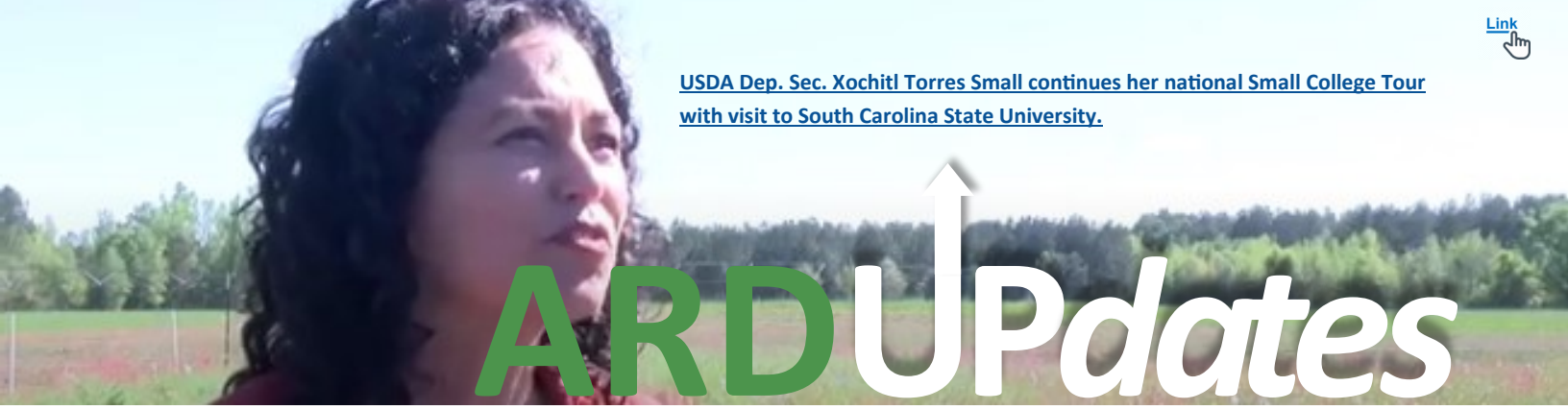

Link

USDA Dep. Sec. Xochitl Torres Small continues her national Small College Tour with visit to South Carolina State University.

ARDUPdates

ASSOCIATION OF 1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS

April 2024, Vol. 15, Issue 4

Message from the Chair
DR. LOUIS WHITESIDES

DR. LOUIS WHITESIDES

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

As you read this edition, I, along with my colleagues and about 1,550 plus students, research scientists, 1890 administrators, USDA officials, other science agency officials, our 1862 colleagues and our industry partners are participating in the 21st Biennial Research Symposium at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Conference Center in Nashville, TN. The symposium's primary goal is to provide a forum for interactions, knowledge sharing, network building that expands partnerships and showcasing the talents and achievements of the 1890 community. I could not be more enthusiastic about what lies ahead this week.

The 2024 research symposium's theme, "**Climate, Health and Cultivating the Next Generation of Agriculture Leaders: Creating Solutions Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources**" is timely and significant. As the fields of food, agriculture and natural resources continue to evolve, this symposium offers a comprehensive platform to exchange ideas, foster collaboration and explore innovative solutions to challenges we face in the agricultural sciences.

Our esteemed Evans-Allen Memorial Lecturer, Dr. Chavonda Jacobs, USDA's Undersecretary of Agriculture for Research, Education and Economics and Chief Scientist, and other featured speakers will deliver thought-provoking presentations that set the stage for engaging discussions and intellectual debates.

In addition to the plenary and special sessions, we have an exciting lineup of oral and poster presentations, panel discussions and student workshops covering a wide range of topics related to our theme. As I mentioned in earlier communications, "ARD is committed to being part of the solution and eager to collaborate, co-create and innovate."

The symposium's venue, Gaylord Opryland, located in the heart of Nashville, offers state-of-the-art facilities and a vibrant atmosphere that is conducive to networking and learning. In fact, one of the Gaylord's hor-

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USDA gets modest increased in Biden's budget

President Biden recently released his fourth budget proposal to Congress to fund federal agencies and programs for fiscal year (FY) 2025, which begins on October 1. Compared to prior years, the budget proposal is more modest and federal agencies would face constrained spending growth since the budget request mostly adheres to statutory spending caps put in place in the 2023 debt-limit law, the Fiscal Responsibility Act.

Overall discretionary spending would total $1.665 trillion, a modest $6 billion increase over FY 2024. This would include $895.2 billion for defense spending, an increase of $9 billion, and $770 billion for nondefense spending, a cut of $3 billion. Use this link to view the full chart of BAA priorities.

The USDA's overall discretionary request is $31.6 billion, $5.4 billion above the FY 2024 conference level. ***Discretionary programs within USDA's NIFA would see an increase of $53 million or 3.2% compared to the FY 2024 level.*** Like prior Biden budget requests, the FY 2025 request proposes funding increases for important Minority Serving Institution (MSI) programming. However, contrary to previous years, there are over a dozen NIFA programs that would be decreased or terminated—many of which Congress will continue to fund despite the request.

Additional details on the NIFA request follow below. Please note, the FY 2025 budget request was prepared before Congress finalized FY 2024 appropriations and the official USDA justification documents do not reflect conference agreement numbers for FY 2024.

The timing for when Congress will move on FY 2025 appropriations bills is uncertain, but we do expect to see a lot of activity in the next few months beginning with Secretary Vilsack testifying before the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee on March 21. Click here for hearing information.

See Budget on Page 8

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 Alcorn State and Central State universities.

ASU examines sweet potato viruses; hope to increase yield

Sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas* (L.) Lam.), a member of the *Convolvulaceae* (morning glory) family, originated in Central or South America and currently is widely grown in all tropical and subtropical areas of the world. It remains among the 10 most important food crops worldwide based on dry weight produced, yielding about 130 million metric tons per year on about 9 million hectares.

As an important root crop and source of industrial raw material worldwide, sweet potato production constitutes one of the major agricultural businesses in Southern U.S. states such as North Carolina, Mississippi and Louisiana, where three-quarters of the total U.S. production is being produced. Sweet potato performs well in relatively poor soils and harsh environments with few inputs, has a short growing season and broad adaptability and is a suitable crop for limited-resource farmers.

But sweet potato is subject to a wide range of pathogen infections. Among them, viral diseases are the major constraints in sweet potato production, because viruses can be accumulated and transferred to the next generation using infected vegetatively propagated sweet potato vine cuttings.

Infected sweet potatoes. ASU submitted image.

More than 30 viruses from nine families have been isolated and described on sweet potato globally. Among the viruses identified globally, several viruses have been found in the U.S. and caused severe yield losses in sweet potato production. Cultivar decline due to virus infections in sweet potatoes has been observed for decades in the U.S. For example, the yield of the widely used cultivar 'Beauregard' can decline as much as 25% to 40% due to viruses.

ASU researchers have developed nucleic acid-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and reverse-transcription PCR (RT-PCR) techniques to detect the infection of five of the most prevalent viruses in the U.S., including *Sweet Potato feathery mottle virus* (SPFMV), *Sweet Potato Virus G* (SPVG), *Sweet Potato Virus C* (SPVC) and *Sweet Potato Virus 2* (SPV2), and Sweet potato Leaf Curl virus (SPLCV), which showed high sensitivity and confirmation at the genomic level of viral species and strains.

To realize the crop's full potential, ASU researchers developed meristem-tip culture technology to produce virus-indexed sweet potato plants. The technology provides the possibility for producing and maintaining sweet potato plants free of detectable viruses, and thus have resulted in great yield improvement.

Meristem-tip culture starts from the excision of the organized apex of the shoot from a selected donor plant for subsequent *in vitro* culture. The excised meristem tip is typically small (often <1 mm in length), which holds the potential that excludes pathogenic organisms that may have been present in the donor plants. Thermotherapy is commonly used before meristem-tip culture to partially deactivate the virus and slow down the movement of virus. Virus-free planting material has been delivered and will be propagated in Agriculture Research Station of Alcorn State University at Preston, MS, for performance evaluation.

The ability to produce and maintain plants free of detectable viruses through meristem-tip culture has greatly improved sweet potato yields for several decades. The solution to the problems caused by sweet potato viruses is to ensure that growers plant virus-indexed clean propagation material or 'seed.' However, by estimate, there is a 72% shortfall of clean-plant units needed to cover all sweet potato acreage (NCPN Network News, May 2018). Thus, there is a huge demand for establishing certified nursery farms to produce clean "seed" in the sweet potato industry.

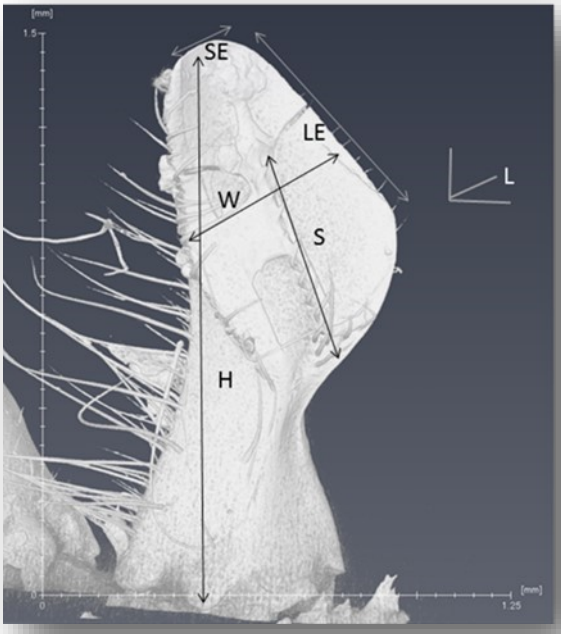
Besides, the high reinfection rate of viruses in the production field requires farmers to frequently purchase virus-indexed propagation material, which greatly increases their financial input for propagation and production. Using other biotechnological approaches, such as gene transformation or genome editing techniques, to produce virus-resistant cultivars, propose another promising strategy to control sweet potato viruses.

The above research is funded by USDA-NIFA. To learn more about ASU's Biotechnological approaches to addressing the threat of viral disease on sweet potato, please contact Dr. Yan Meng at 601-877-2402)

CSU Honeybee Lab focuses on improving bee health

Pollinators, such as honeybees, are critical for food and agriculture. However, many beekeepers and bee farmers are facing a decline due to parasitic mites called *Varroa destructor*, pathogens, poor nutrition and pesticide usage. Dr. Hongmei Li -Byarlay, an associate professor of Entomology at Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio, conducted research in her Bee Research Lab to improve honeybee health using genomic and molecular tools. The CSU Bee Lab also studies the ecology, physiology and stressors of both honeybees and small carpenter bees.

American beekeepers know that the European honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) was not well adapted to dealing with a threat like the *Varroa* mite and has suffered heavy losses since the 1980s. These losses came due to increased stress on the brood, and diseases brought into the hive via *Varroa* invaders.



The worker bee's mandible was scanned by a Microcomputed tomography (microCT) called HeliScan to measure the height(H), length(L), width (W), short edge (SE) and long edge(LE) from high grooming and mite-biting colonies.

CSU's honeybee breeding program breeds honeybees that are resistant to *Varroa* mites via an increased level of grooming behavior. For example, at the Bee Lab, we select feral colonies from Southern and Central Ohio and collaborate with Purdue University to select mite-resistant bees with high grooming and high mite-biting behavior.

Damaged bee mites can be collected from a plastic or metal board at the bottom of a hive. These damaged mites can be collected from the board, assessed carefully underneath a microscope and the levels of grooming or mite-biting behavior of that colony can be determined.

The collecting biting data process is essential to our work as it allows us to determine which colonies we should use in our breeding program. Once those colonies are found and selected, we either use them for grafting new queens or use its drones to inseminate other queens in the hopes of producing offspring with even better grooming potential.

Dr. Li-Byarlay's lab goal is to breed a mite-biting honeybee stock capable of coping with the *Varroa* mite threat and to potentially apply these breeding techniques to other useful traits exhibited by honeybees.

Our 2021 published paper revealed that changes to the bee mandible may explain why these worker bees perform high-grooming behavior and mite-biting behavior. The Evans -Allen fund enabled the CSU Bee Research Lab to use cutting -edge technologies and tools in modern genetics and genomics to do important research on honeybee genetics and

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CSU researcher smell opportunities for hemp growers and producers

In 2018, Congress passed the Agriculture Improvement Act allowing commercial production of hemp, with Ohio legislation following in 2019. Around this time, the once booming market for cannabidiol (CBD) began to contract and prices collapsed. While not as significant as in other states, that decline has limited the number of Ohio hemp growers and processors. Where some may see a small industry, Central State University sees opportunity.

CSU, through the efforts of Dr. Craig Schluttenhofer and Dr. Brandy E. Phipps, is leading state and national efforts to strengthen the Ohio hemp industry - from seed and soil to food and health – including research and engagement to support production, processing, product quality and consumer benefits.

- Phipps and Schluttenhofer, along with multi-state collaborators have a $10 million NIFA Sustainable Agriculture Systems grant entitled "Sustainable Use of Safe Hemp Ingredient (SUSHI)" investigating the use of hemp as a feed ingredient for rainbow trout. The SUSHI Project's transdisciplinary team aims to increase diversity within the agricultural workforce, increase economic opportunity and sustainability within aquaculture while focusing on excluded and disadvantaged populations and explore new market opportunities for hemp grown in the U.S.
- Hemp cigarettes and e-liquids are common products in the consumer hemp market, but their chemistry and safety are largely unknown. Schluttenhofer and Phipps have a $1.3 million contract with the FDA investigating the changes in the chemistry of these products before and after use. The team developed methods to manufacture diverse cigarette and e-liquid formulations and protocols for smoking/vaping these products and analyzing over 80 analytes - providing fundamental information about the safety of hemp products to the FDA.
- Funded by the NRCS, Schluttenhofer is investigating the

See Hemp on Page 8

Image by Freepik.

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 (uploads only, if necessary)	10 A.M. – 6 P.M.	Lincoln B
Poster Presentation Committee 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. – 5:45 P.M.	• Jackson A, B, C, D, E, F • Lincoln A, C, D, E • Presidential Boardroom B • Presidential Chamber A, B • Washington B

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 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 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 • Graduate School: Hidden Gems Within the 1890 Land-Grant System • Let's Talk About Traveling: International! • What's Next: How to get to the Career World!	2:30 – 5:30 P.M.	Governors BCD
Visits with Exhibitors	3 – 6 P.M.	Ryman Hall B4
Faculty Oral Presentations	3 – 6 P.M.	• Jackson A, B, C, D, E, F • Lincoln A, C, D, E • Presidential Boardroom B • Presidential Chamber A, B • Washington B

Monday, April 8 (cont.)		
Faculty Oral Presentations	3 – 6 P.M.	• Jackson A, B, C, D, E, F • Lincoln A, C, D, E • Presidential Boardroom B • Presidential Chamber A, B • Washington B
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 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 • Leadership & Professional Development • Agriculture Issues – Student Discussion Career Development (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 Navigating the Landscape of NIFA Funding Opportunities	1:30 – 3 P.M.	Washington B
SPECIAL SESSION 2 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 Machine Learning & Cloud Computing with R	1:30 – 5 P.M.	Jackson A
SPECIAL SESSION 4 Navigating the Landscape of NSF Funding Opportunities	3:30 – 5 P.M.	Lincoln A
SPECIAL SESSION 5 Soil Biogeochemistry Research at Scale Using EMSL's MONet Soil Function Call	1:30 – 5 P.M.	Presidential Boardroom B
SPECIAL SESSION 6 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 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 Expanding the Role of 1890 Universities in Addressing Global Food and Nutrition Security	1:30 – 5 P.M.	Lincoln C
SPECIAL SESSION 9 Industrial Hemp for Climate Smart and Sustainable Agriculture	1:30 – 5 P.M.	Jackson B
SPECIAL SESSION 10 Enhancing the 1890 Institutions Collaborative Efforts to Meet the Food Safety Challenges in the 21st Century	1:30 – 5 P.M.	Jackson E
SPECIAL SESSION 11 Grant Writing Tips for Success and Mock Panel (NIFA)	3:30 – 5 P.M.	Washington B
SPECIAL SESSION 12 1890 Centers of Excellence	1:30 – 5 P.M.	Lincoln D
SPECIAL SESSION 13 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

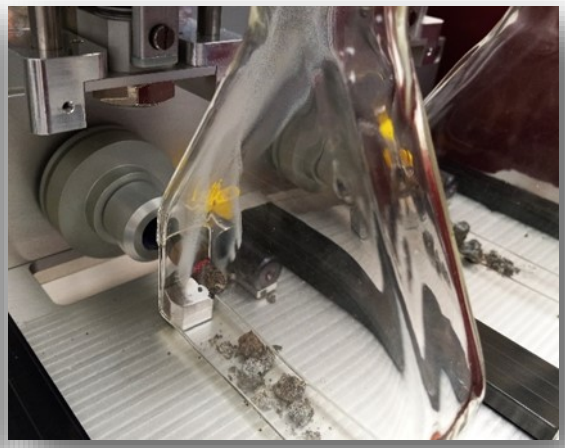
Level 2 Presidential Ballroom

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

Level 0

- Ryman Exhibit Hall – B4

Hemp . . . From page 3



Hemp. CSU submitted photos.

impact of dairy manure application to a CBD hemp crop, allowing us to understand the holistic impact manure on crop performance, water quality, and soil health and contributing to recommendations for using manure as a hemp fertilizer.

- Establishing a successful hemp processing industry can only be achieved by having regionally adapted varieties. Through Evans Allen funding, Schluttenhofer is breeding new grain and fiber varieties suited to Ohio and the surrounding region, focusing on characteristics and yield to ensure growers produce successful crops and return a profit.
- Through Evans Allen funding, Schluttenhofer is also developing new hemp products to strengthen the connection of agriculture to Ohio's largest industry – manufacturing. New hemp concrete products are being developed to fill markets within the construction and military industries.
- Often called the "entourage effect," bioactive compounds in hemp products are believed to have synergistic beneficial effects beyond that obtained from individual components. Supported by Evans Allen funding, Phipps seeks to understand the interaction of hemp-derived compounds and how these relationships and their mechanisms in the human body might impact consumer health.

For more information, contact Dr. Craig Schluttenhofer at 937-376-6282 or Dr. Brandy Phipps at 937-376-6358.

Budget. . . From page 1

NIFA

Many of NIFA's signature programs would receive flat funding in the FY 2025 request including: Smith-Lever (b) and (c); Hatch Act; 1994 Research Grants; Education Grants at 1890s; Scholarships at 1890s; Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program; Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship and Institution Challenge Grants; Grants for Insular Areas and Education Grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions. Notably, the Research Facilities Act is in the budget request for the second consecutive year, requested at the $2 million level, $1 million above FY 2024.

Programs that would see a significant increase in the request, include:

- Extension Services at the 1994 Institutions, would increase by $10 million over FY 2024 levels, and Payments to 1994 Institutions, which would more than double from $7 million to $15 million.
- Research at 1890 Institutions, also known as the Evans-Allen program, would receive an increase of $9 million, 10 % over the FY 2024 level. Extension Services at 1890s and Facility Improvement at 1890s would also see increases.

As requested in the FY 2024 budget, within the Smith-Lever (d) program, the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), would receive a $20 million increase as part of an effort to adjust the EFNEP formula to better serve underrepresented groups via 1890 allocation adjustments and to reflect recommendations following an August 2019 OIG audit.

AFRI

AFRI, NIFA's extramural competitive program, would receive a $30 million or 6.7% increase above its current $445 million level. While encouraging, this is far below the FY 2024 request of $550 million.

As included in the FY 2024 budget request, NIFA plans to continue to support climate science research and the Administration's Cancer Moonshot efforts and will invest $20 million for, "research to reduce diet-related chronic disease, produce healthy foods that reduce the risk of cancer and create biobased agricultural products as anticancer supplements and therapeutic agents."

Prepared by Lewis-Burke Associates.

Whitesides . . . from page 1

ticulture professionals will give a presentation on the vegetation, gardens and other natural areas located in the hotel and on the property

Special thanks to the Symposium Steering Committee, co-chaired by Dr. Orlando F. McMeans, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and our host institution, Tennessee State University.

Finally, I am particularly excited that Congress passed the 2024 Agriculture budget on March 8, and I am particularly pleased to report that all 1890 funding lines have been maintained without any decrease or termination. Our scholarship programs were fully funded at $10 million, as well as our Centers of Excellence. Additionally, the President released the FY 2025 budget last month, which includes modest increases for our 1890 programs.

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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

Image by microvector on Freepik

Honeybees . . . From page 3

breeding. Only when we know the genetic markers and genetic components of mite-resistant traits such as grooming, will we be able to breed and select faster and better honeybee stocks for American beekeepers and sustainable agriculture. In addition, working closely with students at CSU can enable us to train the next generation of researchers from underrepresented minority populations to become pillars of the agricultural workforce.

Working with pollinators allows us to help beekeepers and contribute to agriculture as a whole. Research is a slow process that requires a lot of teamwork, but with both focus and patience, it can be incredibly rewarding. Ultimately, CSU bee research would contribute to improving pollinator health as a whole.

For more information, please contact Dr. Hongmei Li-Byarlay, hli-byarlay@centralstate.edu,

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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 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.

CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY, Vice President for Research and Economic Development and Director of 1890 Land-grant Programs

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 latter to 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| Texax A&M Hotel and Conference Center, College Station, Texas. AI nin Agriculture and Natural Resouces: 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.