



## **Virtual Meeting**

**Times are listed in Eastern Time (EDT)**

**Monday, September 28**

[Join Link](#)

**6:00 – 6:15 p.m. (EDT)**

## **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Heidi M. Anderson, President, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Moses T. Kairo, ESCOP Chair, Dean, School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Craig Beyrouthy, Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland College Park

**6:15 - 7:45 p.m. (EDT)**

**Session 1: Inclusive Excellence: Systematic Approaches to System Change**

***Description of Session:***

In this session, directors will engage in several critical thinking experiments dedicated to inclusion and will be challenged to identify at least three actionable steps that may be undertaken within the next year to affect inclusive excellence.

**Moderator:** Vernon Jones, Chair-ARD, Associate Dean, School of Agriculture, Langston University

**Facilitators:** Woodie Hughes, Jr., Assistant Extension Administrator State 4-H Program, College of Agriculture, Family Sciences and Technology, Fort Valley State University  
Brian Raison, Leadership Field Specialist, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, The Ohio State University  
Rachel Welborn, Associate Director-Southern Rural Development Center

**Session Outcomes:**

- Explore how inclusive excellence can strengthen existing research program efforts.
- Engage in a series of conversations that will identify obstacles to affect inclusive excellence and strategies to overcome the obstacles.
- Be challenged to implement at least three actionable steps that can lead to inclusive excellence at their home institutions.

**Preview and question to consider:**

As the coronavirus disproportionately affects communities of color, how can we raise the valued strengths of 1890 and 1994 institutions to increase partnerships among ALL research stations to affect change on this issue and other vexing research questions we face? To inform this discussion, we encourage you to view these two videos:

- “A wider lens on the impact of COVID-19” - An Interview with Dr. David R. Williams by Jill Petty – April 29, 2020. Brief: “The COVID-19 pandemic is a singular event,” says Harvard University T.H. Chan School of Public Health Professor David Williams. “There has never been a pandemic that changed so many lives in such profound ways.” (17:30 minutes) <https://everychildthrives.com/a-wider-lens-on-the-impact-of-covid-19/>
- "The Diversity Bonus" - Scott Page (4:07 minutes) <https://youtu.be/gvKXtOK6Gyw>

**7:45 p.m. (EDT)**      Adjourn

**Tuesday, September 29**

[Join Link](#)

**6:00 – 7:45 p.m. (EDT)**

**Session II: Why Leadership Needs to be Engaged in Making Political Sausage: A Case for Inclusive Excellence**

***Description of Session:***

Effective leadership and inclusive excellence are required to navigate through challenging times. The COVID-19 pandemic generated unprecedented circumstances for institutions of higher education throughout the US. University-level actions to reduce the spread of COVID-19 will not only have a tremendous impact on higher education but will also affect research on and off campus. This session will cover two recent challenges: the COVID-19 pandemic and reduced state support for agricultural experiment stations and research programs. A panel of senior land-grant university leaders will describe their experiences practicing inclusive excellence as they lead their land-grant university through these challenges.

**Moderator:** Orlando McMeans, Chancellor and Dean, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences

**Panelists:** Noelle E. Cockett, President, Utah State University  
Daniel Scholl, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, South Dakota State University  
Jane Schuh, Vice President for Research and Creative Activity, North Dakota State University  
Randy Woodson, Chancellor, North Carolina State University

**Session Outcomes:**

- Learn how university leaders make important decisions in a rapidly changing environment utilizing dynamic, and sometimes, insufficient information and respond to a crisis of unknown duration and impact.
- Understand the importance of including diverse opinions and perspectives when making critical decisions that impact the entire university during a time of rapidly changing conditions and incomplete information.

**7:45 p.m. (EDT)**      Adjourn

**Wednesday, September 30**

[Join Link](#)

**6:00 – 6:30 p.m. (EDT)**

**ESS Diversity & Inclusion Award Program**

**Moderator:** Ali Fares, ESCOP-DCC Chair, Professor, College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, Prairie View A&M University  
Recognition of the 2020 National ESS Diversity & Inclusion Award winner: University of Florida/IFAS, Department of Family, Youth, and Community Sciences, Diversity and Inclusion Committee  
Representing the winner: Dr. Tracy Irani, Chair, Department of Family, Youth, and Community Sciences

**6:30 – 7:45 p.m. (EDT)**

**Session III: The CRISPR Craze: Managing Disruptive Genome Editing Technologies**

***Description of Session:***

Dr. Rodolphe Barrangou's groundbreaking research established CRISPR as the adaptive immune system of bacteria, a discovery that promoted the practical use of CRISPR-Cas systems for genome editing. The technology has tremendous worldwide applications in food and agriculture, with translational genome editing in bacteria, crops, and livestock. Given the business potential of this disruptive technology, it is important to also account for regulatory, public engagement, strategic investments, and competitive landscape implications.

**Moderator:** Moses T. Kairo, ESCOP Chair, Dean School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

**Speaker:** Rodolphe Barrangou, Distinguished Professor, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, North Carolina State University

**Session Outcomes:**

- Become familiar with the processes driving CRISPR-based genome editing.
- Be exposed to the many applications of CRISPR.
- Learn about the business opportunities and translation challenges encompassing regulatory and public acceptance aspects.

**7:45 p.m. (EDT)** Adjourn

**Thursday, October 1**

[Join Link](#)

**6:00 -7:45 p.m. (EDT)**

**Experiment Station Section Business Meeting**

**Presiding:** ESCOP Chair, Moses T. Kairo

**7:45 – 8:00 p.m. (EDT)**

**Meeting recap and action steps**

**Moderators:** Vernon Jones, Orlando McMeans and Moses T. Kairo

**8:00 p.m. (EDT)**      Adjourn

**Planning Committee:**

Moses Kairo, Dean and Research Director, School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, ESCOP Chair (effective July 1, 2020) **2020 ESCOP Chair and Meeting Chair**

George Hopper, ESCOP Chair (retired June 30, 2020), Mississippi State University

Deb Hamernik, ESCOP Past Chair, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Bret Hess, Western Executive Director

Shirley Hymon-Parker, North Carolina A&T State University

Jeff Jacobsen, North Central Executive Director

David Leibovitz, Northeast Coordinator

Orlando McMeans, BAA Chair and Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center

Rick Rhodes, Northeast Executive Director

Jurgen Schwarz, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Puneet Srivastava, University of Maryland College Park

Alton Thompson, ARD Executive Director

Lisa Williamson, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center

Eric Young, Southern Executive Director (retired June 30, 2020)

Gary Thompson (started August 24, 2020)