Message from the Chair

Dear Colleagues:

Sincerest thanks to all of you for your excellent participation at our summer meeting in New Orleans. We left with numerous ‘Action Items’ to initiate and 2013-2014 activities for the ARD will be numerous for sure. While the failure of the Farm Bill to pass was rather unexpected, the possibility that the capacity funds for our research and extension programs will at least go back to the FY2012 levels is at least some hopeful news.

We are fortunate to have such responsive partners at NIFA. The ARD Executive Committee truly benefitted from the visit to NIFA prior to our summer meeting. One of the follow-up activities will be the conference call between representatives from the 1890 campuses’ financial officers and the NIFA fiscal staff. Please watch for emails that will be sent to all of you about the call and information obtained from it. Also, we look forward to the work and ideas coming forth from the ARD-AEA Leadership Program Committee and the ARD-EMBRAPA Committee. Hopefully preliminary reports from these two groups can be presented at the ARD section meeting in Columbus, Ohio (the ESS/SAES/ARD meeting - September 24-26). Have a wonderful 4th of July!

Sincerely,

Shirley Hymon-Parker

Dr. Wondi Mersie has been recognized as an important participant needed to attend an upcoming conference in Juba, South Sudan entitled “The Role of Higher Education in Agriculture and Natural Resources in Post-Conflict Countries: Lessons for South Sudan.” As one of the conference participants, Dr. Mersie will engage in discussions about how to help South Sudan build the education and research capacity to grow the agricultural sector.

Funding Opportunity

The Rural Business-Cooperative Service announces the availability of $2,855,222 in competitive grant funds for the FY 2013 Small Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grants (SSDPG) program as authorized by H.R. 933. Proposals are requested from applicants that will provide technical assistance to small, socially-disadvantaged agricultural producers in rural areas. Eligible applicants include Cooperatives, Groups of Cooperatives, and Cooperative Development Centers. The maximum award per grant is $200,000. The grant period is limited to a one-year timeframe.

DATES: Completed applications for grants must be submitted on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

Paper copies must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than July 15, 2013, to be eligible for FY 2013 grant funding. Please see the following link for further information:


Save the Date

(More info soon)
Dr. Kevin D. Rome Named President of Lincoln University
Dr. Kevin D. Rome has been appointed as the 19th President of Lincoln University and began his term on June 1, 2013. He had served as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina since 2008. Prior to that he served as Vice President for Student Services at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, Vice President for Campus Life at Clayton State University in Morrow, Georgia, and as Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Life and Diversity at Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, Indiana, from 2001-2004. Dr. Rome earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia; the Masters of Education from The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia; and the Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas.

Thomas J. Elzey Named President Of South Carolina State University
Beginning June 15, 2013, Mr. Thomas Elsey began his tenure as President of SC State University. Prior to this appointment the Chicago native was serving as executive vice president for Finance, Administration and Operations at The Citadel. Prior to The Citadel, Elzey served as the senior vice president for finance at Drexel University and was senior vice president and chief financial officer at Howard University. He has held several high level financial management positions at investment firms and on a utility commission. He was also a senior policy/program analyst and deputy branch chief/senior budget examiner in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in the Executive Office of the President of the United States. Elzey earned his Bachelor of Science in economics from Bradley University and a Master of Science in Public Management and Policy from Carnegie Mellon University. He held Series 7 and 63 securities licenses.

Dr. Glenda Glover Named President of Tennessee State University
Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover began serving as President of Tennessee State University on January 2, 2013. She was formerly the Dean of the College of Business at Jackson State University in Jackson, MS. She is a certified public accountant, an attorney, and is one of two African American women to hold the Ph.D.-CPA-JD combination in the nation. Dr. Glover's educational development began as a student at Tennessee State University, where she majored in mathematics. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree, she pursued the Master of Business Administration at Clark Atlanta University. She then completed her doctorate in business from George Washington University, and later completed her law degree from Georgetown University. Dr. Glover had served as Chairperson of the Department of Accounting at Howard University, a Chief Financial Officer of an engineering firm, a tax manager at a major public utility company, and an accountant with a Big-Four CPA firm.

Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith Named President at Fort Valley State University
Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, provost and senior vice president at York College of the City University of New York, has been named as the ninth president of Fort Valley State University. Griffith had served as provost at York College since 2007. Before being named provost at York College, Griffith, in addition to his teaching duties as a tenured professor of political science, served as provost at Radford University in Radford, Va. He was budget dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Florida International University in Miami, as well as dean of the FIU Honors College. A past president of the Caribbean Studies Association, he has been a visiting scholar at the Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies, the Royal Military College of Canada and the George Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Germany. Dr. Griffith earned a bachelor of social sciences degree from the University of Guyana, a masters of arts degree in political science and public administration from Long Island University, New York, and both a master of philosophy and doctorate in political science from the City University of New York.

Delbert Foster Is Appointed Acting Vice President of Research and Economic Development
South Carolina State University President Thomas J. Elzey named Delbert T. Foster as acting vice president for research and economic development/executive director of 1890 Programs. Foster assumed the role of acting vice president on June 24, 2013. As acting vice president, Foster will provide oversight to the units of sponsored programs, environmental policy institute, the TRIO Programs and 1890 Research and Extension. Prior to this appointment, Foster served as the administrator of 1890 Extension Programs at SC State University.