Message from the Chair

Dear Colleagues:

In a little more than a month we will be experiencing the fruits of our labor for the 17th Biennial Research Symposium. We are very fortunate to have USDA as a very strong partner, with several agencies providing us not only with financial support, but outstanding speakers. Our keynote speaker for our Tuesday morning plenary session will be Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy, the director of NIFA who will be enlightening us about global challenges for the agricultural sciences and the kind of research, Extension, and education efforts needed in the future. Additionally, Dr. Gita Ramaswamy will be presenting at the same session. Gita Ramaswamy resides in the Secretary of Agriculture’s Office and is the Senior Advisor for Scientific Integrity and Program Assessment. Her presentation will highlight a multi-pronged approach to and the principles inherent in a responsible conduct of research and educational initiatives that can be very beneficial to everybody involved in the research enterprise, including students, faculty and stakeholders. This will also allow us to be prepared for the implementation of the USDA Scientific Integrity Policy that is forthcoming and ensure compliance with USDA Research Misconduct policy and build a safe channel for reporting allegations. Secretary Vilsak’s office and NIFA are appreciative that the symposium will be an opportunity to reach such a large audience of students, faculty and administrators directly and the ARD is happy to assist in this way.

Thank you Colleagues for all of the magnificent support and cooperation you have been providing for the symposium. I am sure we all look forward to April and another outstanding ARD endeavor.

Sincerely,
Shirley Hymon-Parker, Chair

Call for Nominations for the 2013 Experiment Station Section Award for Excellence in Multistate Research

The intent of this award is to publicly recognize the high quality science being conducted through the Multistate Research Program and the impacts of that science on society. In addition, it is intended to increase the visibility of the program within the higher education community with a formal presentation at the annual APLU meeting and notification of decision makers in Washington through news releases announcing the award winners.

Nominations for the 2013 award will be made through the five regional SAES associations (NCRA, NERA, SAAESD, WAAESD, and ARD). Any approved ESS multistate project is eligible for the award. Each association will submit one nomination to be considered for the national award. The regional nominations will be reviewed by the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee. This Committee will make a recommendation for the national winner to the ESCOP Executive Committee who will make the final selection. The winning project will receive $15,000 from the Hatch Multistate Research Funds. 1890 Nominations must be sent to the ARD ED, Carolyn Brooks. For further information please go to http://www.cals.wisc.edu/Research/funding/2013ESSMultistateResearchAward.pdf

Capacity Building Grant Deadline is March 5, 2013

Applications submitted to the CBG program must address at least one of the following: sustainable bioenergy, food security, childhood obesity prevention, climate change, or food safety. Please see RFA for details and revisions.

Contact: elewis@nifa.usda.gov
There was an official deployment of REEport in 2012, and in summary, this reporting has four modules, or report types, supported by the software: Project Initiation, Progress Report, and Final Termination Report. A fifth report type, Financial Report, is currently in development. Together, these four report types support the federally required collection of research project data and associated progress, financial and impact/results reporting. These modules/reports are based on the forms previously used in the CRIS Webforms collection, known as the AD-416, AD-417, AD-419 and AD-421:
- Project Initiation (combination of old AD-416/417)
- Progress Report (old AD-412)
- Financial Report (old AD-419)
- Project Change (new change form not previously used in Webforms)
- Final Termination Report (old AD-412)

Please utilize the REEport Training Site at http://training-portal.nifa.usda.gov/portal/ Use your university email and password “NIFAportal” (case sensitive). The training version is an exact replica of the official PRODUCTION version’s functionality. However, all the data are fake. Thus the fake data you will utilize for the training will have no baring on the eventual real data that you will import. The purpose of the training is to allow you to become comfortable with the software and get familiar with how to navigate between modules. If you experience any problems, contact the NIFA staff at reeport@nifa.usda.gov.

Dr. Robert Barney has been appointed Interim Assistant Vice President for Research and Public Service at West Virginia State University. Dr. Barney also continues to serve as associate dean and associate director of the university’s Agricultural and Environmental Research Station, a position he has held since 2010.

Dr. Barney, who came to WVSU from Kentucky State University as having served as the Associate Research Director there, received his B.S. degree in Zoology from the University of Illinois, the M.S. from Eastern Illinois University and his Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Kentucky. In his newest position at WVSU, he will be responsible for the development of essential research policies, research related publications, fiscal affairs, oversight of research committees, research compliance, and sponsored programs.

Dr. Anugrah Shaw, Professor at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), has been actively involved in the development of international standards in protective clothing for over a decade and currently holds the distinction of serving as the technical contact for international standards related to protective clothing for pesticide operators. In the past she has served as a U.S. delegate at the ISO TC 94/SC 13 meeting on protective clothing and this year, in February, she will be attending the ISO meeting in St. Gallen, Switzerland as the Head of the US Delegation. Dr. Shaw started research in the area of protective clothing at UMES in the 1980s as part of the NC-170 project, for which she has had leadership for developing test methods, performance specification, and certification standards. Dr. Shaw also serves on several Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) related committees at the national level and is currently serving on the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Committee on PPE for Workplace Safety and Health, NIOSH PPT Conformity Assessment Working Group (PCAWG), and on the Executive Committee of ASTM F23 - Committee on Protective Clothing and Technologies.

Congratulations Are in Order!!!!!!!!!!