

**Board on Agriculture Assembly**  
**1890 Universities Report to Policy Board of Directors**

**PBD Member: Mark Latimore, Jr. Reporting Period: March 2016-July 2016 AEA Section Chair: Mark Latimore, Jr.**

**ARD Section Chair: Govind Kannan**

(Please check the BAA-PBD Goals that each activity directly addresses.)

BAA Section Activities (Briefly describe activities since previous reporting period)	*Goals	Emerging Issues and Future Directions	Resource Advocacy	Farm Bill and Legislative Action	System Integration
<p><b>Committee on Legislation and Policy</b></p> <p>AEA and ARD have been involved in the activities of the Committee on Legislation and Policy and were actively involved in promoting the completion of the Farm Bill Survey conducted by ECOP and ESCOP. More than 50% of the 1890s completed the survey and supported the reauthorization of all of the programs impacting the 1890 land-grant universities with some recommendations for changes in the legislative language. Both AEA and ARD will participate in the CLP meeting in October in Washington, D C.</p>		X	X	X	X

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<p><b>Association of Extension Administrators (AEA) 2016 Summer Meeting</b></p> <p>The AEA summer meeting was held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on June 19-23, 2016 and Langston University served as the host institution. In addition to focusing on budgets, accountability, funding opportunities, the use of social media in Extension programming, urban, and innovating programming, the administrators also heard from representatives from NIFA, EDEN, eXtension, and the Secretary of Agriculture Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers. The group also had an opportunity to visit Langston University to observe some of the outstanding programs being implemented in both Extension and Research.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>
<p><b>AEA Excellence in Extension Award</b></p> <p>The applications for the 1890 Extension Excellence in Extension Award were due May 1, 2016. There were four highly competitive applications submitted and the reviewers selected the regional winner and an alternate. In June, the application for the 1890 regional winner was submitted for consideration for the ECOP National Excellence in Extension Award. The ECOP National Award winner will be selected during the month of July and will be recognized at the APLU Annual meeting along with each regional award winner.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>			<p align="center">X</p>

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<p><b>U, S. Senate Rural Summit</b></p> <p>AEA was invited to participate in the Senate Democratic Rural Summit that focus on Fostering the Next Generation of Rural America. Senators welcoming the group to the summit included, but not limited to Senator Harry Reid, Senator Chuck Schumer, and Senator Debbie Stabenow. Secretary Tom Vilsack was the key note speaker and highlighted the importance of farms and rural communities to the United States economy. He stated that USDA was promoting American Agriculture by conducting cut-edge research and expanding markets at home and abroad. He further emphasized the importance of the 2014 Farm Bill in addressing many of the issues impacting Rural American, but acknowledged that there is still much work to be done. Also appearing on one of the panels addressing rural issues was Lisa Mensah, Under Secretary of Rural Development, U. S. Department of Agriculture.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	
<p><b>Budget and Advocacy</b></p> <p>AEA and ARD continue to work with the BAA BAC to advocate for the budget priorities for the land-grant system. The 1890 B&amp;L committee representatives are also engaged with the B&amp;L Committees of Experiment Station Section and Cooperative Extension Section, respectively. For 2017, the Senate and House Appropriations Committees have recommended level funding for all 1890 land-grant programs.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	

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<p><b>AEA and ARD Participate in SRDC Priority Survey</b></p> <p>AEA and ARD participated in a survey conducted by the Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC) to determine the future directions of the Center. The survey was conducted among the major stakeholders of the center and the results will be helpful to the new center director, Mr. Steve Turner, as he determines the future priorities for the center.</p>					
<p><b>New Executive Director Appointed for ARD</b></p> <p>Dr. Alton Thompson has been named Executive Director for the Association of Research Directors, effective August 1, 2016. Dr. Thompson who has served as a former dean and provost replaces Dr. Carolyn Brooks who retired on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Thompson brings a wealth of knowledge to this position as a seasoned member of the land-grant family.</p>				<p align="center">X</p>	
<p><b>ARD 2016 Summer Meeting</b></p> <p>ARD will hold its summer meeting on August 3-5, 2016 in Atlanta, Georgia. Members of the AEA Executive Committee have also been invited to participate in this meeting. Among the topics to be discussed will be the executive director transition and the future directions of the 1890 Centers of Excellence.</p>					

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<p><b>125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Center of Excellence</b></p> <p>Six USDA agencies continue to work with the 1890s to support their 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Centers of Excellence (COE) for small farms/ranches/forestland programs and for workforce development for the global environment. Additionally, ARS has established a sabbatical program for 1890 faculty to work in ARS labs for 6 – 12 months. Funding to campuses for initiatives under the COEs was achieved through a competitive process. Six collaborative initiatives to strengthen curricula and programs for 1890 university students to be competitive for garnering careers in the global agricultural workforce are now receiving funding through APHIS and FAS and seven initiatives related to the COE for innovative and sustainable small farms, ranches and forestlands were selected for funding from RD, NRCS, FS and FSA. The Administration and Secretary Vilsack have supported the COE initiatives and ~\$10M increase has been requested in the 2017 President’s Budget for the 1890 Capacity Building Grants Program to support the growth of the three centers accordingly. In June, representatives from ARD and AEA met with representatives from the various agencies to discuss reporting, future directions, and additional funding.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	
<p><b>ARD Serves as the Management Entity for the Centers of Excellence</b></p> <p>The ARD continues to serve as the management entity for funding received for the COEs because of its 501(c) 3 status. However fiscal oversight for the COE initiatives resides with a Board of Directors that includes Cooperative Extension and corporate sector representatives.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	

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<p><b>2017 ARD Symposium</b></p> <p>The ARD has begun its planning for the 2017 Research Symposium with expected participation of ~1000 persons, including graduate and undergraduate students. It will take place April 1 – 3, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>
<p><b>AEA Announces 1890 Excellence in Extension Award Program</b></p> <p>AEA is seeking applications for the 2016 1890 Extension Excellence in Extension Award Program. Applications are due on or before May 1<sup>st</sup>. AEA will recognize one Extension professional in each of the four program areas who have developed and implemented innovative programs that have had significant impact on the clients or community being served. The winner in each of the program area will be recognized with a plaque and a monetary award. One of the four 1890 Excellence in Extension program award winners will be selected as the 1890 regional award winner and his/her application will be submitted for consideration for the ECOP National Excellence in Extension Award in the June.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>			<p align="center">X</p>
<p><b>Participation in ECOP</b></p> <p>1890 Extension Administrators are very involved in ECOP. Delbert Foster serves as immediate past chair, Dr. Mark Latimore is chair of the ECOP Program Committee, and Dr. Celvia Stovall is co-chair of the Personnel Committee. There are two 1890 Extension representatives on the ECOP Task Force on Innovation in Extension.</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	

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<p><b>LEAD-21 and FSLIX</b></p> <p>The 1890s continue to support leadership programs and are increasing the numbers continuously of those participating in LEAD21 and FSLIX.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	
<p><b>Communications</b></p> <p>The ARD continues to communicate with the 1890 universities through its website <a href="http://www.umes.edu/ard">www.umes.edu/ard</a> and its monthly newsletter, the <i>ARD Updates</i>. The recently developed website, <a href="http://www.1890universities.org">www.1890universities.org</a> will be periodically updated as well. The ARD website is primarily a functional site and can be immediately updated through the ARD Executive Director. Documents, agendas, presentations, 1890 impacts, faculty expertise, etc are maintained at this site.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	

<p align="center"><b>BAA Section Planned and New Activities</b> (Briefly describe any new activities planned for next year)</p>				