

Students, scientists participate in ARD symposium



ATLANTA, Ga. – Over 40 undergraduate and graduate students along with Cooperative Agricultural Research Center scientists traveled to Atlanta last week to participate in the 15th Biennial Research Symposium of the Association of Research Directors at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta.

The Prairie View A&M University delegation presented competitive research papers and posters in the areas of Food Safety, Human Nutrition and Health, Renewable Resources and Environmental Stewardship, Small Scale Agriculture and Rural Development, Emerging Technologies and Human Sciences. CARC Research Director Alfred L. Parks served as the symposium steering committee chair.

More than 800 participants attended the symposium and more than 400 research papers and posters were presented from the 18 land grant institutions. “This symposium was outstanding,” Parks said. “I challenged the 1890 research directors to increase student participation and they rose to the challenge. Judging from the caliber of the students’ work, I believe we may find the next George Washington Carver among this year’s symposium participants.”

The theme for this year’s symposium is “1890 Research: Sustainable Solutions for the 21st Century.” According to the ARD, the goal of the gathering is “to provide a forum for interactions, knowledge sharing, and building networks for expanded partnerships and to showcase the talents and achievements of the 1890 community.

Prairie View A&M University participants included:

- William A. Foster, IV, The Untapped Potential of Food Waste Recycling.
- Julien Biley, Using Recycled Paper in Composting for Organic Matter Production to Increase Microbial Communities and to Enhance Soil Quality.
- Aziza Glass, DNA as a Signaling for Detecting Chemical Contamination.
- Tassine K. Brown, Identification of mRNAs Encoding Cellulosic Biomass Related Enzymes in Peanuts.
- Shadana M. Chaney, Antioxidant Activities of Natural Phenolic Compounds Against Lipid Oxidation Induced by Ferrous Iron or Ultraviolet Light (UV).
- Dr. Rahmat Attaie, Depletion Rate of Tetracycline Residues in the Milk of Alpine and Nubian Breeds of Goats.
- Dr. Victor G. Stanley, The Antimicrobial Effects of a Single and Combined Treatment of Sodium Chloride and Lime Juice on the Survival of *E. coli* 0157:H7 on Ground Beef.
- Dr. Ursula Tress, Fertility Indices for Dairy and Meat Goat Sires.
- Jovan Brown, Potential Applications for Biodegradable Polymers: Chitosan and its Derivatives.
- Mark Carter, Chitosan and its Derivatives Affect the Growth of Selected Crops.
- Melisa Stewart, Synthesis and Characterizations of Chitosan Composites.
- Seifullah Schoffield, Presence of Manganese in Aquatic-Terrestrial Boundaries of Seasonal Wetlands on the Texas Gulf Coast Prairie.
- Silvester Robinson, Reproduction Performance of Obese and Lean Pigs.

- Kameila Walker, Combined Effect of Citric Acid and Sodium Chloride on Reduction of *Salmonella typhimurium* *in vivo*.
- Angela M. Reevely, Characterization of Epithelial Cell Apical Plasma Membrane Proteins Carrying Endometrial H-Type 1 (HT1) Antigen.
- J. M. Stone, Expression of Osteopontin in Human Fetal Osteoblastic Cells Treated with Chitosan Composite Materials *in vitro*.
- Dr. Eric Risch, Modeling Goat Growth as a Function of Feed Intake.
- Dr. Richard W. Griffin, Dust Accumulation as a Source of Iron for Production of Redoximorphic Features in Sandy Soils on the Texas Gulf Coast Prairie.