

ARD Updates

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

October 2025, Vol. 16, Issue 10



Message from the Chair

DR. WESLEY WHITTAKER

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Washington, D.C. celebration marking the **135th Anniversary of the Morrill Act of 1890**—the landmark legislation that gave birth to our 19 historically Black land-grant universities—was nothing short of awe-inspiring. It was impactful, profoundly moving and a powerful reminder of these universities' enduring legacy, resilience and transformative impact. The event honored

DR. W. WHITTAKER

our history and highlighted the vital role these universities continue to play in advancing education, research, Extension and opportunity for generations to come. I'm still in celebration mode, filled with gratitude and pride for this historic milestone.

Under the theme "*135 Years Strong: Celebrating Legacy, Growing Opportunities, Inspiring Innovation and Supporting Communities*," leaders, students, researchers, policymakers and partners came together to honor the 1890 legacy through a series of dynamic, high-impact events—amplified nationally on social media with **#Morrill135** and **#19Strong**. Highlights included the **1890 Play Cyber Hackathon**, the **1890 Roundtable with Congressional Members** and the **135th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony** at the National 4-H Council. This celebration was far more than an anniversary—it was a living testament to perseverance, progress and promise. For a complete description of these events, please see pages 4 and 5.

Now that we are well into the fall 2025 semester, we've settled into the cadence of teaching, research and engagement, and now a government shutdown. In the words of Dr. W. E. B DuBois, "Now is the accepted time, not tomorrow, not some more convenient season. Our best work can be done today, not some future day or year."

As is often said, time moves with swift, decisive and often unseen transitions. That is why we must continue to act with vigor and tenacity, anchored in the present, giving our absolute best each day rather than waiting for tomorrow. This season, the ARD is committed to putting forth its strongest effort to enhance the quality of life for the people we serve and

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ARD sets 22nd biennial symposium for March 2026

Plans are underway to host the 22nd Biennial Research Symposium to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the Hyatt Regency on March 28-31, 2026. The theme of next year's symposium is "**Innovations in Food, Health and Agricultural Systems: Technological Advancements, Ecological Resilience and Economic Sustainability.**"

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 22nd 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.

Key dates and deadlines are listed below. For more detailed information—including registration, hotel bookings, abstract submissions, sponsorship opportunities and more, [visit the symposium website](#).

SAVE the DATE

ASSOCIATION OF
1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

2026 ARD RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

MARCH 28-31, 2026

Hyatt Regency New Orleans • 601 Loyola Ave.
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

The goal of the Symposium is to provide a forum for interactions, knowledge sharing, building networks for expanded partnerships and to showcase the talents and achievements of the 1890 community.

[Click to view ARD Symposium Info.](#)



Visit us online at www.umes.edu/ard



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.

This edition, includes impacts from the 1890 research programs submitted by scientists at North Carolina A&T State University.

NC A&T works to cleanse farm pond water

Consider the humble farm pond. It's used to water crops and livestock. It attracts birds and other wildlife and can be stocked with fish. In a pinch, farm pond water can be used to put out fires.

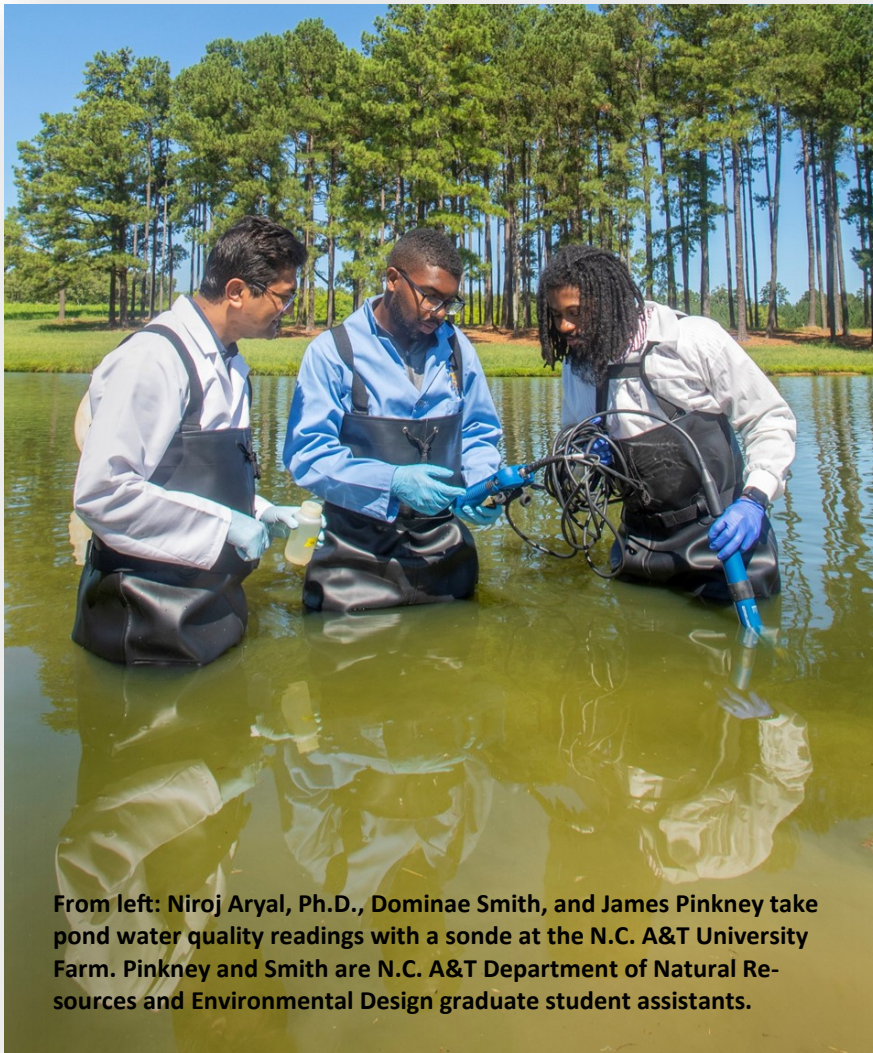
But farm ponds, filled by rainfall and runoff from nearby fields, can collect numerous harmful substances, from pesticides and herbicides to traces of veterinary medicine, hormones and antibiotics found in animal manure. When water from farm ponds is used to irrigate fields, it can pose a risk to food safety and ultimately human health.

Niroj Aryal, Ph.D., of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, is seeking ecologically engineered solutions to reduce pollutants from the runoff, which can carry contaminants into groundwater, bodies of water and, yes, farm ponds. His ongoing research points to several low-cost and sustainable approaches that could improve water quality in agricultural settings.

"Farm pond water quality can be impacted by so many different kinds of pollutants. My goal is to evaluate ecological engineering techniques to see how effective they are at removing these pollutants and finding innovative ways to improve these techniques," said Aryal, an associate professor of biological engineering and chairman of the Department of Natural Resources and Envi-

ronmental Design.

"We want to improve the quality of water in those farm ponds so when we use it for irrigation we can lessen the impacts on us," he added. "Water quality and food safety — they're connected." His project is funded by a USDA Evans-



From left: Niroj Aryal, Ph.D., Dominae Smith, and James Pinkney take pond water quality readings with a sonde at the N.C. A&T University Farm. Pinkney and Smith are N.C. A&T Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Design graduate student assistants.

Allen capacity grant, which supports agricultural research at 1890 land-grant universities, of approximately \$600,000 over four years.

Aryal is experimenting with two methods: woodchip bioreactors and constructed wetlands. Woodchip bioreactors — simple trenches dug out and filled with cheap and available wood chips — have been proven to be [effective](#) at converting nitrates found in water flowing through agricultural tile drainage networks into harmless nitrogen gas. Wetlands also are effective improving water quality.

Most biofilters' research, he said, has focused on their ability to remove nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus from groundwater. But scientists have paid relatively

little attention to their effectiveness at eliminating common farm pollutants such as agrochemicals, pathogens and even antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

[Read the full story .](#)

For more information, please contact Dr. Niroj Aryal, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Design, College of Agriculture and Environment and Sciences, North Carolina A&T State University at naryal@ncat.edu or (336) 285-2191.

agInnovation's Reddy outlines 2025-'26 direction

Dr. Chandra Reddy, dean, director of Research and administrator of Extension, College of Agriculture at Tennessee State University, was elected as the 2025-2026 Chair of agInnovation during the recent annual meeting. agInnovation, of which ARD is a member organization, is the national voice of the State Agricultural Experiment Stations, representing the collective strength of research scientists and institutions at land-grant universities across all 50 states, D.C., and U.S. territories.

As a coordinated system, agInnovation conduct most of the publicly funded agricultural research in the U.S., addressing local needs with national impact. agInnovation works in close collaboration with APLU and the broader land-grant system to advance science, inform policy and drive innovation that sustains our food systems, natural resources and rural economies.

In his acceptance speech, Reddy outlined the agInnovation priorities and the Chair's Initiatives for upcoming year:

agInnovation Priorities

• Enhance Funding for Agricultural Research:

- Advocate for increased appropriations for USDA-NIFA to boost capacity program funding.

- Engage relevant federal funding agencies and organizations to diversify and expand the competitive research funding portfolio.

• Address Critical Infrastructure Needs:

- Identify and implement both short- and long-term strategies to increase funding for the Research Facilities Act.
- Provide guidance on the Research Facilities Act implementation to meet the infrastructure needs of colleges of agriculture at land-grant universities, small to large.

• Increase Organizational Visibility and Impact:

- Strategically enhance external communications, marketing, brand recognition and public relations ef-



DR. CHANDRA REDDY

See Reddy on Page 7

Jones and Ali win agInnovation top awards

During the recent agInnovation-CES/NEDA joint meeting held in St. Louis in September 2025 **Dr. Vernon L. Jones** and **Dr. Ali Fares** received top awards.

Jones received the Leadership Award for the ARD Region. He recently retired as associate dean and associate research director of Land-grant Programs in the Sherman Lewis School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences at Langston University (Langston, Oklahoma). He served the university for more than 40 years. During his tenure at Langston University, he served as a research scientist, acting coordinator for the Division of Applied Sciences, administrator of Cooperative Extension, associate research director, director of Academic Programs in the School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Civil Rights officer, responsible officer for the Langston University Exchange Visitor Scholars Program and associate dean.

Before joining Langston University, Jones spent nearly three years as a research scientist at Prairie View A&M

University in Prairie View, Texas. He has had extensive administrative experience in all three areas of the land-grant mission.

Jones' external committee assignments have included serving as the 1890 advisor for the Program and Staff Development Committee, member of the Southern Rural Development Center Technical and Operational Advisory Committee, member and later Chair of the eXtension Board of Directors, member of the Committee on Legislation and Policy, member of the 1890 Universities Foundation, member of the APLU Council on Governmental Affairs, Budget and Legislative Committee, APLU Board of Agriculture Assembly Policy Board of Directors' 1890 Alternate (two terms) and a member of the agInnovation 2025 Road Map Committee.

Jones is a past ARD chair and previously served as secretary and chair-elect. Jones received his Ph.D. and master's degree in crop production from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois. His bachelor's degree in plant science was earned at Southern University A&M College in



DR. VERNON L. JONES

DR. ALI FARES

See agInnovation on Page 7

The 135th anniversary—contests, Hill visits, reception

On Sept. 9–10 in Washington, D.C., the 1890 land-grant universities marked the 135th Anniversary of the Second Morrill Act of 1890—the landmark legislation that established 19 historically Black land-grant universities. The anniversary honored their history while underscoring their enduring impact.

Located across 18 southern and border states, the 1890 universities form a resilient network that continues to transform lives and communities. They expand access for first-generation and low-income students, strengthen small farmers and rural communities and conduct innovative research that addresses real-world challenges.

The 1890 land-grant universities’ mission remains as vital today as in 1890. Whether fighting food insecurity, advancing agricultural innovation, responding to climate challenges, or preparing the next generation of leaders, these institutions stand at the forefront of solutions to pressing local, national and global issues.

Theme: “135 Years Strong: Celebrating Legacy, Expanding Opportunities, Inspiring Innovation, and Strengthening Communities.”

Highlights included: the 1890 Play Cyber Hackathon, a Congressional Roundtable with 1890 leaders, and the 135th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony at the National 4-H Council.

Cyber games competition showcases student computer talents

The 1890 Universities Foundation, in partnership with Katzcy PlayCyber, hosted the 1890 Cyber + AI Games, a national cyber capture-the-flag competition at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC). This first-of-its-kind event brought together student teams from all 19 land-grant universities, along with UDC students, as part of the two-day celebration of the 135th celebration.

The games highlighted the critical role of cybersecurity in protecting agriculture, as increasingly interconnected systems safeguard the U.S. food supply and support the global agricultural economy. In a Jeopardy-style format, students tackled real-world cyber challenges in areas such as AI-

prompt engineering, cryptography, digital forensics, cloud and web security, social engineering and more. The competition was both educational and inspiring, providing students with a platform to apply their technical skills to urgent challenges in modern agriculture.

“Effective sustainability requires trusted technology,” said Dr. Jewel Bronaugh, former president and CEO of the 1890 Universities Foundation. “By gamifying cyber education with a focus on agriculture, we’re not just developing skills, we’re building mindsets that value responsibility, innovation and resilience. This event reflects our belief that education

See CyberPlay on Page 5



Above: Student participants in Katzcy PlayCyber; left, first-place winners Alabama A&M ; right, third-place winners Fort Valley.



135th celebration concludes with reception, recognitions

The celebration wrapped up with our 135th anniversary reception at National 4-H Council headquarters, our sponsor and venue host. It was a special night to recognize those who've poured their hearts into their universities.

The evening featured remarks from several speakers. Outgoing 1890 Foundation Council of Presidents board chair President Heidi Anderson from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and President Tomikia P. LeGrande from Prairie View A&M University shared reflections on our progress. Jill Bramble, president and CEO of National 4-H Council, Rep. Alma Adams (D-



1890 reception honors Rep. Alma Adams

NC), and Alton Thompson, ARD executive director, also delivered remarks, along with other 1890 leaders and champions.

A special highlight was the appearance of our foundation's first president and CEO, Mort Neufville. Having Mort with us was particularly meaningful - he represents where we started and reminds us just how bright our future continues to be. Former board chair President Paul Jones from Fort Valley State University presented awards to each university president, recognizing their dedication to their institutions.

1890s officials share impact with elected leaders

The 1890 presidents, chancellors, deans of agriculture, faculty and students met with Congressional leaders to highlight the impact and importance of the 1890 land-grant universities to



1890 leaders meet on Hill with congress and congressional staff members

American prosperity. Reps. Alma Adams (D-NC), Shontel Brown (D-OH), Troy Carter (D-LA), Shomari Figures (D-AL) and Jennifer McClellan (D-VA) - all strong advocates who understand our mission - engaged with our leaders as they shared how the 1890 universities continue to produce leaders, innovators and solutions.

These advocacy sessions celebrated the 1890 suc-

cess stories - from agricultural research that feeds communities to STEM graduates who drive innovation across industries. Our universities remain integral to America's competitiveness and

economic growth.

The 1890 community is grateful these Congressional champions prioritized time in their schedules for these conversations and look forward to their continued partnership in advancing the 1890 mission. These meetings reinforce why the Second Morrill Act remains one of the most successful pieces of legislation in American history.

PlayCyber . . . From page 4

and innovation hold the keys to transforming communities. By preparing students to meet 21st-century threats, we're investing in the security, sustainability and strength of the communities we serve."

PlayCyber organized the competitions with support from event sponsor Kaplan, which awarded each student on the winning teams a subscription to one of their online test prep courses. Each participant represented their university with distinction, and all deserve recognition for their hard work and dedication.

[Alabama A&M University's "Team 25 Hack-](#)

[street"](#) won first place in the competition. The team worked through cybersecurity challenges focused on agricultural threats, demonstrating the technical skills AAMU students develop through their programs.

Florida A&M University's **"Team AgriBytes"** was second. The Rattlers tackled the same complex scenarios involving digital forensics and web security.

Fort Valley State University's **"Team ByteCrops"** earned third place. The team represented their university well by working to solve real-world problems at the intersection of agriculture and technology.

Nave named 1890 Universities Foundation Chief

Dr. Felecia M. Nave has been named president and chief executive officer of The 1890 Universities Foundation.

Nave has more than two decades of leadership experience in higher education most recently serving as division director for the Division of Equity for Excellence in STEM within the Directorate for STEM Education at the National Science Foundation, where she guided a \$212 million national investment to broaden participation and drive innovation in STEM.

She has served as president of Alcorn State University, provost and vice chancellor at North Carolina Central University, and held senior administrative roles at Prairie View A&M University. A chemist by training, she is recognized for expanding student access and building partnerships that strengthen HBCUs.

As president and CEO, Nave will provide strategic direction for the Foundation, which mobilizes resources and fosters high-impact programming across the 19 land-grant universities of the 1890 system. She will lead efforts in organi-

zational growth, fundraising, federal and private-sector engagement and program development, ensuring the Foundation continues to amplify the collective voice and impact of 1890 institutions.

“Dr. Nave is a proven leader who understands the vital role our 1890 universities play in shaping the future of education, research and community impact,” said Dr. Heidi M. Anderson, chair of the 1890 Universities Foundation Board of Directors and president of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. “Her vision, energy and commitment will help us expand the reach of the Foundation and ensure continued investment in our students, our universities and our communities.”



DR. FELICIA NAVE

FSLI accepting applications for new Cohort of Fellows

FSLI is accepting applications for the next Cohort of Fellows. FSLI is designed for those currently serving as department heads or chairs (or equivalent titles) or higher and looking to advance their leadership skills and future career goals.

FSLI provides our Fellows with strategies to handle future leadership challenges and opportunities. The experience develops or reinforces a series of core leadership competencies identified by a team of top-level leaders including university presidents and chancellors and leaders from indus-

try and the non-profit sector who understand the requirements of food systems leadership. These professionals offer a wealth of understanding about leadership and the food system to help the Fellows better understand their leadership potential.

The two-year FSLI experience includes three week-long residential sessions, personal leadership coaching, mentoring, individual leadership projects, a personal development plan and distance learning activities.

[Apply here.](#)

Whittaker . . . From Page 1

to deliver lasting value to our stakeholders.

Last month, we convened a highly productive and impactful agInnovation-CES/NEDA Joint Meeting in St. Louis. I extend my sincere appreciation to Dr. Chandra Reddy, Tennessee State University, and 2025 ESS-agInnovation Annual Meeting Program Co-Chair; Vonda Richardson, Florida A&M University, and 2025 ECOP Chair and Program Co-Chair; and the entire planning committee for delivering an outstanding fall conference.

The meeting's theme —“*Empowering Land-Grant Universities in Navigating the Future*”—was timely and relevant. The four joint sessions —“Updates from Washington,” “Communicating our Land-grant Mission: Responding to Evolving National Priorities,” “Use of AI in Research and Extension: Prioritizing AI Strategies & Roadmapping AI Implementation” and “Agriculture, Food and Health”— were engaging, thought-provoking and delivered by nationally recognized experts.

The 1890 participants benefited greatly from these interactive panel discussions, which aligned closely with the 1890 Strategic Research Agenda. The joint meeting's desired outcomes were achieved and exceeded, setting a high bar for the 2026 agInnovation Fall Meeting, scheduled for Sept. 21–25 in Grand Junction, Colorado.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the thoughtful and forward-thinking leadership of our immediate past agInnovation Chair, **Dr. Steven Lommel**. Under his guidance, agInnovation made considerable progress over the past year.

Lommel exemplifies adaptive leadership—marked by flexibility, open-mindedness and responsiveness to new challenges—fostering innovation and resilience within agInnovation. He understands that effective leadership is not about having all the answers, but about asking the right questions, encouraging growth and steering with agility and foresight. His ability to lead with clarity and efficiency, particularly through well-organized and concise meetings, reflects his strong values-based approach. For this, agInnovation has benefitted tremendously, and his legacy of thoughtful, adaptive leadership continues to strengthen our work.

Finally, I would like to extend my congratulations to **Dr. Chandra Reddy** on assuming the role of agInnovation Chair. As past ARD chair, and with the continued support of ARD and the agInnovation directors, we look forward to collaborating with you to advance agInnovation priorities and implement your initiatives (see article on page 3).

Reddy . . . From Page 3

- forts to elevate the organization's visibility and impact.
- Expand partnerships and engagement within the land-grant university community and with federal agencies, industry and foundations to support collaborative initiatives.
- **Intensify Strategic Actions to Position Food Security as a Cornerstone of National Security:**
 - Demonstrate how a stable food supply underpins economic growth and plays a critical role in reducing poverty.
 - Emphasize the importance of a well-nourished population in sustaining a productive workforce and maintaining national defense readiness.
 - Highlight the role of national security in ensuring resilience to food supply disruptions caused by natural disasters, pandemics or cyber threats.
 - Underscore the strategic importance of protecting agricultural infrastructure and food distribution systems to safeguard national interests.

agInnovation Chair's Initiatives:

- **Build a Healthier Nation Through Prevention Research and Innovation**
 - Role of diet in preventing chronic diseases (MAHA Report).
 - Ensuring a safe and nutritious food supply.
 - Innovations in low/minimum processed foods.
 - Innovations in minimizing chemicals/food additives.
 - Extending shelf life through natural/alternate means.
- **Transform Agriculture Production System through new Technologies**
 - Labor Shortages and Rising Costs
 - AI, automation and robotics address persistent labor shortages and reduce reliance on manual labor, which is becoming more expensive and scarcer.
 - Precision Agriculture using sensors, drones, and AI
 - Low and precise application of farm inputs and optimization of planting, irrigation and harvesting to improve farm profitability and soil health.
- **Finalize the Roadmap**
 - Create a formal framework to facilitate research collaboration between 1862 and 1994 land-grant universities with 1890 Centers of Excellence

agInnovation . . . From Page 3

Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Fares received agInnovation's Agricultural Research Innovation Award of Excellence from the ARD Region also during the recent agInnovation-CES/NEDA joint meeting held in St. Louis in September 2025.

Fares is the regents professor in the Texas A&M University System, College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at Prairie View A&M University and an endowed professor of water security and water-energy-food Nexus.

He is internationally recognized for pioneering work in AI applications in agriculture and natural resources, precision irrigation, soil-water-plant dynamics, modeling of the food-energy-water (FEW) nexus and security and climate-smart agriculture. His studies on climate impacts and resource management in vulnerable regions, such as Texas and Hawaii, address critical national concerns about drought, flood, aquifer depletion and agricultural sustainability. His deployment of soil moisture sensors and modeling tools promotes smarter irrigation and resource conservation.

At the same time, his co-authorship of the *Fifth National Climate Assessment* connects his research to national climate policy. Fares has made significant contributions to agricultural AI, including serving as a panelist at the *2024 AI for Agriculture Summit and Visioning Conference* hosted by NASEM, where he helped shape national AI strategies for agriculture.

Fares advances farmer livelihoods, environmental stewardship and policy through impactful research in water conservation, climate adaptation and food sustainability. His research collaboration with Texas A&M University, UT-

Austin, the University of Minnesota and other pioneer institutes drives innovation, backed by over \$100M in funding, including \$80M currently active. Fares has authored over 82 peer-reviewed journal articles, 15 book chapters and five edited books.

Fares has fostered meaningful collaborations and guided the development of emerging scientists, reflecting his strong commitment to innovation and the advancement of agricultural science.

He has received numerous awards and honors, including the Morrison-Evans Outstanding Scientist Award at the 2024 ARD Research Symposium, the 2024 PVAMU Presidential Award for Outstanding Achievement as a Researcher, the Research Achievement Award from the Arab League Educational, Cultural, and Scientific Organization (2023) and the Excellence in Sponsored Research Award from PVAMU (2022). He was named a Fellow of the Soil Science Society of America in 2021—an honor bestowed on only 0.3% of members—and a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy in 2020. Additionally, his peer-reviewed article, "*Irrigation Water Requirements for Seed Corn and Coffee under Potential Climate Change Scenarios*," was recognized as the most-read article in the International Water Association Journal of Water and Climate Change.

Fares received his Ph.D. and master's degree in hydrologic science cluster and agronomy/computer science, respectively from the University of Florida and his bachelor's degree in horticultural engineering from the College of Horticultural Engineering Sousse, Tunisia.

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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](#)
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[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

LEAD21 accepting applications

The LEAD21 program is accepting applications for the next group of leaders. Individuals from land-grant, NARRU institutions and USDA are encouraged to participate.

Program goals are for participants to:

- Enhance the application of skills and knowledge learned in four core leadership development areas (change, conflict, communication and collaboration).
- Develop a peer leadership network to enhance personal leadership practice, collaboration and diversity of perspective.
- Develop and implement an individual leadership development process.

Three on-site sessions will be held - Session I: June 7-12, 2026, Chicago, IL; Session II: Oct. 5-8, 2026, Denver, CO and Session III: Feb. 22-26, 2027 – Atlanta, GA.

For more information and to apply online, the link is [here](#).

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM, Department of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, [Assistant/Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics](#).

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE, School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, Department of Agriculture, Food and Resource Sciences, [Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics and Associate/Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics](#).

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, [Director of Agricultural Communications](#). Contact the Search Committee Chair, [Dr. Douglas LaVergne](#) with questions.

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, [Director, Center for Sustainable Farms and Urban Agriculture](#).

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE, School of Veterinary Medicine, [Associate Dean for Research](#), School of Veterinary Medicine, [Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs](#).

ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY, School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, [Alcorn State University Employment Opportunities | Chairperson, Human Development and Family Science](#)

[Farms for a New Generation Director](#), American Farmland Trust

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY, CAFCS, Department of Agriculture, [Assistant/Associate Professor in Animal Science, Assistant/Associate Professor in Natural Resource Management](#).

CALENDAR

[Register today](#) for the **2025 APLU Annual Meeting**, taking place Nov. 9–11 at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. APLU's Annual Meeting convenes senior public university leaders for three days of substantive discussions, collaborative workshops, and strategic networking opportunities focused on advancing public and land-grant universities' education, research, and engagement mission.

Public universities today face unprecedented challenges as well as opportunities, making it more important than ever for leaders to come together to share strategies, advocate for higher education's vital role, and chart a course for the future.

With more than 100 sessions planned, the Annual Meeting offers a robust and wide-ranging program designed to deliver practical insights, foster new collaborations, and inspire leadership across the public higher education sector.

[PAWC, Nov. 16-18, Renaissance Montgomery, Alabama.](#)



SAVE THE DATES

AEA-ARD Joint Winter Meeting | Jan. 27 – 29, 2026, The Westin New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

[2026 SRSA Annual Conference](#): "Distilling Change: Rural Roots and River Currents in the New South. Feb. 1-2, 2026, at the Omni Louisville.

CARET/BAA | Feb. 22 – 25, 2026, Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, DC

