

1890 Research Directors (ARD)

Dr. Walter A. Hill

Dean, College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Sciences, Tuskegee University



Walter Hill has been one of the 1890 Land-grant universities' most innovative and distinctive leaders for decades. He is a passionate spokesperson for the 1890s and is constantly recruited by the 1890 family to be its representative, as his dedication to enhance these institutions is paramount to him. He works assiduously to expand the partnerships and sources of funding for the 1890s, so that they can more effectively be at the forefront to address contemporary issues and help solve global problems. Additionally, his service to the APLU BAA is impressive and currently he is the immediate past chair of AHS and has been and continues to provide dedicated service on many BAA Boards, committees and task forces. Most notably for the Association of 1890 Research Directors (ARD) he has served as chair of the 1890 Council of Deans and chair of the ARD.

Walter is a teacher at heart and started his professional career as a teacher in the Chicago Public School System. As a young faculty member, he came to Tuskegee in 1978 and many agricultural professionals today still give credit to Walter's ability to excite them about learning. At Tuskegee, his student advising has led to 17 award winning student science projects. His other passion is to help small, underserved farmers, rural communities and schools by building sustainable partnerships.

Examples of the recognition that Walter has received include the Community Associates Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture Award of Merit, the Rural Coalition Humanitarian Award, the Southern Rural Development Initiative (SRDI) Service to Agriculture Award, Alabama Farmers Federation Award of Honor, USDA

Award for Superior Service, African American Achiever in Agriculture by the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, and the list goes on and on.

Hill earned his B.S. degree from Lake Forest College (IL), an M.A.T. from the University of Chicago, an M.S. from the University of Arizona, and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois.