

# Message from the Chair



ARD UPDATES

Dear Colleagues:

At the upcoming ARD meeting in Dallas, Texas I will pass the gavel to our new Chair, Dr. Dyremple Marsh, a very strong and able leader. Therefore, this edition of the *ARD Updates* newsletter will be my last. Without a doubt, I have truly enjoyed serving as your chair. The Association is very special to me; we enjoy working together as much more than just colleagues, but like family. We all share a strong commitment to not only our individual institutions, but we are also deeply committed to all eighteen universities as a whole. We work together knowing that a rising tide raises all ships, and we want all eighteen of our ships to do much more than just stay afloat, we want them to rise together, thrive and flourish. We are each proud of each campus' success, of the success of each individual member of our association, and certainly of the success of all of our students. Who could not be proud and honored to serve as the Chair of an Association such as ours.

I know we are in good hands with Dr. Marsh, who is just as committed to the ARD Family as I am and his competence, wisdom and experience will keep us going on the path we have followed with fresh and new directions resulting in even more successes in the future. I look forward to serving you in my role as Immediate Past Chair, Symposium Chair and in my role as the recently elected ESCOP Chair. Thank you for trusting my leadership and for the opportunity to serve you and to learn from you. It has been a labor of love, working with my ARD Family, and I offer my sincerest appreciation to my Executive Committee. They were always there to assist me, give me their knowledgeable input and oftentimes helped me to put out fires and to help to lead us on many paths of success. I want to personally thank Dr. Carolyn Brooks, the Executive Director for ARD, for her tireless efforts in representing interests and the agenda of the 1890 community and the land-grant system as well. Her contributions to the countless successes of the ARD have not gone unnoticed. Again, sincerest thanks to you all.

Sincerely,

Orlando F. McMeans



## *Symposium 2011 DEADLINES!!!!*

**Abstracts must be submitted online by November 19, 2010**

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**Early Registration for the 2011 Symposium ends 12/17/2010 (\$475)**

**Regular Registration ends 2/25/2011 (\$500)**

**Late Registration begins 2/26/2011 (\$550)**

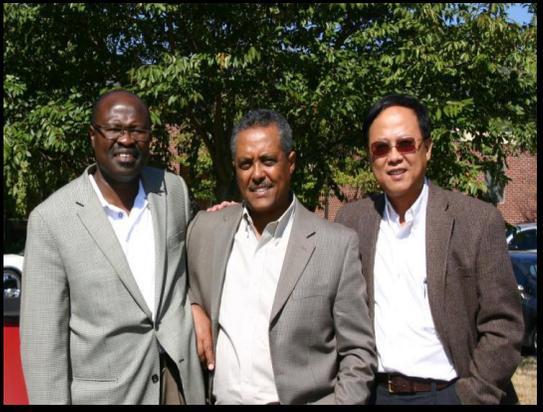
**Exhibit Registration deadline is 2/18/2011**

**Nominations Deadline for the Morrison-Evans Outstanding Scientist Award and the B.D. Mayberry Young Scientist Award is 1/19/2011 (one per campus for each)**

# ARD UPDATES



## Congratulations!!!!!!!



### *AAMU Gets \$5 Million Grant Renewal for Forest Research*

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has renewed its funding to Alabama A&M University scientists to continue their work in the School of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences' Center for Forest Ecosystem Assessment (CFEA). The Center and the \$5 million, five-year project is led by Dr. Yong Wang, ably assisted by co-principal investigators Wubishet Tadesse and Zachary Senwo. The project, pending NSF fund availability and scientific progress, is scheduled to run through FY 2014. Additionally, the Center's research and educational team is made up of agricultural school faculty members and graduate students, in major collaboration with the USDA Forest Service's Bankhead National Forest and Southern Research Station. Building upon the experiences and data collected during the first funding cycle (2004-2010), the Center will examine the impact of forest disturbances (prescribed burning and thinning) on the forest ecosystem. The research is expected to enhance the knowledge of disturbance ecology under changing environmental and climatic conditions, all while boosting participation of faculty and African American students in natural resources and ecological research.



### *UMES Scientist Awarded \$2 Million Grant*

Dr. Arthur L. Allen at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore was recently awarded a \$2-million dollar grant (includes a \$1-million-dollar match from the private sector) from the Natural Resource Conservation Service's Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) Program. The grant will be used to explore ways to reduce phosphorus and other harmful elements from reaching the Chesapeake Bay. The title of the project "*Gypsum Curtains: Reducing soluble phosphorus losses from P-saturated soils on poultry operations*" is designed to test the effectiveness of a *gypsum curtain*. The curtain is a barrier comprised of flue gas desulfurization (FGD) gypsum, a byproduct of coal-fired power generation that will be used to precipitate soluble phosphorus (P) and thereby reduce P concentrations in groundwater before it enters drainage ditches. Dr. Allen's work is in concert with a unique partnership he initiated in 1999 with the USDA-ARS unit located on the campus of Penn State University.

## ~~~~~CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS FOR 2011~~~~~

*Dr. Ali Mohamed took all of the stakeholder comments into account as the 2011 RFA was being developed. RFAs can be improved upon annually, so please continue to make suggestions or to send comments. The RFA should be coming out in December, but in the meantime you can look to the old RFA as you start writing proposals for 2011. The application deadline will be **February 15, 2011**. This time, since the annual submissions are back on track, each institution will be limited to twelve submitted proposals. There will be no limit on the number of awarded integrated grants per institution except for the limitation on the amount a campus can receive.*

**PLEASE READ THE 2011 RFA THOROUGHLY WHEN IT COMES OUT IN DECEMBER AND WRITE THE PROPOSAL ACCORDING TO THE GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS.**