants can protect red maple trees from attacks.

For more information, please contact [Dr. Karla Adesso](mailto:kadesso@tnstate.edu) ([kadesso@tnstate.edu](mailto:kadesso@tnstate.edu); 931-815-5155).



# TSU researchers seek answers to emerging VSD challenge

Vascular Streak Dieback (VSD) was first identified in eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis* L.) in Tennessee only five years ago. Since then, it has emerged as a significant issue for redbud growers across multiple states, such as Virginia and North Carolina. It has also been identified in over 25 other woody ornamental plant genera.

VSD's potential impact on just three crops (redbud, red maple and dogwood) is estimated to be over \$175 million. In the face of this rising threat, researchers at Tennessee State University (TSU), working under the leadership of Dr. Fulya Baysal-Gurel, expanded their understanding of VSD and found ways to manage it.

Although symptoms differ from host to host, VSD's effects can include stunted growth, chlorosis, necrosis, epicormic shoots on the declining plant, burnt/blighted leaves, tip dieback, vascular streaking and poor root development. The result has been economic hardship for many in the nursery industry, with plant shipments rejected, orders canceled, crops lost and plants, both symptomatic and non-symptomatic, destroyed due to Stop Sales orders. Given the rapid spread of VSD among woody ornamentals, many growers are concerned about the future of their businesses and industries.

TSU researchers recently conducted a multi-state survey to identify the extent of economic losses caused by VSD. The findings will be pivotal in understanding the dimensions of the issue.

There are many questions surrounding VSD, and one of the most essential is what causes this disease. Scientists suspect a fungus – *Ceratobasidium* sp. (Csp) – has been consistently associated with VSD-symptomatic eastern redbuds. To help solve the mystery, Dr. Baysal-Gurel's team developed a molecular diagnostic tool to detect Csp in potentially infected host plant material accurately. Several other institutions are further testing the tool's real-time polymerase chain reaction primers. If it proves effective, the tool will represent a big step forward in managing VSD since a faster diagnosis means less crop loss and less risk of spreading the potential pathogen to new locales.

Because a specific pathogen has yet to be identified, there are currently no "best practice" chemical treatment recommendations for VSD management. However, recognizing the urgency of assisting nursery producers, the TSU team collaborated with industry partners to conduct fungicide efficacy trials in 2022 using redbud plants naturally exhibiting VSD-related symptoms.

The results identified the most effective treatments for reducing leaf scorch associated with VSD on eastern redbud seedlings, three-year-old plants and several two-year-old budded cultivars growing in field and container settings. These treatments, which have been shared with producers, also reduced the population levels of canker-causing

pathogens such as *Botryosphaeria* spp. and *Didymella* spp.

Yet, although some treatments were identified as effective in reducing symptoms, they did not cure already-infected plants. TSU is continuing its work to identify more effective chemical treatments.

Another avenue of study is identifying VSD-tolerant redbud species and cultivars. The TSU team is conducting redbud cultivar screening trials based on previous research findings. This information will be crucial for initiating programs to breed VSD-resistant redbud trees.

To learn more about TSU's multi-pronged approach to addressing the emerging threat of VSD, please contact [Dr. Fulya Baysal-Gurel](mailto:fbaysalg@tnstate.edu) at (fbaysalg@tnstate.edu; 931-815-5143).



VSD and its effect on plants and trees (top and bottom).





**SYMPOSIUM AGENDA**  
**2024 ARD Biennial Research Symposium**  
**April 6 – 10, 2024, Gaylord Opryland**

**“CLIMATE, HEALTH AND CULTIVATING THE NEXT GENERATION  
 OF AGRICULTURE LEADERS:**

**CREATING SOLUTIONS IN FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES”**

*The ARD Research Symposium aims to provide a forum for interactions, sharing knowledge, expanding partnerships through networking and showcasing the talents and achievements of the 1890 community. Below is a schedule of programs and events to plan your agenda.*

**Saturday, April 6**

*(Due to the high volume of pre-registrations and space constraints, on-site registrations will not be available.)*

| Event   | Time             | Room Location                    |
|---|------------------|----------------------------------|
| ARD Symposium Office                                | 8 A.M. – 4 P.M.  | Presidential Pre-Function A Desk |
| Oral/Poster Presentation Office                     | 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.  | Washington A                     |
| Registration  | 9 A.M. – 7 P.M.  | Presidential Registration Desk   |
| Technology Office<br>(uploads only, if necessary)   | 10 A.M. – 6 P.M. | Lincoln B                        |
| Poster Presentation Committee<br>Posterboard set up | 10 A.M. – 1 P.M. | Ryman Hall B4                    |
| Exhibitor set up                                    | 1 – 7 P.M.       | Ryman Hall B4                    |
| Poster set up for Students only                     | 1 – 7 P.M.       | Ryman Hall B4                    |
| Judges & Moderators Check In                        | 4 – 6 P.M.       | Lincoln C                        |
| Judges and Moderators’ Meeting Oral                 | 6 – 8 P.M.       | Lincoln C                        |
| Judges and Moderators’ Meeting Poster               | 6 – 8 P.M.       | Lincoln D                        |
| ARD Business Meeting                                | 7 – 9 P.M.       | Presidential Boardroom A         |

**Sunday, April 7**

| Event                                     | Time                     | Room Location   |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| Continental Breakfast                     | 7 – 8 A.M.               | Presidential Lobby  |
| Deans Meeting                             | 7 – 8 A.M.               | Presidential Boardroom A  |
| ARD Symposium Office                      | 8 A.M. – 4 P.M.          | Presidential Pre-Function A Desk  |
| Oral/Poster Presentation Office           | 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.          | Washington A  |
| Registration                              | 8 A.M. – 6 P.M.          | Presidential Registration Desk  |
| Technology Office                         | 8 A.M. – 6 P.M.          | Lincoln B   |
| Poster set up for students only           | 8 A.M. – 2 P.M.          | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Exhibitor set up                          | 8 A.M. – 2 P.M.          | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Student Competitive Paper Sessions (Oral) | 8:30 A.M. –<br>5:45 P.M. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jackson A, B, C, D, E, F</li> <li>● Lincoln A, C, D, E</li> <li>● Presidential Boardroom B</li> <li>● Presidential Chamber A, B</li> <li>● Washington B</li> </ul> |

## Sunday, April 7

|  |                 |                          |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Morning Break  | 10 – 10:30 A.M. | TBD                      |
| LUNCH ON YOUR OWN  |                 |                          |
| Afternoon Break  | 2 – 2:30 P.M.   | TBD                      |
| Student Competitive Poster Judging (Exhibit Hall Closed During Judging – only student presenters & judges) | 2:45 – 6 P.M.   | Ryman Hall B4            |
| Centers of Excellence Directors Mtg.   | 3 – 5:30 P.M.   | Presidential Boardroom A |
| Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Welcome Reception  | 6:45 – 9 P.M.   | Presidential Ballroom    |

## Monday, April 8

| Event  | Time             | Room Location   |
|--|------------------|---|
| Continental Breakfast  | 7 – 8 A.M.       | Presidential Ballroom   |
| Registration   | 7 A.M. – 4 P.M.  | Presidential Registration Desk  |
| Registration Material Storage  | 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.  | Presidential Pre-Function B Desk  |
| ARD Symposium Office   | 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.  | Presidential Pre-Function A Desk  |
| Oral/Poster Presentation Office  | 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.  | Washington A  |
| Technology Office  | 8 A.M. – 6 P.M.  | Lincoln B   |
| Opening Session  | 8:15 – 10 A.M.   | Presidential Ballroom   |
| Morning Break  | 10 – 10:30 AM    | TBD   |
| Visits with Exhibitors   | 10 – 11:30 A.M.  | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Posters with Student Authors<br>Student are to remove their posters immediately following at 11:30 AM  | 10 – 11:30 A.M.  | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Student Awards Luncheon  | Noon – 1:45 P.M. | Presidential Ballroom   |
| Poster Presentation Committee<br>Posterboard set up  | 1:30 – 2:30 P.M. | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Faculty Posters to be put up   | 2:30 – 3 P.M.    | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Student Workshops  | 2:30 – 5:30 P.M. | Governors BCD   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduate School: Hidden Gems Within the 1890 Land-Grant System</li> <li>• Let's Talk About Traveling: International!</li> <li>• What's Next: How to get to the Career World!</li> </ul> |                  |   |
| Visits with Exhibitors   | 3 – 6 P.M.       | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Faculty Oral Presentations   | 3 – 6 P.M.       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson A, B, C, D, E, F</li> <li>• Lincoln A, C, D, E</li> <li>• Presidential Boardroom B</li> <li>• Presidential Chamber A, B</li> <li>• Washington B</li> </ul> |

## Monday, April 8 (cont.)

|   |               |   |
|---|---------------|---|
| Faculty Oral Presentations  | 3 – 6 P.M.    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson A, B, C, D, E, F</li> <li>• Lincoln A, C, D, E</li> <li>• Presidential Boardroom B</li> <li>• Presidential Chamber A, B</li> <li>• Washington B</li> </ul> |
| Faculty Poster Presentations  | 3 – 6 P.M.    | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Afternoon Break   | 3 – 3:30 P.M. | TBD   |
| DINNER ON YOUR OWN  |               |   |
| Student Visits with Exhibitors                                      | 5:30 – 7 P.M. | Ryman Hall B4   |
| Student Tailgate Event<br>Make sure to wear your university colors! | 7 – 10 P.M.   | Governors BCD   |

## Tuesday, April 9

| Event  | Time                | Room Location                    |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Continental Breakfast  | 7 – 8 A.M.          | Presidential Ballroom            |
| Registration   | 7 – 11 A.M.         | Presidential Registration Desk   |
| ARD Symposium Office   | 8 A.M. – 2 P.M.     | Presidential Pre-Function A Desk |
| Technology Office  | 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.     | Lincoln B                        |
| Plenary Session  | 8:15 – 10:30 A.M.   | Presidential Ballroom            |
| Morning Break  | 10:30 – 11 A.M.     | TBD                              |
| Visit with Exhibitors  | 10:30 A.M. – Noon   | Ryman Hall B4                    |
| Posters with Authors   | 10:30 A.M. – Noon   | Ryman Hall B4                    |
| Student Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership &amp; Professional Development</li> <li>• Agriculture Issues – Student Discussion</li> </ul> Career Development<br>(Students ONLY Working Lunch) | 11 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. | Governors BCD                    |
| LUNCH ON YOUR OWN  |                     |                                  |
| Exhibit and Poster Teardown  | 12 – 3 P.M.         | Ryman Hall B4                    |
| ARS Lunch Meeting with Research Directors and Deans  | 12 – 1 P.M.         | Presidential Boardroom A         |
| Special Session 1<br>Navigating the Landscape of NIFA Funding Opportunities  | 1:30 – 3 P.M.       | Washington B                     |
| Special Session 2<br>Responding to the Challenges & Impacts of Climate Change on Small and Socially Disadvantaged Farmer Community   | 1:30 – 3 P.M.       | Lincoln E                        |



## Tuesday, April 9 (cont.)

|   |               |                          |
|---|---------------|--------------------------|
| Special Session 3<br>Machine Learning & Cloud Computing with R  | 1:30 – 5 P.M. | Jackson A                |
| Special Session 4<br>Navigating the Landscape of NSF Funding Opportunities  | 3:30 – 5 P.M. | Lincoln A                |
| Special Session 5<br>Soil Biogeochemistry Research at Scale Using EMSL's MONet Soil Function Call   | 1:30 – 5 P.M. | Presidential Boardroom B |
| Special Session 6<br>Developing a Sustainable Meat Goat Production & Marketing System for the Southeastern United States through an 1890 Universities Consortium                  | 1:30 – 5 P.M. | Jackson C                |
| Special Session 7<br>Climate, Health, and Cultivating the Next Generation of Agriculture Leader: Providing IPM Based Solutions to Secure Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources | 1:30 – 5 P.M. | Jackson D                |
| Special Session 8<br>Expanding the Role of 1890 Universities in Addressing Global Food and Nutrition Security   | 1:30 – 5 P.M. | Lincoln C                |
| Special Session 9<br>Industrial Hemp for Climate Smart and Sustainable Agriculture  | 1:30 – 5 P.M. | Jackson B                |
| Special Session 10<br>Enhancing the 1890 Institutions Collaborative Efforts to Meet the Food Safety Challenges in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century                                    | 1:30 – 5 P.M. | Jackson E                |
| Special Session 11<br>Grant Writing Tips for Success and Mock Panel (NIFA)  | 3:30 – 5 P.M. | Washington B             |
| Special Session 12<br>1890 Centers of Excellence  | 1:30 – 5 P.M. | Lincoln D                |
| Special Session 13<br>Rural Population Health and Aging Across the Life Course: Building National Research Capacity to Include Scholars at 1890 Institutions                      | 3:30 – 5 P.M. | Jackson F                |
| Morrison-Evans & B.D. Mayberry Awards Banquet   | 7 – 10 P.M.   | Presidential Ballroom    |

## Wednesday, April 10

No Events Scheduled/Travel Day

## CONVENTION CENTER MEETING SPACE LOCATION KEY:

### Level M Presidential Mezzanine

- Lincoln A, B, C, D, E
- Jackson A, B, C, D, E, F
- Presidential Boardroom A
- Presidential Boardroom B
- Washington A
- Washington B

- Presidential Lobby
- Presidential Ballroom
- Governors BCD
- Presidential A
- Presidential Chamber A
- Presidential Chamber B

### Level 2 Presidential Ballroom

- Presidential Registration Desk

### Level 0

- Ryman Exhibit Hall – B4

## CARET honors Neufville with distinguished service award

Dr. Mortimer Neufville, president and CEO emeritus of the 1890 Universities Foundation, was recently awarded the CARET Distinguished Service Award. Neufville has served in numerous positions in higher education for 53 years.

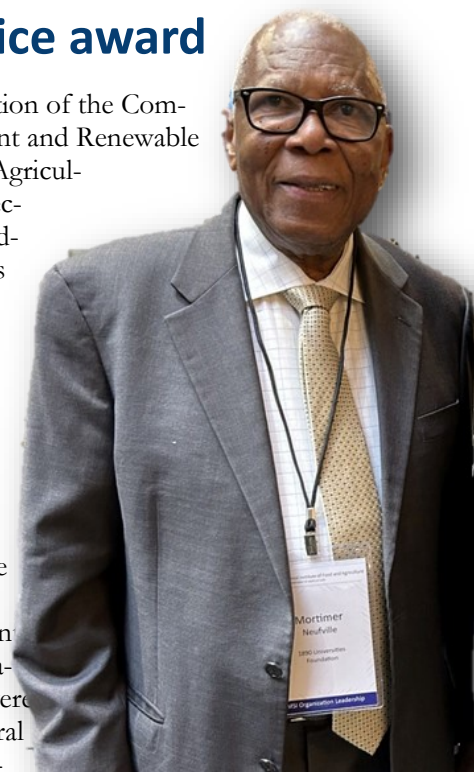
Neufville was the first executive vice president and director of Federal Relations for the National Association of State Universities and Colleges and dean and research director of the School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, vice president for Academic Affairs and president of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

As an educator and administrator in the 1890 land-grant system and the executive vice president of APLU, Neufville made an extraordinary impact on food systems for over 50 years. His remarkable career has been marked by innovation, engagement and service. While at APLU and more recently at the 1890 Universities Foundation, Neufville was an effective spokesperson and advocate, ensuring that the U.S. Congress and the administration were aware of and provided commensurate resources to the land-grant system whose research, education outputs, and outcomes were critical to American agricultural productivity and competitiveness.

During his APLU tenure, Neufville was actively engaged in APLU's reorganization to create councils and com-

missions and guided the creation of the Commission on Food Environment and Renewable Resources and the Board of Agriculture Assembly (BAA). As executive vice president, he provided leadership for the activities of the Commission on Food, Environment and Renewable Resources and its five associated boards.

Neufville is an effective spokesperson and respected advocate to ensure that the U.S. Congress and the administration were aware of and provided commensurate resources to the land-grant system whose research, education outputs and outcomes were critical to American agricultural productivity and competitiveness, which aligns with CARET's mission and core principles.



DR. MORTIMER NEUFVILLE

### USDA . . . From page 1

culture data products in the coming months, including state and county profiles, maps, zip code tabulations, watersheds, specialty crops, and more.

See the [press kit for information](#).

### NIFA HOSTS GusNIP WEBINAR

Join the USDA's NIFA at 11 a.m. EDT on **March 14** for a technical assistance webinar related to the [FY 2024 GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program Request for Applications](#).

The GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program brings stakeholders from various parts of the food and health care systems to understand how they might improve participating households' health and nutrition status.



NIFA requests applications for the GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program to support and evaluate projects intended to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by providing incentives at the point of purchase among income-eligible consumers participating in the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam and the United States Virgin Islands, in addition to income-eligible consumers participating in the USDA Nutrition Assistance Program in Puerto Rico, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

[Register to attend](#). A webinar recording will be posted on the NIFA website following the event.

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cultural research programs at the 1890s.

A special thanks go to our major sponsors: NIFA, NRCS, Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, Southern SARE, the U.S. Forest Service and Syngenta Global. I would also like to thank the Symposium Steering Committee, co-chaired by Dr. Orlando McMeans, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, for his consummate leadership in planning and

making this symposium a reality and to the tremendous support provided by our Executive Director, Dr. Alton Thompson, and our Executive Assistant, Ms. Lisa M. Williamson.

I look forward to thought-provoking discussions that will create a platform for continued innovative research, resulting in solutions to the new and grand challenges in the food and agricultural system. I also look forward to the collegial interaction and a renewal of old acquaintances.



## ARD OFFICERS

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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](mailto:athompson1@ncat.edu)

## MSP seeks new cohort of scholars

The Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP) provides scholarships to support recruiting, engaging, retaining, mentoring and training committed multicultural scholars, resulting in either baccalaureate degrees within the food, agricultural, natural resource and human sciences disciplines or Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees. MSP increases the multicultural diversity of the food and agricultural scientific and professional workforce and advances the educational achievement of all Americans by providing competitive grants to colleges and universities. Deadline for applications closes on **April 1**. For more information, read the [MSP funding opportunity](#).



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

JOB

**NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, [Dean](#)**

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE, School of Veterinary Medicine, [Inaugural Dean](#)**

**PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, Cooperative Agricultural Research Center, [Veterinarian](#)**

**PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, Cooperative Agricultural Research Center, [Research Associate/Professor and the Director of the International Goat Research Center \(IGRC\)](#)**

**WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY, WVSU Research & Development Corporation, [Associate Dean/Associate Director for Research](#)**

**USDA FOREST SERVICE, SOUTHERN RESEARCH STATION, [Research Economist](#) or [Research Forester](#) to conduct research 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.**

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, San Luis Obispo | San Luis Obispo, CA, College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, [Dean](#).**

**LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, College of Agriculture, Environmental, and Human Sciences, [Associate Extension Administrator](#)**

**SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY, Senior Director for Research Development. Send resume and cover letter to [PSAhumanresources@scsu.edu](mailto:PSAhumanresources@scsu.edu) 803536835.**

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, [Associate Dean for Global Engagement](#)**

## CALENDAR

**[THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH INTEGRITY CONFERENCE](#) | May 20-21, 2024 | The University of South Alabama. Our primary goal is for research communities and stakeholders to be better informed about the effects of technological change and perceived barriers within the research ecosystem and to be prepared to cultivate a climate that advances responsible and ethical research.**

**2024 BAA SUMMER LEADERSHIP MEETING (formerly known as Joint COPs) | July 16-18, 2024**

**[THIRD ANNUAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE](#), April 15-17, 2024 | Texas A&M Hotel and Conference Center, College Station, Texas. AI in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Innovation and Discovery to Manage Sustainability in a New World of Environmental Stress. Join the U.S. university faculty and students, industry and stakeholders implementing AI technology in an efficient, sustainable and socio-economically equitable manner.**

