Message from the ARD UPDATES

Volume VII, Issue 6
June, 2014

Dear Colleagues:

To update you about the 125th Anniversary initiatives, the following has been accomplished: We have been notified by the Honorable James H. Billington, the Librarian of Congress, that our application to house the 1890 Exhibits and the convocation on July 15th and 16th respectively in the Library of Congress buildings has been approved. Additionally, by now it is hoped that you will be attending the 50th Annual Caribbean Food Crops Society Conference (CFCS) in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, July 6 (the travel day) - July 12, 2014. We do not yet have the conference agenda but you can stay informed by using the website at http://cfcs.eea.uprm.edu/article/register-attend-50th-cfcs-annual-meeting-us-virgin-islands.

This is a joint meeting of the Caribbean AgroEconomic Society (CAES), AAEA Committee on the Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics (COSBAE), Association of Extension Administrators (AEA), Association of Research Directors (ARD), and the American Phytopathological Society-Caribbean Division (APS). The ARD will meet after the opening ceremonies on Monday, July 7th and will meet jointly with AEA on Tuesday, July 8th after lunch. All other participation will be as participants of the CFCS Conference. We will send the draft ARD agenda soon for any input you might want to offer.

Have a wonderful summer and see you in July in the Virgin Islands.

Sincerely,

Shirley Hymon-Parker

Current Spending Bill Status of 1890 Programs. This will be considered on the House floor in mid June:

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<th>Priority</th>
<th>FY 14 Final</th>
<th>FY 15-House</th>
<th>FY 15 - Senate</th>
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Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational Program

The AFRI Foundational Program is offered to support research grants in the six AFRI priority areas to continue building a foundation of knowledge critical for solving current and future societal challenges. The six priority areas are: Plant Health and Production and Plant Products; Animal Health and Production and Animal Products; Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health; Renewable Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment; Agriculture Systems and Technology; and Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities. Single-function Research Projects, multi-function Integrated Projects and Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE) Grants are expected to address one of the Program Area Priorities (see Foundational Program RFA for details).

♦ Letter of Intent is required (See RFA). Earliest due date from the RFAs is September 30, 2014. Maximum Award is $500,000. For more information see RFA or contact Effie Baldwin (ebaldwin@nifa.usda.gov). Funding Opportunity Number—USDA-NIFA-AFRI-004412; CFDA Number—10.310 Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.
Dr. Brian Johnson Chosen to Be The 7th President of Tuskegee University

The Tuskegee University Board of Trustees unanimously selected the seventh President of Tuskegee University – Brian Johnson, Ph.D. Dr. Johnson is currently the Interim Vice President for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness and Assistant Provost/Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee. He will assume the role of president on June 15th, 2014. At age 40, Dr. Johnson is one of the youngest individuals to be selected president of an HBCU in recent years.

Dr. Johnson is known as a vibrant and progressive administrator, professor, and scholar. He has authored or edited seven academic books, including two on W. E. B. Du Bois and one institutional history of his alma mater, Johnson C. Smith University, an HBCU. Dr. Johnson received his Ph.D. in English from the University of South Carolina specializing in 17th-19th Century American Literature and his M.A. in English from The University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Hairston Recognized with Award

Congratulations to Dr. Jewel E. Hairston, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Extension Administrator at Virginia State University, for being the first recipient of the prestigious Virginia Food System Council Award for “Extraordinary Work Advancing Community Food Systems in Virginia". Mr. Spencer Neale, Co-Chair of Virginia Farm Bureau Federation and Virginia Food System Council is shown in the attached picture presenting the plaque to Dean Hairston. She received this recognition after her presentation on the results of a study on food deserts (low-access to healthy, nutritious and affordable food) in Lynchburg, Virginia on April 16, 2014. The study was requested by members of the Virginia General Assembly and was co-chaired by dean Hairston and Dean Alan Grant at Virginia Tech.

National Impact Database is Available

The new Research Impacts database is ready to be populated with impact statements. Links for authorized personnel to login to the databases are located at the bottom of each page in the portal. Once logged in, the user should see a tab labeled ‘Impacts’. Based on their access rights they will have the options to both add/edit impact statements and search the database or only search. This portal contains information on the land-grant system and availability for the public to search/sort impact statements. The URL for the new portal is http://www.landgrantimpacts.org.