

## Western Region

**H. Michael Harrington**

**Executive Director, Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors**



Dr. Harrington's responsibilities as Executive Director of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors include providing leadership on high priority multistate initiatives, management oversight for multistate projects funded through the Multistate Research Fund, and developing integrated multistate projects that include research, extension, and academic programs. Indeed, the region's Multistate Review Committee and multistate portfolio are integrated across function. Mike serves as the Directors' liaison to USDA-NIFA and emphasizes communication, coordination, and collaboration at local, regional, and national levels.

He conducted regional needs assessments that resulted in the development of the "Western Perspective and Western Agenda" detailing common areas of interest to the Region and stimulating new regional collaborations. Mike was instrumental in creating a partnership with the Western Governors Association.

Dr. Harrington provides leadership to the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy serving as Executive Vice Chair four times and as Executive Vice Chair of the Budget and Legislative Committee since 2008. Other committees include the Budget and Advocacy Committee, Committee on Legislation and Policy, Strategic Realignment Task Force, Western IPM Center Steering Committee, Western Region Rural Development Center, and National Center for Food and Agriculture Policy.

Prior to his current role, he was at the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii from 1985-2001 and Mike served as chair of Department of Plant Molecular Physiology, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, interim Director of the Hawaii Institute for Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and interim Dean.

Dr. Harrington holds B.A. and M.S. degrees from Miami University and a Ph.D. from Ohio University.