

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER**



**Leodrey Williams**

**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

**Presented to:**

**Board of Supervisors**

**Southern University and A & M College System**

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## VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH RETIRES AFTER 37 YEARS OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE

### *Southern University Ag Center*

**Leodrey Williams**  
Chancellor

**Adell Brown**  
Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration

**Kirkland Mellad**  
Vice Chancellor for Research

**Gina E. Eubanks**  
Vice Chancellor for Extension

**Christopher Rogers**  
Director of Technology Services

**Editors**  
Bridget Udoh  
Donna C. Badon

**A. O. Williams Hall**  
P.O. Box 10010  
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

**Tel:** (225) 771-2242

**Fax:** (225) 771-2861

**Website:**  
[www.suagcenter.com](http://www.suagcenter.com)

Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, an entity of the Southern University System,Leodrey Williams, Chancellor, Ronald Mason, Jr., System President, Darren Mire, Chairman, Board of Supervisors. It is issued in furtherance of the Cooperative Extension Work Act of December 1971, and the Agricultural Research Program, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. All educational programs conducted by the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center are provided to all persons regardless of race, national origin, or disability. © 2008 SU Ag Center.



Dr. Kirkland E. Mellad began his professional career in 1974 as an Assistant Professor of Animal Science in the College of Agriculture at Southern University. He received his B.S. degree in Animal Science in 1970 from Tuskegee University, the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Dairy Science, specializing in reproductive physiology, from The Ohio State University in 1972 and 1974 respectively.

Mellad rose to the ranks of Associate Professor in 1978 and full professor in 1981. Over the years, he has ascended to numerous administrative positions to include Chairman, Department of Animal Science; Associate Research Director, Associate Dean, Division of Agricultural Sciences; Dean and Research Director, College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences. In 2003, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center appointed him the Vice Chancellor for Research.



**L-R: Chancellor Williams, VC Eubanks, VC Brown, VC Mellad, Bridget Udoh, and Randy Mellad—seated**



**L-R: Son Randy, Mellad, Mrs. Celia Mellad, and Maria, granddaughter.**

He has been an ardent supporter of the Annual Livestock Show. His contributions in this regard range from dairy superintendent to membership on the advisory council.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Mellad has received several awards and recognitions. He has published extensively in leading professional journals and he has distinguished himself as a leader in several professional organizations such as the 1890 Association of Research Directors and the American Society of Animal Science. He is an active member of various professional societies including the American Dairy Science Association, American Society of Animal Science and the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists.

Dr. Mellad has a distinguished record of accomplishment in animal science research with special emphasis on bovine reproductive physiology.

Mellad has published extensively in leading scientific journals. During his tenure at Southern University, he has received several million dollars in grants from private and governmental agencies.

As Vice Chancellor for Research, he administered an annual research portfolio that has grown from \$1.7 million in FY 2003 to more than \$4 million in FY 2011. As an administrator for research, Dr. Mellad spent an inordinate amount of his time on enhancing the research infrastructure of the Ag Center while creating opportunities for enhanced student and faculty development.

He is married to his wife Celia and they are the proud parents of two sons, Randy and Jason and the proud grandparents of granddaughter, Maria.

Dr. Mellad celebrated his retirement on Dec. 8 and retires effective December 31, 2011.

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AG CENTER SPOTLIGHTED IN NATIONAL NEWSLETTER**

The Southern University Ag Center was spotlighted in the December issue of the *Organic Insider* Newsletter, published by USDA National Organic Program (NOP). The spotlight followed a September visit to Louisiana by Miles McEvoy, Deputy Administrator of USDA's National Organic Program (NOP). During his visit, Dr. C. Reuben Walker, program leader, animal science, gave McEvoy a guided tour of the SU Ag Center. Walker serves as one of 15 National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) members, and succeeds Professor Owusu Bandele who served on the board from 2000-2005. The federal statutory board advises the Secretary of Agriculture on Organic policy. The Board meets twice a month to address organic agriculture issues.



**Dr. Reuben Walker**

The National Organic Board's *Organic Insider* newsletter mentioned SU Ag Center on page 1 and spotlighted it on page 11 of the December issue. The spotlight focuses on the Center's organic and sustainable agriculture production activities. The *Organic Insider* has a wide readership of approximately 3,500 internationally.

The full article is available online at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5090466>.

**SU AG CENTER SELECTED TO SERVE ON BEEF TASK FORCE**

The National Center for Foreign Animal Disease Defense (FAZD) Center recognized the need for healthy cattle on all levels of production, thus it formed a beef task force earlier in 2011. The group dubbed "Beef Species Specific Education Resource Team (SSERT)" consists of industry researchers and professionals. Their goal is to present advice to keep diseases out of herds across the country.

The final step in the process was to have producers and animal professionals evaluate the publica-

tions for content and clarity. On November 27, 2011, the SU Ag Center held an evaluation meeting for producers and professionals for publications that will be distributed throughout the U.S.

Members of the beef SSERT include: Renita Marshall, DVM, Lisa Gray, research associate, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center; Ondieki Gekara', Ph.D., University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Cooperative Extension Program; and Tyrone Miller, Ph.D., Tennessee

State University Cooperative Extension Program.

Marshall and Gray were mentioned in the Livestock News section of the November 2011 issue of *Agri-View*, in connection with herd health and beef biosecurity practices. The article is entitled "Herd health hinges on beef biosecurity practices."

The full story is available online at: <http://www.agriview.com/news/livestock/>

SU AG CENTER STAFF ATTEND MEETING OF THE AMERICAN EVALUATION ASSOCIATION

The American Evaluation Association (AEA) held its 2011 Annual Conference November 1-5, 2011 in Anaheim, California. The AEA is the parent association of all evaluation associations in North America. The conference targeted evaluation professional all over the world which include private practitioners, and evaluation personnel from industries, non-profit organizations, governments, educators, advocacy groups, international NGOs, etc. The theme of the 2011 conference was “Values and Valuing”. This year’s conference was really crucial given the fact that the United States Department of Agriculture/National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA/NIFA) is making it mandatory for actual evaluation plans and reports to be included in progress reports beginning FY 2011. This way, USDA/NIFA is seeking to ensure that resources utilized for research, extension, and teaching have value-adding impacts and can consistently be measured. Pre-conference workshops were

held for two days and conducted by experienced professionals and practitioners including personnel from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Center for Disease Control (CDC), published academicians, and mega evaluation corporations such as Westat and Battelle.

According to the AEA statistics, “With 2719 registrants for Evaluation 2011, our attendance was up just over 7% from 2010. International registration was up even more. With 383 delegates coming from around the world, the international attendance increased 37% over last year to represent 14% of the total. There were 2336 registrants from the United States, and 133 from Canada, with 16 other countries having five or more delegates present. It was exciting to meet new colleagues from near and far and to see efforts in international outreach coming to fruition.”

Bridget Udoh, communications specialist and Oscar Udoh, coordinator for planning and evaluation, SU Ag Center, attended and participated at the conference in Anaheim. Numerous sessions were held relating to evaluation and measuring outcomes/impacts. Several sessions also dealt with issues such as the value of evaluation input for strategic planning in extension, evaluation capacity-building, valuing extension impacts in community well-being, cultural competence in evaluation, measuring student achievement: issues and implications for education evaluation, etc. Other presenters shared their knowledge on best practices on subjects relating to international evaluation, impact reporting, networking for effective performance measurement, management in the midst of dwindling resources, diversity and building to ensure evaluation cultural competence using AEA Guiding Principles, etc.

**FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**ST. HELENA PARISH YOUTH ATTEND CHALLENGE CAMP**

**Angela Myles**, area youth agent for St. Helena and Tangipahoa Parishes, accompanied youth from St. Helena Parish to the 4-H Challenge Camp held at Tickfaw State Park in Springfield, LA on November 15-17, 2011. The Camp is one of the most valuable experiences a young person can have. It is an opportunity for them to learn team-building, decision-making, communication, and conflict resolution skills through practical application in the great outdoors. Youth practiced living together as a group, getting along with others and appreciating people with different interests and backgrounds.



**Mya Gordon, JaMya Watson, Daranae Griffin, Kaledra Self, Brianna Jacque, Kyvan Trout, Stanley Hughes, Tyah Gordon and Trevian Tanner**

Of the 65 campers, nine came from St. Helena Parish. They learned how to work as a team, communicate better with their peers, make decisions and enhance interpersonal relationship skills.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 3, 2012:** Second Chance Class, East Baton Rouge Parish Prison. Please contact Tiffany Franklin for further detail at (225) 771-2775 or [tiffany\\_franklin@suagcenter.com](mailto:tiffany_franklin@suagcenter.com)

**January 10, 2012:** Second Chance Class, East Baton Rouge Parish Prison. Please contact Tiffany Franklin for further detail at (225) 771-2775 or [tiffany\\_franklin@suagcenter.com](mailto:tiffany_franklin@suagcenter.com)

**January 17, 2012:** Second Chance Class, East Baton Rouge Parish Prison. Please contact Tiffany Franklin for further detail at (225) 771-2775 or [tiffany\\_franklin@suagcenter.com](mailto:tiffany_franklin@suagcenter.com)

**January 18 - 22, 2012:** Small Farmer Agricultural Leadership Training Institute, Southern University Ag Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. For more information, please contact Dr. Dawn Mellion-Patin at 225-771-2242

**January 24, 2012:** Second Chance Class, East Baton Rouge Parish Prison. Please contact Tiffany Franklin for further detail at (225) 771-2775 or [tiffany\\_franklin@suagcenter.com](mailto:tiffany_franklin@suagcenter.com)

**January 31, 2012:** Second Chance Class, East Baton Rouge Parish Prison. Please contact Tiffany Franklin for further detail at (225) 771-2775 or [tiffany\\_franklin@suagcenter.com](mailto:tiffany_franklin@suagcenter.com)

**February 4, 2012:** Louisiana Small Farmer Agricultural Leadership Institute, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Baton Rouge, LA. For further detail, please contact Dr. Dawn Mellion-Patin at 225-771-2242