



Association of 1890 Research Directors, Inc.

1890 Research: An Indispensable Investment



2017 S-CARET/S-AHS Meeting

Report to the Southern Region Administrative Heads Association of Research Directors (ARD)

**Hilton Raleigh Durham Research Triangle
Carey, NC**

August 5, 2017

ARD Officers

Dr. Moses T. Kairo, Chair, Dean/Research Director, University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Dr. Vernon Jones, Chair-Elect, Associate Research Director, Langston University
Dr. Conrad Bonsi, Treasurer, Tuskegee University
Dr. Andra Johnson, Secretary, Vice Chancellor for Research, Southern University
Dr. Govind Kannan, Immediate Past Chair, Fort Valley State University
Dr. Shirley Hymon-Parker, Member-at-Large, North Carolina A&T State University

Committee on Legislation and Policy

Dr. Walter Hill's testimony to the House Agriculture Committee Hearing on June 22, 2017, titled "The Next Farm Bill: University Research," supported the need for food and agriculture research at the 1890 land grant universities and shared selected impact statements of the research and extension programs at the 1890s with the congressional members. He voiced his confidence in the unique and pivotal role of the 1890s and the path forward. Dr. Hill focused on the critical need for increased investment in both capacity and competitive funds; the 1890 Capacity Building Program; the 1890 Facilities Grant Program; the Carry-over provision for 1890 Extension; McIntire Stennis Forestry Program; the Nutrition Education Program; the 1890 Centers of Excellence and student scholarships. Dr. Hill also asked for the Committee's continued support for the 1890s, as well as for agricultural research and extension across the board.

Other witnesses on the panel included Dr. Robert Duncan, Chancellor, Texas Tech University System; Dr. Jacqueline Burns, Dean for Research and Director, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences; Dr. Glenda Humiston, Vice President, Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of California; Dr. Steven H. Tallant, President, Texas A&M University-Kingsville; and Dr. Carrie L. Billie, President and CEO, American Indian Higher Education Consortium.

FY 2018 Appropriations Call to Action

The Communications and Marketing Committee of the Board on Agriculture Assembly launched the *Redefining American Agriculture for the 21st Century* video last month to market the land-grant university system and boost support for increased federal support for agriculture. The video directs viewers to AgAction.org, a portal that makes it extremely easy for agricultural administrators and other supporters to write their members of Congress urging support for APLU's budget request of a \$200-million increase in the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's (NIFA) capacity programs and the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.

In support of Dr. Hill's testimony before the House Committee on Agriculture, ARD together with AEA are asking their memberships to continue to meet with their state's Representatives and Senators to ask for their support.

2017 ARD Biennial Research Symposium:

On April 1 – 4, 2017, the Association of 1890 Research Directors, Inc. (ARD) hosted the 18th Biennial Research Symposium at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. ARD wishes to sincerely thank the land grant community for participating and being fully engaged in this record-setting research symposium. This symposium was an awesome event and a great success, but only because of the outstanding support provided by each of the 1890 campuses. The support came, not only from our ARD membership, but also from our presidents, provosts, the Association of Extension Administrators (AEA), the deans, the research and extension faculties, family and consumer sciences professionals, library deans and directors and liaison officers. Our federal and 1862 partners supported us, not only with their attendance, but with financial support as well.

Through these sessions, the 1890s will be constructing an "innovation agenda" that will provide practical solutions to the life challenges that affect residents in the 1890 region and beyond.

Finally, the focus on students for this research symposium addressed one of the ARD's commitments, which is the "development of society—ready graduates who are uniquely trained and in demand to tackle issues impacting the nation and the world."

2017 ARD Summer Business Meeting

ARD held its summer business meeting in Dayton, Ohio with a very aggressive agenda replete with a number of issues important to ARD. Among these issues are the 2018 federal budget, the 2018 farm bill, the seven challenges identified by the Challenge of Change Commission, the *Breakthroughs 2030* Initiative, strategic priorities, the 1890 centers of excellence, and communicating effectively the impacts of our work. The research/associate directors engaged in

these crucial conversations as ARD continue to chart a path forward to advance its compelling mission and vision that incorporate the diverse expertise, innovative approaches and technological advances being used at our member institutions. In this era of accountability, return on investment and the “new normal,” ARD must move forward strategically and thoughtfully with an “innovative agenda” that will provide practical solutions to improve the quality of life of citizens in the 1890 region and beyond. ARD must always keep the voices and needs of our stakeholders at the vanguard of our planning as we develop programs and initiatives.

2017 ARD Strategic Plan

One of the most significant and exciting developments in my first year as the ARD Executive Director is creating a new strategic plan focusing on people, programs, partnerships, platforms and places. It will be designed to elevate the research enterprises in the food and agricultural sciences at the 1890 land grant universities to an elite level while concurrently making them more relevant and responsive to our clientele, especially underserved citizens.

This plan will be based on everything that has previously been accomplished at the 1890s and it will recognize the hard work, dedication and incredible talents of many people who positioned the 1890s for the next “giant leap.”

This plan will also be based on the collaboration by the 1890 stakeholders including, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, farmers and community residents, legislators, congressional delegation, business leaders, ESCOP, NIFA, ARS, and will critically review key and forward-thinking publications such as the “Challenge of Change,” Science Breakthroughs 2030, the ESCOP Roadmap, the REE Action Plan, the USDA Strategic Plan, etc.

Dr. Mortimer H. Neufville named as 1890 Foundation CEO:

Dr. Mortimer H. Neufville, former president of Coppin State University and former executive vice-president of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) was named the CEO and President of the 1890 Universities Foundation.

The 1890 Universities Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization created to support the core missions of teaching, research and Extension across the nineteen 1890 land grant universities through: (1) building unique partnerships with key federal agencies and private sector entities including the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); (2) mobilizing and managing resources to facilitate broad-based programs initiatives and approaches across the 1890 universities systems; (3) providing a mechanism for the universities to respond to new and emerging issues and challenges; and (4) fostering collaborative projects across the 1890 universities to find practical and meaningful solutions to the compelling economic, social and environmental challenges.

AEA/ARD 2018 Joint Winter Meeting

Instead of holding separate winter meetings in 2018, AEA and ARD will meet jointly on January 28 - February 1, 2018 in Washington, DC. At this meeting, representatives from NIFA and others agencies and organizations will be invited to share information and to discuss opportunities for new partnerships or collaborations with the 1890 land-grant universities. During this meeting, AEA and ARD will also have an opportunity to have separate business sessions to discuss matters that would relate to their respective organization.

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